



Valley Isle Fellowship

Love God, Love His Church,
Love His World

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

NEWSLETTER

December 25, 2016 www.vifmaui.com

He's Finally Here!

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro



Jesus, the Messiah, who had been long anticipated, finally arrives. He has finally arrived to become the Savior of the World. Christmas ushers in to this world God's plan for saving this world from all of its sin and degradation. This was a tremendous and wonderful beginning to a life changing

You see, the bigger risks that Jesus was seeing was all of us having no forgiveness and no hope. He knew that He had to do all that He could to destroy a life of no hope and forgiveness. All of the risks of His earthly life were worth it, because not to fulfill His mission on earth was an unbearable thought.

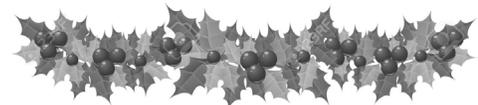
Jesus knew all of the costs. He knew what it would cost Him to give us hope and forgiveness. He knew the cost that we would have to pay not to have hope and forgiveness. We need to know that Jesus had the choice to obey or to disobey the



Father's will. Intentionally and willfully He chose to obey. His love and grace is not accidental. He chose to intentionally give His best and His all because of His great love for us. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. That whosoever believes in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Throughout history, God was demonstrating His love and grace to the world. Then, finally He sent His Son, Jesus, giving His all and His best. He is finally here. But we need to know that He will come again, and that will be the time when He finally comes to bring His church home and to bring judgment. Don't miss out on His being here. Don't miss out on the real meaning of Christmas.

God bless you all and have a Merry Christmas.



IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1 He's Finally Here!
- 2-3 Greetings from the Woodies
- 4-5 Announcements
- 6 Missional Opportunities
- 7 VIF Calendar
- 8-9 Sermon Notes



and life saving ministry.

However, Jesus' arrival was not met with the kind of excitement and joy that the King of kings and Lord of lords deserved. In fact, most people missed Jesus' great arrival. One segment of this community even tried to wipe out His arrival and existence. In fact, Jesus came into this world and into danger, deceit, and decline. At every point of His life, from His birth to His death, danger and intrigue surrounded Him.

Jesus risked everything to come to earth because He loved the world. He came to give the world, to give all of us, the opportunity to change our destinies. He knew all of the risks, but His love for us blinded Him to all of the risks. It was a self-imposed blindness. For you see, He knew the risks, all of the risks, were there but, He purposely blinded Himself to all of them so that He would only see



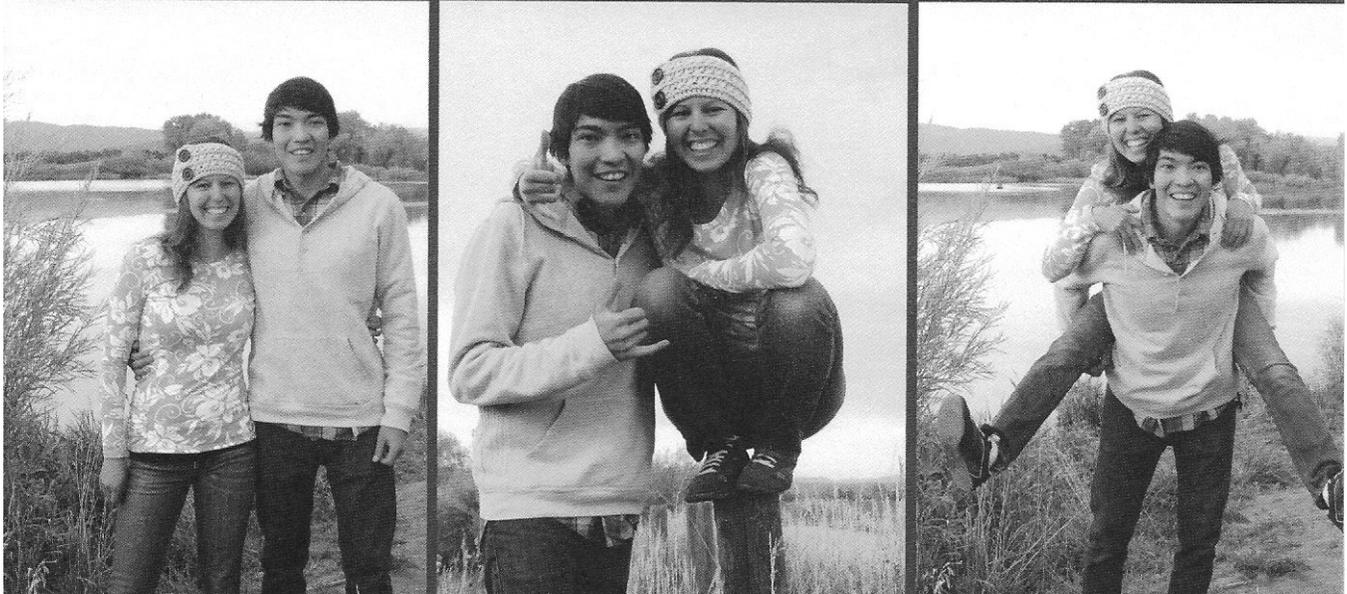
all of us through eyes of love and grace. His love and grace caused Him to look beyond all of our faults and to see our need. His love and grace blinded Him to all of the risks. Or rather, it changed His perspectives on those risks.

For Jesus to not to come and fulfill the mission that God sent Him on, would be to risks all of our eternities. Most probably, it would be a continued life of rebellion against God combined with a life without hope. It would hope. It would be a doom of trying to handle all of the complexities of life without God's guidance and strength. And, most certainly, it would be an eternity without the love and forgiveness of Christ.

MELE KALIKIMAKA |

Wishing you a
Merry Christmas!

With Christ's love,
Dakota & Rachael Woodie



Greetings and Happy Holidays! This fall semester has raced by with much excitement for Dakota and I. Our third semester working full-time at Fort Lewis College has been full of new **students hungry for truth** as they learn to navigate life on their own at college. We have been immersed in working predominately with the **freshmen** that God has brought across our paths. This is exciting as they are just beginning their adult journeys and it is such a pivotal time for them to grow in, or begin their faith.

Here's a picture of our semester: it has been filled with staff meetings/planning & review times with our campus directors (Malcolm & Leah); separate guys & girls Bible studies (lead by Dakota & I); a co-ed Bible study that us staff alternate leading; one-on-one discipleship appointments; daily prayer & witnessing times; meeting new people at the ping pong table & our info/outreach table in the student union; impromptu meetings with students about life & questions they have; hikes, climbing, & other activities with students; retreats; game nights etc.

Dakota has been working diligently with the guy students that want to learn and grow. In particular, Jay (a graphic design major, Senior) has continued to meet with Dakota to learn how to share his faith. Jay is a big encouragement in how he takes the initiative to start spiritual conversations with other students. Another guy, Austin, has surprised us by how he continues to come to Bible studies and retreats even though he's not sure if he wants to follow God. He has really been counting the cost this semester and investigating what this Christianity business is all about.

The lady students have kept me quite busy this semester and I love it! Each week I get to have one-on-one appointments with about 12 girls. They are each uniquely and beautifully different: from the new Christian Brandi who I got to help lead to Christ, to Senior Sophia who's navigating her post-college

Greetings from the Woodies

options, and Amelia who keeps me on my toes with her deep & insightful questions. I wish I could write about each girl individually but one highlight has been a freshman, “D”. D came to college with a lot of baggage from her recent past (alcohol, drug addictions, hard relationships, separated & partying parents, etc.) But this semester God truly has been transforming her! She recently shared that she doesn’t even have a desire to touch alcohol or drugs anymore. And after our last retreat she courageously ended a toxic, long-term relationship.

Coming up (Dec. 30-Jan 4) is our 2nd annual **Rocky Mountain Winter Conference** that we put on for students. We are anticipating a great time of growth (the theme is “Light”), fun in the snow, practical training sessions (like how to have a daily time with God), & a day of outreach. This conference (held at our Three Trails Ranch, Durango) is put on by staff from MPM’s four campuses & will include students from each campus.

God is in the business of changing people’s lives! This is one of the most amazing things to see, experience, and be a part of. We are incredibly grateful for you as you continue to faithfully pray for and support us, enabling us to work full-time towards God’s heart for reaching, building, and sending students into the plentiful harvest. Christ’s hope rings ever true and we pray that you will be blessed by it this Christmas season and new year!

Merry Christmas! With much love,
Dakota & Rachael

“**Fear not**, for behold, I bring you *good news of great joy* that will be for **all the people**. for unto you is born this day in the city of David **a Savior**, who is *Christ the Lord*.”

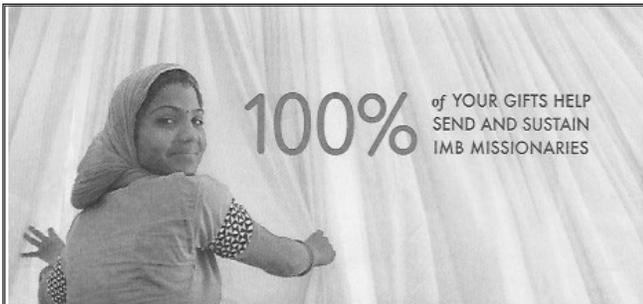
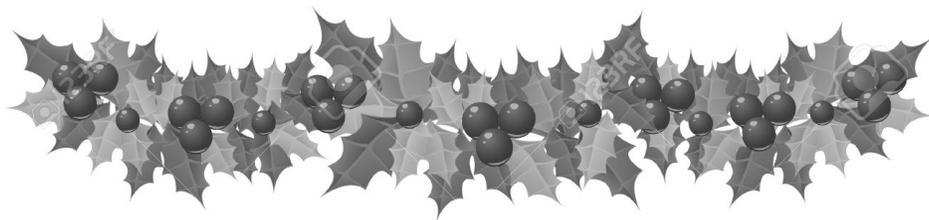
~Luke 2:10-11

Announcements



Pastors Stephen and Darren,
along with their families,
wish you a
Merry Christmas!

*"For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord."
Luke 2:11 KJV*



the gospel resounds
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering 2016

VIF giving to date
\$1545.00

Announcements



Childcare Schedule

Today, Dec 25 Team 2: Elaine Y, Wendy C, Krystal AV

Jan 1 Team 3: Flo N, Hawea R, Francis C.

Jan 8 Team 4: Cheeng S, Jennifer B, Gwendolyn R.

Jan 15 Team 1: Marion K, Karen F, Kolbe F, Alysha F, Melanie F



High Street Lawn Care Schedule

Week of Dec 29-31
Volunteers Needed

Week of Jan 5-7
Volunteers Needed

Week of Jan 12-14
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.

**Standard text message rate may apply.*

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



High Street Cleaning Schedule

Week of Dec 29-31
Volunteers Needed

Week of Jan 5-7
Volunteers Needed

Week of Jan 12-14
Volunteers Needed

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

MISSIONAL OPORTUNITIES



GlobalHungerRelief
bread for life.

An Initiative of Southern Baptists



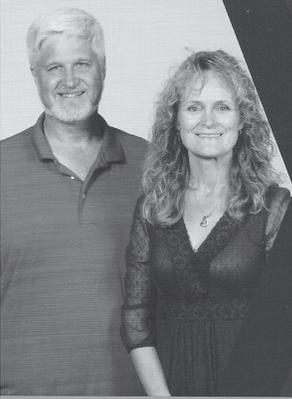

International Mission Board
Connecting in Prayer
<https://www.imb.org/pray/>

***West Africa Trucker Ministry** -“Thank you for your prayers,” writes the W. Africa Trucker Ministry Team. “God is answering in ways we could not have imagined! We had asked you to pray for a church start at two of our truck stops in areas that have proven to be hard ground. Praise our Lord that at one of those locations, He has allowed us to share His stories in a restaurant for the past five weeks with these drivers. It started very small but has increased over the past two weeks. It is still very difficult for the drivers to attend because of persecution. One man showed up this week wearing a hoodie, with his head down and covered during the whole service. One can only imagine the threats and the price he paid to come. At the second truck stop, there have been three new team members added to the trucker team. They have been able to speak to more drivers and have started a Bible study, which has led to three men accepting Jesus and being baptized. Keep praying for these courageous seekers of the truth!”

***City of Soldiers, China** - As groups of visiting believers are welcomed in the City of Soldiers this month, please pray for God’s protection, good health, and physical stamina for the teams. As these believers have many opportunities to share the reason Christmas is celebrated, ask the Lord to soften the hearts of the hearers and give them a hunger to know the Savior of the world.

***Antananarivo, Madagascar**(ahn-tah-nah-nah-REE-voh) - Pray for an awakening among the believers in the capital city of Antananarivo to share their faith boldly, and ask for God to increase His kingdom daily.

NAMB Missionary Spotlight:



Greg and Tonya SAWYER

Church Planter
Illuminate Church
P.O. Box 6312
Olympia, WA 98507
greg@illuminateolympia.org
LightOLY.com

Pray for expansion of the gospel in Olympia and for the team at Illuminate. Pray that we would be bold to live for and speak of Jesus. We desire to be a light for the journey among those we encounter.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, SBC Annual Church Profile. Compiled by the NAMB Center for Missional Research.

North American Mission Board	WEST	Population 7,342,325	SBC Congregations 2,649	SBC Church to Population Ratio 1 in 1,449
------------------------------	-------------	-------------------------	----------------------------	--

SBC Chaplaincy Spotlight:



SBC Chaplaincy
Southern Baptist Convention

Lieutenant Commander David L. Mowbray, CHC
CHAPLAIN, U.S. NAVY, MARINE CORPS
namb.net/contactachaplain
Based: Okinawa, Japan
Wife: Shelly Mowbray

Pray for strength, peace and saving faith for those in our military and their families, possibly separated due to military obligations, during the current times of tension and conflict.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD



Valley Isle Fellowship Calendar

December 2016

25 **Christmas Day Service 9 a.m.**
NO Sunday School
NO Evening Service

26 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

27-29 *Pastor Stephen off island*

28 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary

30 *Office Closed at noon*

January 2017

1 **New Years Day Service 9 a.m.**
NO Sunday School
NO Evening Service

2 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

4 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary

8 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
12 noon - Trustees Meeting

6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study

9 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

11 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary

15 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

16 *Martin Luther King's Birthday*
6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

18 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary

22 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

23 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

25 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary

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

Valley Isle Fellowship

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

ph: (808) 244-0865 - vifoffice@gmail.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

Fulfilling His Love

His whole life was a sacrifice

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NLT) 1 Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. 2 Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

I. His _____ was a sacrifice - From _____ to _____. - Matthew 1:18-25

A. Born of a _____.

1. Mary was _____.

2. Joseph considered quietly _____ the engagement.

3. God _____ through the angel.

B. Left _____.

1. _____ and _____ existed there.

2. Earth was full of _____, _____, and _____ of all kind.

C. Coming as _____.

1. God with _____.

2. The _____.

II. His _____ was a sacrifice - A _____ shepherd.

A. The _____ Shepherd.

1. _____ for His sheep.

2. Will not _____ them in times of _____.

(continued on next page)

Fulfilling His Love

His whole life was a sacrifice

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

B. He _____ His sheep.

1. Is not _____.

2. Some sheep are _____ His.

3. His sheep _____ Him.

4. Has other sheep of other _____.

C. _____ and _____ sacrifices His life.

1. Has the _____ to give His life.

2. No one is _____ Him.

III. His _____ was a sacrifice - Declaring us righteous. - Romans 3:23-26

A. We are all _____.

B. _____, God's undeserved kindness.

C. Jesus' sacrifice makes us _____ with God.

D. _____ seems _____.

E. A _____ of God's love.

NOTES: