

### NEWSLETTER

April 09, 2017 www.vifmaui.com

### What A Blessing!

By Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

ast Sunday, April 2nd, was truly a blessing!!!
Yes, the building is far beyond what many of us were expecting, but that was not the real blessing. The real blessing was the excitement and renewal that was very apparent in all of you, the people of Valley Isle



Fellowship. For many, many months I have been preaching and teaching about becoming the people that God desires us to be. In fact, ever since I returned to VIF in 2011 my goal

has been: "To build every member to be Christ Like, so that united, we will impact Maui County for Jesus Christ."

Last Sunday I began to see evidence of that beginning to happen. Let me give you just one illustration. On Tuesday, March 28th, we finally got our Certificate of Occupancy that gave us the official OK to begin using our building for what we built it for. On Tuesday afternoon we began to notify you that we would be having our initial services on April 2nd. Our Worship Team went into our new building on Tuesday the 28th for their first rehearsal. As you can see, there was no time to put together an organized effort to make a major invitation to our community. Too much uncertainty and very little time caused us to just trust in the Lord and in you the people of VIF.

Our Sanctuary is setup with 208 chairs. Our ushers counted 191 people in attendance. Our parking lot was full and in the overflow area, there was space for only about 10 more cars. In addition to all of this, usually on a good Sunday we will have between 140-150 and we usually have around 120 in worship. So, how did so many people find out and come? There is only on simple answer. You, the people of VIF went out and invited people to come. Your excitement and enthusiasm encouraged many to come and experience the joy and excitement that filled you all.

beginning to see what even baby steps can accomplish. Valley Isle Fellowship, we can make a difference in Maui County if we will get excited about JESUS. He is the one who made all of the big and necessary provisions for us to worship here on this beautiful campus. Let's not center our excitement on His creation but let's be centered on our CREATOR. He is the one we need to get excited and motivated by.

Now, I know that there are many inadequacies in our possessing this new campus. I know that there are wind and dust issues. I know that we will not be able to do things like we have grown accustomed to while we met in the Wailuku Elementary School Cafeteria. I know that there are many other inadequacies but we must be thankful unto the Lord for the major blessing of having

this place that we can say belongs to the Lord and placed under our stewardship to care for. In Christ, and in all of us loving the Lord and each other, and in our loving and



faithful obedience to Him, we will be able to come and rise above every and any challenges that are and will face us.

For instance, because of Sunday, we know that we have to be thinking of increasing our overflow parking. We will need to leave the paved parking for those who are elderly, handicapped, and visiting with us. We who are members and regular attenders will have to get accustomed to parking in the overflow areas. We may also

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### What A Blessing!

#### By Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

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have to go back to multiple services. All of this will take understanding, cooperation, and sacrifice on all of our parts. As your pastor, I remember how hard it was to have multiple services and now I am older and more decrepit, so I can imagine how draining that will be. However, it is never about us but it is always about our Lord and what He calls us to give. I have to remember that all things are possible through Him.

We now have over 500 homes that are to the south of us in the Waikapu Gardens Subdivision. We will soon have another 70 homes just below us in the new Affordable Housing Subdivision that will be on the 10 acres that formerly belonged to us. I have heard that on Kuikahi Dr. across from Long's Drug Store, plans are being developed for well over 100 affordable rental units. Then finally, plans are also under way for another affordable housing project right next to us in land that belongs to Emmanuel Lutheran Church. All of this tells us that people are moving next to us and we need to mature fully into the people that the Lord might use to reach out to all of these families so that they can come into a rich and saving relationship with Jesus Christ. Let's move on and become a deep and lasting blessing unto our Lord. What a great start! But let's also have a great finish!



### Easter Sunday Sunday, Apríl 16, 2017

**6:00 a.m.** Sunrise Service on the lanai with Kahului

Baptist Church as our guests

**8:30 a.m.** Pre-service Fellowship (potluck-style

refreshments; church will provide drinks -

sign up @ back table)

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service



# Finally, But Not The Finale Revelations 21:18-27 NLT

By Pastor Darren Sarmiento

Last Sunday was an encouraging time for us, especially for Pastor Stephen, myself and others who worked hard to prepare the property and building so we could worship the Lord God Almighty! I am grateful to Pastor Stephen for giving me the opportunity to share an encouraging word with all of you at our first worship service in our new Worship Center.



So, finally, we are here! We gathered together and worshiped God and what an experience it was to see so many people. Nothing was as more exciting for me than to see more and more people come together for the soul purpose (yes, I mean soul) of giving ourselves up to the Lord and praising His Name...the Name of Jesus.

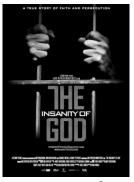
Now, as you encouraged me last Sunday allow me to encourage you once again. We are in our own building finally, however, it is not the finale. As I said before

this is not an end to a means but a means to an end. I know I've said that quite a few times in my previous articles and it was intentional. I want us to remain focused on what really matters and what matters most is our bonding with Jesus Christ and God our Father. It is all about the relationship we have with the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Creator of Heaven and Earth!

We are here to worship God and Jesus and one of the ways is to serve Him. As Jesus came to earth to do the Father's will which is to seek and save those who are lost, Jesus now passes the baton on to us. God is working and will continue to work in and through us to reach out to others. I know it can be tiresome to make the time and make the effort to help and encourage others to see Jesus, to believe in Him, to know Him and to follow in His footsteps. But, God offers us to always look heaven-ward. What I mean is God is giving us something to look forward to in the end after living and doing all that He asks of us in this life.

In the Bible we have the book of Revelations (the last book in the New Testament) and I like to think of it as the reward for all those who have believed, committed and submitted their lives to Jesus. I like to think of it as the finale, when God will bring everything and everyone into account for all they have done. The Scripture passage above is an encouragement for us all for what lies ahead when we have lived our lives here on earth for Him. If you need encouragement to keep on following Jesus and doing the Father's will remember the passage above. I encourage you to read the whole book of Revelation as an encouragement, motivation and Yes! A reward. We are finally here continuing to serve the Lord and while serving Him, waiting in anticipation for the finale when we get to enjoy the Lord forever as we enjoy Him today.

Mahalo
for enjoying
your food and
drinks outside
on the lanai.



Showing at VIF Next Sunday, April 16 5 p.m.

The Insanity of God is the true story of missionaries Nik and Ruth Ripken. After the death of their son, this ordinary couple journeys into the depths of the persecuted church, asking the question- IS JESUS WORTH IT?

### **Announcements**



#### Childcare Schedule

**Today,** Apr 9 <u>**Team 1:**</u> Karen F, Kolbe F, Alysha F,

Melanie F, Marion K

Apr16 <u>Team 2</u>: Elaine Y, Wendy C, Krystal

AV

Apr 23 Team 3: Jennifer B, Francis C,

Jaydee G, Jules G

**Apr 30** Team 4: Hawea R, Cheeng S et al,

Danae O

#### Women's Night Out

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

7 pm @ Maui Mall Megaplex



Chonda Pierce has built her career by being "real" – sharing her heart, talking about difficult issues, and blending it all with humor, insight and self examination. Her vulnerability and wit have made Chonda Pierce the #1 selling female comedian in history (2014 RIAA Lifetime Achievement Award).

In *Chonda Pierce: Enough*, Chonda and some special guests help women look to their relationship with Christ as the answer for completeness, self-acceptance, and fulfillment. Laugh, Cry, Love...Through faith in Christ. If you have a relationship with Jesus, you have everything you need and acceptance into the kingdom of God.



## Two-Thirds World Network

Philippines Mission Team will share about their recent mission trip to the Philippines Sunday, April 23 @ 6 p.m. Service



Friday, April 21, 2017 6 pm - 7:30 pm

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)



#### Waikapu Cleaning Schedule

Week of Apr 13-15 Volunteers Needed

Week of Apr 20-22

Volunteers Needed

Week of Apr 27-29 Aikala Ohana

### MISSIONAL OPORTUNITIES

NAMB Missionary Spotlight:





### North American Mission Board



#### **International Mission Board**

Connecting in Prayer https://www.imb.org/pray/

\*Please pray for **President Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado** of Honduras (south of Guatemala).

\*Send Conferences 2017-The SEND Conference, Dallas, will be held in six weeks--May 19-20. It is a two-day gathering of the church in North America. The heart of the gathering is to see a movement of people from within the church living out the mission of God in their everyday lives. You prayed earlier this year for SEND SoCal. Will you join us once again in praying as preparations are made and travel plans put into place? Ask God to bring together thousands who are ready to hear His voice.

\*West Africans in Paris, France-In December, you were asked to intercede for immigrants who were hearing God's stories while learning English. Give thanks to God that the English as a Second Language (ESL) class is going well! It must be finished by the end of April, because the teacher will be preparing to leave the country then. Please pray that the stories that are used in the class will touch the hearts of the students and that the students will come to Christ. Also pray that the teacher will continue to stay focused on the task at hand rather than the ones in the future.

\*East Asian Peoples-Pray that in churches throughout East Asia, evangelism will become a way of life and not just an event once or twice a year. Pray for believers to be so filled with God's Word that it naturally spills out in conversations with those around them.

"Pray the people of Calvary Denver will see themselves as ministers of the gospel, for our growing partnership with Place Bridge Academy and that our leadership will stay connected to Jesus and focused on our vision." *Kevin and Jenn Hasenack* 

#### Catch The Vision Tour

Catch The Vision tours are a two-day experience where pastors and key church leaders travel to a Send City to explore the city, meet church planters and see communities in need of a church plant. Pray for churches to develop a heart and passion for sending their people on mission. Pray for pastors to catch God's vision for how their churches can bw involved in reaching cities through church planting.

SBC Chaplaincy Spotlight:





### Valley Isle Fellowship Calendar

## Apríl 2017

9 9:00 am - Worship Service

10:30 am - Sunday School

12:30 pm - Trustees Meeting

6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study

10 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting

12 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel"

14 Good Friday - Office CLOSED

16 Easter Sunday

6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service (Kahului BC as guests)

8:30 a.m. Refreshment/Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

5:00 pm "Insanity of God"

17 6:30 pm Prayer Meeting

19 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel"

21 6:00 pm - Sweet Life Cafe

9:00 am - Worship Service 10:30 am - Sunday School 6:00 pm - Two-Thirds World Mission Team sharing

24 6:30 pm Prayer Meeting

25 Women's Night Out to "Chonda Pierce: Enough"

26 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel"

30 9:00 am - Worship Service

10:30 am - Sunday School

6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study

### May 2017

1 6:30 pm Prayer Meeting

3 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel"

6 10:00 am MCBA Mothers' Celebration
Luncheon

7 9:00 am - Worship Service

10:30 am - Sunday School

6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study

8 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting

10 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel"

14 Mother's Day

9:00 am - Worship Service

### Valley Isle Fellowship

1033 Waiale Rd., PO Box 886, Wailuku, HI 96793 ph: (808) 244-0865 - valleyislefellowship@gmail.com - www.vifmaui.com

#### SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Worship Service - 9:00 am

Sunday School - 10:30 am

#### **Senior Pastor**

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

#### **Associate Pastor**

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

#### SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

Worship/Study 6:00 pm





### **Resurrection or Bust**

#### Pastor Darren Sarmiento

1	_ to our faith.	
2	of our salvation.	

3. Do you \_\_\_\_\_ his wounds?