

# Pukalani Baptist Church

WITH CHRIST, INTO CRISIS!

“...He Hath Said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”  
Hebrews 13:5b

## Pastor's Pen by Pastor Paul Kaneshiro

**Romans 1:8-12 (NASV) = 8** First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world. **9** For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you, **10 always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you.** **11 For I long to see you** so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established; **12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you while among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine.**

Back in my college days I would include these verses in just about every letter that I wrote to June. That was because of how much I missed her and wanted to be **REUNITED** with her. Who do you miss now?

I miss being together at PBC!!! So many of you have expressed the same sentiments to me. Several of we Pastors have expressed our desires to be **REUNITED** with our People and each other. Glad we have all the electronic gadgets that we can use to communicate and see each other but it still cannot compare to face to face meetings with the hugs and handshakes. I certainly want to get back together with Rayna & Gideon to hug them and play together.

But even better than both of these is my desire to be **REUNITED** with our **LORD JESUS** in Eternity. We are separated now here on Planet Earth. But when we finally reach the end of our Mission for our MASTER, we will be recalled **HOME to HEAVEN**, to spend **ETERNITY with HIM!!!** That will be wondrous and beyond anything we can think or imagine. **WOW!**

Pastor Paul

**Sunday,  
April 19, 2020**

## Pukalani Baptist Church

P.O. Box 880033  
Pukalani, Hawaii 96768  
(808) 572-7968  
pbcmaui@hawaii.rr.com  
www.pukalanibaptist.com

## Instructions to Accessing the Sermons on our PBC website:

1. Log on to [www.pukalanibaptist.com](http://www.pukalanibaptist.com);
2. Click on Messages;
3. Click on 2020 Messages; and
4. Choose the Sermon of the Day (i.e. for today's sermon, click on the 4/19/20).

For assistance, please email the church office at [pbcmaui@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pbcmaui@hawaii.rr.com) or call (808) 572-7968



## Patient Opportunity by Deacon Eric Abe

I have always envisioned myself as a “good boy”. Growing up in a non-religious household, I tried my best to be a compliant son who obeyed his parents and listened to authority figures like teachers and Boy Scout leaders. Our home did not have a Bible, but I had an inkling of the Ten Commandments that I gathered by watching the movie by that name starring Charlton Heston. I thought that was what it meant to be a Christian . . . be a “good boy” and obey the Ten Commandments.

In my college junior year, one of my apartment mates was Glenn Kamiya. He was a friend from “small kid time” where we were on the same baseball team and participated in Boy Scouts all the way through the rank of Eagle Scout. Glenn was, and is, a true servant of Jesus Christ. He shared what it meant to be a follower of the Son of God and it was at a college ministry camp that I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.

Since that day, one word would describe my relationship with the Living God and that is patient. That is not an adjective of me but is of God’s pouring out on me. He is so patient with me. For the longest time, I attended church services, participated in small groups, and “studied” the Bible. God was always there for me, but I was not doing my part in building and growing a true relationship with Him. I graduated from college, moved to California to work as an engineer, got married, and became a father. These accomplishments were truly a blessing from the Lord and I half-heartedly thanked Him thinking that most of the “success” was due to my efforts. We moved back to Maui in 1992. I obtained and left many different jobs and welcomed another daughter to our family. In the busyness of life, God was not on my priority list and I was just going through the motions. We visited several churches and, mainly due to my weak relationship with God, could not find the “right one” to attend regularly.

In 2000, my saintly bride, Dominga, suggested that we look at Pukalani Baptist Church (PBC). Brother Glenn attended and was active in PBC, but in my slothfulness I had resisted going there since the move back to Maui. We started attending PBC regularly and the fellowship, worship, and teaching were having an effect on me. After my long dormancy, my relationship with God was changing me. My “good boy” outward appearance began to be convicted of my inner, hardened heart. God is **patient**, **merciful** and **gracious** to me.

I still struggle with the busyness of the world, but I can testify that God, through Jesus Christ, only wants His followers to have an abundant life. There is an adage that says God is looking for availability and not ability. Being available to God brings **opportunity** that blesses us. These blessings cannot always be quantified by measurements of a worldly standard but can only be understood and appreciated by the individual upon whom they are bestowed upon.

The Lord has blessed me with many roles and they have provided opportunity for me to grow in Him. I am filled with gratitude to God to be given a role of husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, friend, etc. My fulfillment of these roles hasn’t always been smooth going, but God’s truths are always there to correct the errors of my ways. I am also thankful for the roles at PBC that have been a blessing and opportunity for growth in serving Him. As a PBC deacon, worship team member, treasurer/stewardship chairman, computer tech support, website designer, and substitute preacher, I am grateful for the opportunity to be available to Him.

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart’s desires. Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you. Psalm 37:4-5 (NLT)

## **A Quiet Evening at Home**

### **By Deacon Eric Abe**

It was an unusually quiet evening at home. After dinner, the mother and father were reading the newspaper in the family room. Their teenage daughter, a freshman in high school, was diligently working on a math assignment.

The father was glad that his daughter was studying for he knew that she was bright and wanted to excel in her studies. At this stage in her life, the daughter would usually be able to figure out the tough math problems on her own or would seek help from her teacher, but there were occasions where she would ask for help at home. The request usually took the form of a demand that went something like “Daddy, I need help!”

At the first sign of a school math question, the father would perk up and would look up from whatever he was doing with wide eyes, trying to show enthusiasm and was eager to demonstrate his self-proclaimed math prowess. The daughter perceived this reaction as weird and would follow up her initial request with a terse addition of “Please give me the short answer!” because she knew the father had the tendency to provide the correct answer but only after a series of long, drawn-out, and haphazard explanations.

This night something different happened. The mother and father could hear that there was sniffing coming from the kitchen where the daughter was doing homework. They could hear fast scribbling and hard erasing that was enough to rip through the paper on which the work was being recorded.

After a few minutes of this, the daughter approached the father with tears of frustration in her eyes and timidly asked “Daddy could you help me?”

The father jumped up at the ready, but stopped himself. Something was different in the way his daughter came to him. She quietly and timidly showed the father the math problem. The father decided to purposely try to help in a different way and proceeded to demonstrate the math concept as he coached the daughter step-by-step through the first problem. Suddenly grasping the fundamental idea, the daughter quickly attempted to solve the next problem on her own and completed it in under a minute. The rest of the assignment was done in short order and the daughter confidently closed her math book and looked up with a smile.

The father watched proudly as his daughter packed up her school items and got ready for bed after a trying time of studying.

Suddenly, a thought overcame the father. How did the night’s events parallel his relationship with his heavenly father? In facing life’s trials, did the father approach the Almighty with a brokenness and timidity that reflected reverence for the God of the universe? Or did the father go to God with requests looking solely for the short answers?

## Prayer Requests & Praises for the Week

Please continue to uplift Lovena's dad in prayer. Update from Lovena Love: Due to the Maui Memorial outbreak, my Dad is still at Maui Memorial Hospital.

Update from Lovena Love on her dad: He said he is feeling 65%. Praying that he can at God's timing go to Hale Makua for rehab.

Please be in prayer for Hans. Here is a prayer request from Lynn Becker: Hans has been having some problems so he's heading to his Dr for some tests.

Prayer Request from Lynn Becker: Lynn asked if we'd keep Hans in prayer. The doctor advised her to take him to MMMC. She was not permitted to stay. If they admit him, she's praying he not contract anything.

Update from Jim Wellsand: Lynn's neurology consultation yesterday was good. Her impairment is mild and several reversible causes are being investigated. We shall see. The Lord's will be done. Thank you all for your prayers. Trials do give us focus on depending upon our Lord's gracious love and will.

Lovena Love: Please add Kaniela Acosta (my oldest Son) to our prayer list... Prayers for protection.... He is an EMT and is working in Coronavirus hot spots (Las Vegas). Prayers for his Family. Thank you

Leanne Higa: Could you please ask the church to pray for my Dad? He's in ICU at Maui Memorial and had multiple strokes and some seizures. Please pray for his brain to heal so he can recover his ability to understand everyone, swallow, speak, and walk. Most of all, we pray that he knows the loving presence of God. We would also like to pray for all of the heroic healthcare workers who have been caring for him.

Iris Ginoza: Please be in prayer for my daughter in law's dad. He is here in the hospital from Lanai. He was found unresponsive. He is more alert now but still a long way off from being released. Also be in prayer for my son and daughter in law as they deal with this situation and not being able to see him. Thank you for your prayers and love.

Here is a prayer request from Pastor Paul for Irma Gierschner: Please be in prayer for a former Church Member, Irma Gierschner. Her mother passed away on Wednesday. She won't be able to attend the funeral because of the Coronavirus restrictions. She really misses PBC.

### PBC's Yard Ministry

Team:	Members of the Team:	Week of:
3	Glenn, Gary, Rick	Saturday, May 2, 2020
1	Jason, Thomas, Jim	Saturday, May 16, 2020
2	Shane, Duane, Kaipō	Saturday, May 30, 2020

## Today's Scripture

<sup>6</sup> A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup> The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

Isaiah 40:6-8 (New International Version) NIV

## Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to our prayer chain email list, please contact the church office at [pbcmahui@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pbcmahui@hawaii.rr.com).