

A close-up photograph of a lit sparkler against a dark background, with bright sparks radiating outwards.

# Mililani Baptist Church Messenger

PASTORS CORNER...

JANUARY 2021

Aloha MBC 'ohana,

Hau'oli makahiki hou! I don't know if you can believe it or not, but we've made it to 2021. After a pretty tumultuous year, here we are, at the start of a new year. For many, a new year symbolizes new beginnings, the onset of new dreams, new plans, and new goals. For MBC, we will be starting the new year by looking back to our roots. Over the next 5 Sundays, we'll be taking a topical look as Pastor Kaleb, and I work through our church mission statement together. In July of 1975, our church began with the purpose of reaching Mililani with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our vision and mission have not changed, although there have been variations in the wording over time. Jesus, in Acts 1:8, gave the disciples a precise order, saying, "you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." We believe that our primary role in Mililani Town, on O'ahu, in Hawai'i, and ultimately on Earth is still valid, and thus, there is still work to do.

We, at MBC, exist to "glorify God with a passion for Him and a compassion for others." Regarding having a passion for God, one of my favorite theologians, R.C. Sproul, once said this, "We do not segment our lives, giving some time to God, some to our business or schooling, while keeping parts to ourselves. The idea is to live all of our lives in the presence of God, under the authority of God, and for the honor and glory of God. That is what the Christian life is all about." So how do we do that, live a life in the presence of God? I believe that we do it, just as our mission statement says: "[Our mission is] to be a loving family of believers who together worship, share, connect, grow, and serve." That statement, posted in nearly every room of the church, is how we plan to reach Mililani with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The only way to see this vision and mission come to fruition is to become passionate about fulfilling the Great Commission by making disciples who make disciples.

As we focus on discipleship, we will start the year by introducing three new Sunday School classes, each focused on teaching and developing disciples through various topical and theological studies. Our early service will return at 8 am on Sunday mornings and our Men's and Women's Studies during the week. With each ministry that comes back, we will continue to adhere to the restrictions and guidelines that have been placed before us. There are many other things that we are excited about doing, and as a staff, we are excited about what God will do through MBC in 2021.

Of course, as I mention all of this, I would be remiss if I did not sincerely thank you for your aloha spirit and support in calling me to be your pastor. I am truly humbled and grateful for you and your partnership in the ministry of MBC. Together, we will see God do some incredible things, not because of us or me, in particular, but because of the amazing God we serve. It is a joy and an honor to serve you, and I can't wait to see the Spirit's continued work in this place.

Aloha and Mahalo!

In Christ alone,  
Dennis Andrews

# TRIBE

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Hau'oli Makahiki Hou! (Happy New Year!)

2020 was definitely a year to remember. It was full of change, but also growth. Last year in March we had to switch to virtual Bible studies and services due to the pandemic. It was tough, but look where we are now! We are able to gather and worship together in person! God is still good and is hard at work. I can't wait to see what 2021 has in store for us!

Mahalo to all who participated and helped with the Christmas Cantata. You all did a wonderful job!

I am very excited to announce that beginning Wednesday January 6 we will begin meeting in person for our Wednesday night Bible study time! Yay! It will look a little different due to the guidelines that need to be followed, but it's still going to be lots of fun, I promise. The meeting time will be changed, so please add yourself to the text list or follow our instagram, if you have not already done so, to stay updated on that and other changes that may occur.

Lastly, we are still looking for volunteers to help with the youth group, in particular a youth Sunday school teacher. If you feel called to that position or want to learn more about it, please contact me. I'd love to have you be a part of our team!

May God be with us as we face this new year together.

In Christ,

Kassey Green

Youth Ministry Intern



## **Upcoming Youth Events**

Jan. 6th  
In-Person Wednesday  
Night Bible Study

# Mililani Baptist Preschool Update!

Happy New Year Church Family!

We cannot believe that it is already 2021. While 2020 definitely had it's challenges we are very excited for the new year!

We ended 2020 with a special Christmas video that we sent home to all of our preschool families. This was in place of our annual Christmas Program, which we weren't able to do it in person this year due to Covid-19. However the kids had a lot of fun answering our "interview" questions for the video and practicing their songs and dances. In December we were also visited by a special guest: Santa Claus! All of our keiki were very excited for his arrival and had a blast exchanging gifts! The Naia class got to see him on Dec. 16th, the Mano class on the 17th, and the Honu class on Dec. 18th!

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year and summer 2021 is currently underway! If you would like more information about how to register your child please contact the preschool office!

We cannot wait to see all that God has in store for us as we begin our second semester of preschool! In January we will be learning about transportation with a focus on shapes and graphs. We also regret to announce that this months field trip on Jan. 19th & 21st will be cancelled, due to Covid-19.

Just as a reminder, we are still in need of someone who is interested in working part-time that will serve as a floater and will help in preparing lunches and afternoon snacks as well as helping teachers clean and sanitize toys, let the preschool office know as soon as possible.

Thank you for all of your prayers and support! From all of our teacher and staff we want to wish you a Happy New Year!

Mahalo!



Mano Class



Nai'a Class



Honu Class



## Baptism Sunday!

On December 13th, Wesley Mercier was baptized at Ali'i Beach Park and on December 27th, Neema Matlack, Esther Matlack, and Arsenio Rarangol were baptized at Electric beach! Baptism is a public profession of faith and an important part of our spiritual walk. For more information, please contact the church office to speak with one of our pastors.



## MBC Ladies Virtual Fellowship!

**Saturday, January 2nd  
at 7 pm**

Join us for our Ladies Virtual Fellowship as we ring in 2021!

Please contact the church office  
for more info

Meeting ID: 811 3941 9088

Passcode: 2021

## THURSDAY NIGHT LADIES BIBLE STUDY!

The Thursday Night Ladies Bible Study will begin a new study beginning Jan 14 @ 7pm via Zoom. "God of Creation" by Jen Wilkin is a 10 session study through Genesis 1 - 11; join in as we walk through the first 11 chapters searching these familiar passages for their larger meaning to the story of Scripture and in the life of every believer. Books will be available at the church office for \$10.

## Flower Calendar

January 3rd	Lord's Supper
January 10th	Julie Kazama in honor of Madison's Birthday
January 17th	Wayne & Sharon Kawata in honor of their Granddaughters' Birthdays
January 24th	Myles & Shereen Tamashiro in memory of Shereen's Mom
January 31st	

## Music and Worship

This year has been strange in all areas and has made all of us reevaluate and readjust. Our music ministry has been no exception from this, but worship has not slowed or stopped. It has been a blessing this year to gather together to read scripture, pray, sing, and hear the word of God proclaimed. This December has looked different than we are hoping, but I am beyond thankful that we were still able to hold our normal event, and even added a new one. On December 13<sup>th</sup> we were able to hold our annual Christmas Cantata. After having to cancel our Easter Cantata it was a wonderful thing to get together for an evening of Lessons and Carols. For anyone that couldn't attend it is now available online. We also added a Longest Night Service. This service is held by many churches who recognize the difficulty this time of year hold for so many, and we went to our gracious father and worshiped him even in our lament. Finally, we ended our season with our Christmas Eve Candlelight service where we heard readings from various families, celebrated the Lord's Supper together, and remembered that our perfect father sent his only son to live a perfect life and die on the cross that believers may be saved in him. While 2020 has been a strange year, it was a blessing to gather for our regular events and I look forward to what the Lord has in store for us as a church in 2021.

Soli Deo Gloria,  
Kaleb Barrett



## Helping The Homeless Update!

We were able to collect a total of 118 care packages. Thank you to everyone who was able to donate!

# JANUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 27 <b>8:00am</b> Deacons Prayer <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>11am</b> Worship Service <b>6:15pm</b> Evening Service	Dec. 28	Dec. 29 <b>8:30am</b> Japanese Prayer Meeting	Dec. 30 <b>8:30am</b> Military Wives Bible Study <b>7:00pm</b> Youth Bible Study	Dec. 31 New Years Eve— Office Closed <b>9am</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Praise Team Worship Practice <b>7pm</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Men's Bible Study	1 New Years Day— Office Closed	2 <b>8:30am</b> Moms in Prayer <b>7:00pm</b> MBC Ladies Virtual Fellowship
3 <b>8:00am</b> Deacons Prayer <b>8am</b> Worship Service <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>11am</b> Worship Service <b>6:15pm</b> Evening Service	4 <b>7pm</b> Deacons Meeting	5 <b>8:30am</b> Japanese Prayer Meeting <b>2:00 pm</b> Sunday School Meeting	6 <b>8:30am</b> Military Wives Bible Study <b>7:00pm</b> Youth Bible Study	7 <b>9am</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Praise Team Worship Practice <b>7pm</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Men's Bible Study	8	9 <b>8:30am</b> Moms in Prayer
10 <b>8:00am</b> Deacons Prayer <b>8am</b> Worship Service <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>11am</b> Worship Service <b>6:15pm</b> Evening Service	11 <b>6:30pm</b> Equipping Committee Meeting <b>7pm</b> Church Council	12 <b>8:30am</b> Japanese Prayer Meeting	13 <b>8:30am</b> Military Wives Bible Study <b>7:00pm</b> Youth Bible Study	14 <b>9am</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Praise Team Worship Practice <b>7pm</b> Finance Meeting <b>7pm</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Men's Bible Study	15	16 <b>8:30am</b> Moms in Prayer <b>9:30 am</b> New Members Class
17 <b>8:00am</b> Deacons Prayer <b>8am</b> Worship Service <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>11am</b> Worship Service <b>6:15pm</b> Evening Service	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	19 <b>8:30am</b> Japanese Prayer Meeting	20 <b>8:30am</b> Military Wives Bible Study <b>7:00pm</b> Youth Bible Study	21 <b>9am</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>6:15pm</b> Christmas Eve Service <b>7pm</b> Praise Team Worship Practice <b>7pm</b> Finance Committee Meeting <b>7pm</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Men's Bible Study	22	23 <b>8:30am</b> Moms in Prayer
24 <b>8:00am</b> Deacons Prayer <b>8am</b> Worship Service <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>11am</b> Worship Service <b>6:15pm</b> Evening Service	25	26 <b>8:30am</b> Japanese Prayer Meeting	27 <b>8:30am</b> Military Wives Bible Study <b>7:00pm</b> Youth Bible Study	28 <b>9am</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>1pm</b> Missions Committee Meeting <b>7pm</b> Praise Team Worship Practice <b>7pm</b> Ladies Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Men's Bible Study	29	30 <b>8:30am</b> Moms in Prayer



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 2021