



Valley Isle Fellowship

Love God, Love His Church,
Love His World

473 S High St - PO Box 886
Wailuku, HI 96793

NEWSLETTER

January 29, 2017 www.vifmaui.com

No First Step Can Be Taken Without A Decision

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

Excitement and Anticipation over something that is about to happen can be exhilarating. However, none of the excitement and anticipation can be experienced until a decision is made.



A new and exhilarating experience with Jesus Christ and within Valley Isle Fellowship is beginning but a

decision to join in and to fully participate is a personal decision that needs to be considered and made by each individual. A decision to wait is the same as a decision not to join in and participate. However, this is a personal decision that each person has the privilege of making and it is totally their decision.

Although I desire for each of you to make the decision that I want you to make, I know that each of you has to think and pray about this decision. It is really a decision between you and your Lord. I want you to know that you can make the decision not to get involved at this time and you won't be loved or appreciated any less than you are now. We will still love and appreciate you. However, you need to know that we really desire God's best for you, not just something good, but God's best. It is not the best situation to just be a spectator and watch as God moves in strength and power in and through the lives of those around you who decide to take this journey with us, but it will be ok. We will still love, support, and pray for you in the best possible way that God allows us to. If and when you change your mind, hurry to get on board and join with the rest of us. Until then, watch to see what God is and will do.

For the rest of you who will take that next step. I want to say to you, "Right On!" Good decision, but it will come with many trials and challenges. Understand that Satan is not pleased with your decision and he will do everything in his power to attack, to deceive, and to trouble you into believing that you made the wrong choice. I want you to know that God's Word supports you in this decision and even through the trials and challenges may be many, God is on your side walking alongside of you. Trust and depend on Him and He will

guide you and provide you with everything that you will need. His love and grace will be complemented with His strength and power. He our King, Lord, and Ruler. Our destiny is in His hands and He is not about to let us fail in growing in our love and obedience to Him.

The Lord has and is seeing those who love and obey Him through all of kinds of persecution and even through martyrdom. The harder it gets for those who love Him, the stronger His hand of grace and mercy showers down upon them. He sees all of them through the valley of the shadow of death right into His loving eternal presence. Therefore, if He has done that for the Christians of the past and since He is doing the same thing for Christians today, you can be certain that He will do it for us in the future, if those circumstances arise for us.

We need to remember that this world is not our home, but we are just pilgrims passing through as we journey to our eternal destination. As we journey down this path, the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace. These are words and thoughts that have guided many who have gone before us and they will guide and direct we who are still on this journey. Be of good cheer for the Lord is great and mighty. His love and mercy are showered down upon us daily, for He watches and cares for us whether it be day or night. We are blessed to be a part of a heavenly family that will be with us through out eternity. Remember that you will not be able to take anything that is of this world into eternity. However, you will be able to take your relationships with the body of Christ and your relationship with Jesus into eternity, and these relationships will reach a new and grander level that cannot be experienced here on earth. It is so exciting to try to imagine what it's going to be like. I think that it will

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No First Step Can Be Taken Without A Decision

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

be far better than anything that you can imagine. What a glorious time that will be. Come along on this journey with us so that we can glorify the Lord in the most powerful manner that we can while we are on this earthly journey. God bless you all.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Discipleship Small Group Leaders Contact Information

Sunday Mornings (meets during Sunday School)

Paul & Linda Yamamura – (808) 877-7186

Paul - phyamamura@hotmail.com - (808) 205-1386

Linda - linda.yamamura@hotmail.com - (808) 205-2921

Tuesday Nights

Stephen & Clarice Kaneshiro

Stephen - icastephen@gmail.com - (808) 419-8100

Clarice - ckane4gzs@yahoo.com - (808) 463-9981

Ken & Carol Sakai

Ken - hpokoboy@yahoo.com - (808) 280-5156

Carol - sakai3357@yahoo.com - (808) 497-2568

Wednesday Nights

Vince & Jennifer Bagoyo

Vince - vbagoyo-devgroup@hawaii.rr.com - (808) 357-3842

Jennifer - bagoyofam@hawaii.rr.com - (808) 281-6551

Thursday Mornings (focus is on Senior Citizens)

Richard & Elaine Yamasaki – (808) 877-0183 & Cell (808) 250-9501

RTEKYAMA@aol.com

Thursday Nights

Shawn & Grace Motonaga

Shawn - jesuslives2day@mac.com - (808) 283-3885

Grace - grace9837@hawaii.rr.com - (808) 357-4553

Friday Nights (focus is on College Students)

Brandon & Brittany Kelly

Brandon - bkelly1585@gmail.com - (228) 236-7334

Brittany - bwindall@gmail.com - (601) 503-0668

If you desire to attend one of these groups, please contact the leader. There are occasions when the groups take time off and many of these groups vary their times and locations. There are other leaders who might be willing to form a group around a time more convenient for you. God bless you all!!!

Excuses, Excuses, Not!

Pastor Darren Sarmiento

A great wave of persecution began that day, sweeping over the church in Jerusalem; and all the believers except the apostles were scattered through the regions of Judea and Samaria...But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went.

Acts 8:1,4 (NLT)

Have you ever said or hear others say, “I can’t tell people about Jesus”, or, “I don’t have enough knowledge to share Christ with others” or “It’s for other Christians to share the Good News about Jesus but not me”? For some reason or reasons, we think that in order to tell people about Jesus we need to get well educated, well versed and or get a high degree to even account to assume we are professionals so people would take you seriously of your knowledge of Jesus.

In the scripture passages above, what you are reading is about what happened to the first century Christians. To put it more plainly, these are people who committed their lives to Jesus and for most, if not all, spending most of their lives living the Jewish ways and customs. What had happened was they all came to a feast at Pentecost during a certain time of the year (read Acts 2). To make a long story short, the Apostle Peter stood among all the Jews that were present and He shared the gospel of Jesus. Thousands professed and confessed their commitment and faith to Jesus and they spent time together. It was probably a few weeks and maybe even a few months. Then, what amazingly happened was that they were being persecuted for their faith in Jesus. Now, you might think that if that was you, you would run and hide or even go back to where you came from and just not say anything about your new faith Jesus. It was not so for the first century Christians. They ran, no doubt, but they didn’t hide or stay silent. In fact, they did just the opposite and were bold (read Acts 1:8) to tell others about Jesus.

Why is it, that for we who have been Christians for years still continue to give the same excuses I mentioned in the beginning of this article? If that is not you, then, Amen! But I believe there are a lot of us who still struggle talking about Jesus to others. What was it about the first century Christians? Are they better than us? Did they know something we don’t?

When you are excited about something or someone and believe in it or them, don’t you tell others about it? I think about watching a NFL football game with my wife. We both get excited about the team we are cheering for; we tell each other what’s going on a certain play and down; we even start to tell the players what they need to do. We can get a bit crazy. But when there is a penalty, my wife would ask what is that penalty? What is it about? I don’t understand it? Someone would say if you don’t know what are certain penalties then you don’t know much about the game, so how can you get into the game if you don’t understand it entirely? Well, you don’t need to know everything about the game to enjoy it, especially if you know that there is a winner and a loser and you don’t want it to be the team you like. Over time you will get to know all about football but you don’t have to wait to enjoy it and tell others about the team you like and why. It is the same with Jesus. You don’t have to know everything about Him to start to tell others of Him. You and I just need to believe in Him and enjoy Him and it will lead us to tell others about Him again and again. Over time we will know Him more and more which will lead us to continue to tell others. The first century Christians, I believe, knew and lived that kind of life in Jesus and as they got to know Him more it just fueled them to go and tell others in the midst of any and all types of circumstances.

Will you and I make a commitment to Jesus to wanting to get to know Him more while telling others about Him? Watch and see how those excuses will be a thing of the past because Jesus is present in you today and everyday of our lives. Excuses, Excuses, Not!

Announcements



Wanted...

Volunteers

*to help with childcare during the
worship service hour on a rotating schedule*

Sign-up today at the back table!

Children are a gift from the Lord,
they are a reward from Him.
Psalms 127:3 (NLT)



2016 Contribution Reports

are available at the back table.

Be sure to pick yours up today!



Friday, February 17, 2017

6 pm - 7:30 pm

VIF Church - 473 High Street
Enter from stairs facing High Street

Ladies...Come join us for a cup of
coffee, tea, water.
Bring a friend or meet a friend.

For more information contact:
Pam (446-4009) or Lani (757-1652)



Is God Calling You?

In March 2017, from the 16th to the 30th, a mission team will be travelling to Luzon to continue on mission for Christ. Mission ministries will include medical/dental, evangelism, VBS, and prayer walking at villages. The mission team will also help with devotionals and fellowship at the newly built worship center in Luzon.

If God is speaking to you about joining the team in March, please contact

Vince Bagoyo at (808)357-3842

God can certainly use **YOU!**

These were his instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." Luke 10:2 (NLT)

May God bless you always!

Announcements



Childcare Schedule

Today, Jan 29 **Team 2:** Elaine Y, Wendy C, Krystal AV

Feb 5 **Team 4:** Cheeng S, Jennifer B,

Feb 12 **Team 1:** Marion K, Karen F, Kolbe F, Alysha F, Melanie F

Feb 19 **Team 2:** Elaine Y, Wendy C, Krystal AV



High Street Lawn Care Schedule

Week of Feb 2-4

Volunteers Needed

Week of Feb 9-11

Volunteers Needed

Week of Feb 16-18

Volunteers Needed

Sign-up in the back to be a part of this ministry.



**Be in the know!
Join our text alerts . . .**

To receive messages via text:

A) If you have a smartphone, get push notifications. On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to

rmd.at/mrvif

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

B) If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @mrvif to the number

81010 or (808)670-3442.

C) Give your cell number to the office and request to be added.

**Standard text message rate may apply.*

For more information or help call the Church Office @244-0865.



High Street Cleaning Schedule

Week of Feb 2-4

Aikala Ohana

Week of Feb 9-11

Volunteers Needed

Week of Feb 16-18

Volunteers Needed

Sign-up in the back to be a part of this ministry.

MISSIONAL OPORTUNITIES

NAMB Missionary Spotlight:



**Luis and Maria
Jeanna Cruz**

Church Planter | Ajax Christian Fellowship
1955 Audley Rd. | Ajax, Ontario L1Z 0L2 Canada
luis_jeannacruz@yahoo.com
ajaxchristian.com

Kindly pray for our members' spiritual growth and for the expansion of our ministries. *Luis and Maria Jeanna Cruz*

Church Planter Care Ministry: The Church Planter Care Ministry comes alongside planters and their families as they establish new churches in areas of need. Pray that we would fulfill our mission "breathing vitality into the life and mission of our planters and their families." Pray that more people register for the planter care ministry, so we can serve them and their families as they minister. Pray that the planter care ministry is a strong source of encouragement to our missionaries and others. Pray for Send Network Orientations, and pray that the Send Network will grow as a brotherhood of planters in our Send Cities serving on the front lines together.



SBC Chaplaincy Spotlight:



SBC Chaplaincy
Southern Baptist Convention

Chaplain, Captain Clay Carroll
U.S. AIR FORCE NATIONAL GUARD
namb.net/contactachaplain
Based: Montgomery, Ala.
Wife: Kim Carroll

Pray God would use chaplains as instruments of peace as we advise leadership and encounter individual service members who need to make peace with God through Jesus Christ.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD



International Mission Board
Connecting in Prayer
<https://www.imb.org/pray/>

* **Misty Mountain Peoples of East Asia**—"We're hearing about conflict among national brothers and sisters very similar to that experienced in the early church--conflict over money and back-biting within the body. As society rapidly changes due to industrialization and ideas from the media seep into the worldview, many struggle, especially with desires for more and more material things to 'keep up with the Joneses.' Still, many remain very poor and struggle to pay the bills. Please pray that God will meet all of their needs for contentment, for joy in all circumstances, and for unity with each other. Pray that they will fix their eyes on our Lord, be filled with the Holy Spirit, and love one another for His great glory and His kingdom purposes."

* **Chittagong Muslims of Bangladesh** - (chit-TAH-gong) - The girls center underwent many changes in 2016. Please pray for the 30-plus girls who attend the center five days a week; most are Muslims, and all hear Bible stories every day. Also pray for more people to purchase the handicraft items that the older girls make. When many items get purchased, then the mothers and sisters of these girls also get involved in sewing, and while they are doing work for the center, they also are hearing Bible stories.



Valley Isle Fellowship Calendar

January 2017

- 29 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 30 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

February 2017

- 1 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 5 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 6 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex
- 8 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 12 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study

6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study

- 13 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex
- 15 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 17 6:00 PM - SLC
- 19 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 20 *Presidents' Day - Office Closed*
NO Prayer Meeting
- 22 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 26 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 27 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

March 2017

- 1 6:30 pm Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary

Valley Isle Fellowship

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ph: (808) 244-0865 - vifoffice@hawaii.rr.com - www.vifmaui.com

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

Wailuku Elementary School Cafeteria
355 S. High St., Wailuku, HI 96793

Service - 9:00 am

Sunday School - 10:30 am
(High Street property)

Senior Pastor

Stephen Kaneshiro
cell: (808)419-8100
email: icastephen@gmail.com

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

VIF Church Sanctuary
6:00 pm



www.facebook.com/valleyislefellowship



@VIFMaui

Associate Pastor

Darren Sarmiento
cell: (808)757-1651
email: darrenvif@hawaii.rr.com

Choices, Timing and Accountability

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

- I. Important _____ surround you, but none as important as the choices that _____ asks of you. - Matthew 19:21
- A. The most important decision – “come, _____ me.”
 - B. _____ and _____ away your possessions are not the important decisions.
 - C. Jesus wants _____, not your _____.
- II. Timing is so critical. Does it all hinge on your _____ or God’s _____?
- Matthew 4:18-20
- A. Jesus’ call was _____ and _____.
 - B. A _____ was required _____.
 - C. What was more important: their _____ or God’s _____?
- III. How important is accountability in actively _____ and _____ in truth?
– Matthew 8:19-22
- A. Jesus is _____ so He knows your _____ before He calls.
 - B. Jesus holds these disciples accountable to their _____.
 - C. How important is _____ to the commands of Christ?
- IV. God’s _____: The Great Commission. - Matthew 28:18-20
- A. The Greatest _____ is found in Matthew 22:36-40 – To love God with all of your heart, soul, and mind.
 - B. This is the Great Commission, the most important _____ of the Lord once we commit to obeying the Great Commandment.
 - C. This call to disciple all others is a call to _____ (with non-believers), to _____ (through word and action), and to _____.
 - D. The Great Commission is a call to _____ of Christ.