

# **Pukalani Baptist Church**

*WITH CHRIST, INTO CRISIS!*

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

**Sunday, May 3, 2020**

## **Pastor's Pen by Pastor Paul Kaneshiro**

Some of my favorite times of Worship is the Special Services during Good Friday, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. These are the Worship times where we share What and Why we're Grateful to our Lord during that particular Holiday. I'm always touched by the depth of sharing and the Love for Jesus and the testimonies of His Love for our People.

That's why I thought that we should take advantage of this time of Separation (because of the Covid-19 Pandemic) to share together our Testimonies of how we became Christians. No one is born a Christian. It takes a conscious Decision of our Will to make a Commitment to Jesus. We need to come to a place where we realize how Sinful we are and that we can only gain God's Forgiveness by receiving His Forgiveness and Cleansing by Confessing our Sins to Jesus, Asking for His Forgiveness and Accepting His Cleansing of all our Sins. When you do that you become His Child and are transferred from the Kingdom of Darkness to His Kingdom of Light. Then you are Surrounded by HIS Love.

As you read the various Testimonies that are shared in this Newsletter, ask yourself if something like this has ever Happened to you. Because if not, you can Confess your Sins to JESUS now. Ask HIM to Forgive you and Cleanse you Now. Then Receive His Forgiveness and Cleansing by committing your Life to Him and putting JESUS in Control of your life NOW. Then Grow in Following Him by allowing HIM to become the BOSS of your life and Following His Will instead of Yours.

In His Love,  
Pastor Paul

## **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 5/3/20).

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

## Message from Laura Newell

The Chinese word for "crisis" is made up of two characters: danger and opportunity. During these past weeks we've been often reminded to participate in social distancing, hand washing, and mask wearing in public places to prevent danger to ourselves and others. However, we've found numerous opportunities that God has arranged in the midst of our current circumstances.

When asked, "What are some of the opportunities you experienced during the past month that may not have been occurred otherwise? Here are some of the answers from our PBC women:

"When friends and family ask how I'm doing, I can relate God's faithfulness to me during these difficult days. I also have more time to pray."

"Lots of people, even old friends I grew up with, want to know how I'm coping with recent events. My husband and I get to tell them about the Lord's protection."

"I have been able to spend extra time with my daughter as we prepare and plant a vegetable garden. It's a work in progress, but to our surprise, popcorn has sprouted and is now fourteen inches tall!"

"I'm getting to know my neighbors. We used to know most of the people in our neighborhood, but some have moved, others have passed away. But God has given us this time to walk through the neighborhood and meet our current neighbors."

"We've been in touch with family we haven't heard from in ages!"

"I'm studying the Bible every day. I wouldn't be doing this if everything was normal. I'm growing, memorizing the Bible, and spending more time with the Lord."

"I've experienced more genuine loving concern from old acquaintances and friends checking up on me through social media. I've been able to connect with three friends I know from three decades ago. What a joy to catch up, see God's grace and blessings and to pray together!"

"I've recently had open doors to learn more of God's Word by phone, studying with a friend. We're learning more about who God is, what He has done for us, and what He requires of us. What a wonderful time for both of us!"

"I'm not thankful for Covid-19, but I am grateful that I'm learning God's Word, growing and feeling calmer than I have in a long while. I'm so thankful to God."

Off the record, one woman shared, "My husband cut my hair!"

Let's continue to wait on the Lord and be active in looking for God-given opportunities to shine for Jesus. Many thanks, ladies, for sharing your blessings with us.



## **Cindy Urbach's Testimony**

I was blessed to grow up in a Christian home with parent's who knew the Lord. Attending church, youth group, Awana, Bible study, and anything else offered was a high priority in my family. As a result, I can't remember ever not knowing that God loved me or that He had a good plan for my life. When I was about 6 years old, I told my dad that I wanted to accept Jesus as my Savior. My understanding was so limited, but I knew that God loved me and He wanted me to follow Him.

When I was in middle school, I understood more of what it meant to be a Christian. I realized that it was not based on my family's background, but that it was a personal relationship with God. I rededicated my life to Him and that is when my relationship with God grew into a truly personal walk with Him. Still, I look back and see that I understood so little of what that actually meant. I am beyond thankful that my understanding does not matter to God. He looks at my heart and not my brains.

My relationship with my Heavenly Father means more to me than anything that this life can offer. I do grow discouraged as I consider how far I have to go, but He is so patient with me as I walk through the joys and trials He places before me. His Word sustains me as I cling to the hope that I have in Him. There is an old hymn called "Wonderful Words of Life" and that is what the Bible has become to me.

I used to feel bad that my testimony was not a dramatic story of turning from a life of sin. I would hear these amazing stories of how God dramatically changed people and their lives. One day I was talking to a friend in college about this. She had one of those really good, dramatic stories. She pointed out that my story was an encouragement to her. God hadn't saved me out of a life of sin, but in His mercy He saved me from a life of many regrets. This isn't to downplay anyone's story of how they came to know Christ. Each story is so personal and individual because that's how God loves us; personally and individually. Proverbs 3: 5-6 tells us, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." I praise the Lord for His work in my life!

## **Lord's Supper**

Today, Sunday, May 3rd, is the first Sunday of the month. We're going to observe the Lord's Supper like we usually do. But we'll do it in our separate home as we worship together in HIS SPIRIT. Each of us will need to have our own Bread & Grape Juice. Then just follow my directions as we remember our Lord Jesus' sacrifice for our sins.

## **Prayer Chain**

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

## **Today's Scripture**

<sup>1</sup> Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. <sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. <sup>4</sup> Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:1-5 (New International Version) NIV

## **My Adoption Story**

**By John Henry**

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Eph. 1:4

According to the good pleasure of his will, he made us accepted in him. I am so thankful that I was chosen to be part of the family of the kingdom. Knowing my works could never save me, I am so thankful for His Mercy and Grace.

I was raised in a Christian family attending church services on Sunday morning, evening and then on Wednesday night from an infant. So fortunate to be under the Gospel message that taught God's word by faithful servants. I professed my faith when I was 10 years old at Orlando Baptist Temple under the Pastoring of the late Lloyd Meyers. My father later became an Associate pastor and then pastored his own church after I had left home. I joined the Air Force and found a Bible teaching church and wonderful family in Austin Tx. At that time my father was at a fellowship meeting at Arlington Baptist college and having lunch with Pastor Arza Brown (Grace Baptist Church Lahaina). I had known of Arza since my youth that he was a Missionary to Hawaii starting in 1965. He invited me to help at his church in Lahaina. I came over in 1981-82, and never left. Had the privilege to be a Bible teacher for both youth and adults. Wonderful long career as a professional photographer and now a cafe.

## **Men's Sunday School Class**

John Henry is leading a series through the book of Revelation for the Men's Sunday School Class. This virtual class starts at 9:00 AM. Logging on before 9:00 AM is helpful if possible. If you would like to join in, please email Gary Fitt at [gnfitt@live.com](mailto:gnfitt@live.com).

## Prayer Requests & Praises for the Week

Iris Ginoza: Please be in prayer for my cousin's family. He unexpectedly passed away last night. His name is Ronald. He was a new believer.

Update from Leanne Higa: Thank you all for praying. My Dad's 3rd COVID test is negative!! This is great news! He started saying one or two sentences today and last night he ate 3 cups of food. Could you update our church and ask them to keep praying for complete healing?"

Glenda Chong: Could you please pray for my brother Ken? He is in the ICU and isn't allowed to have anyone stay with him. Thank you so much for all your prayers. Take care, Glenda

Here is a prayer request from Pastor Paul for Lynn Becker: Hans Becker is at home but is still having health issues. Lynn requests continued prayers as he continues treatment while at home.

Update from Lovena Love: My Dad is still in the Hospital. He has been in isolation 3X... due to the workers there being infected with the corona virus. Continued prayers for his right leg/foot to heal. He isn't able to stand on right leg yet. Were able to call him daily and he is in good spirits and loves to talk stories. He wants to come home (Kihei). That is his 2nd home. We're leaving his situation in Jesus' hands. Thank you (prayer warriors) for all your prayers.

Update from Lovena Love: Thank y'all for your prayers. My Dad is virus free and will be discharged into our care. He will be staying in Kihei with his sister with our HELP. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. Prayers are powerful, thank you Jesus.

Update from Leanne Higa: My Dad is experiencing God's miracle. He stood up and was able to shower for the first time today since his multiple strokes! We are currently working to ask all of his doctors if we can bring him home, get him rehab, and move him out of hospice.

Update from Iris Ginoza: Just heard from Curtis. His father in law Manny is not doing well. They don't know how much longer he can hang on. Please be in prayer for Michelle, Curtis, and Michelle's brother Damien. Thank you for your diligent prayers and love.

Helen Fukagawa: My son Brent was involved in a traffic accident on Tuesday night in Kahului. His truck was hit by a car that was speeding and ran the stop sign. The truck rolled over and landed on its side. Firefighters had to break the windshield to get him out. They were amazed that he got up and started walking after the accident. He was taken to ER, checked out and was released. He is starting to feel all the aches and pains now. Would you please join me in praying for Brent physically, spiritually and emotionally? He grew up attending PBC Sunday School and preschool. Please pray that this will draw him back to the Lord. My heartfelt thanks to all of you.

## PBC's Yard Ministry

Team:	Members of the Team:	Week of:
1	Jason, Thomas, Jim	Saturday, May 16, 2020
2	Shane, Duane, Kaipō	Saturday, May 30, 2020
3	Glenn, Gary, Rick	Saturday, June 13, 2020