



## Proclaiming Christ's Love in Mililani and the World:

# Building For Eternity

Mililani Community Church

Volume 1, Issue 5

### Calendar of Events

Please mark your calendars for these stewardship campaign events:

#### October 9

Silver Anniversary and Stewardship Dinner

#### October 16

Commitment Sunday



Don't forget those pennies!

### Pastor's Corner

*"Not unto us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness"* (Psalm 115:1)

Over the past few months I have observed a growing sense of joyful unity and enthusiasm in our congregation as we have progressed through our stewardship campaign. I believe we are catching the vision for WHY God is leading us to develop of new church facility in Mililani Mauka.

When Jesus called His first disciples he said, *"Come, follow me ... and I will make you fishers of men."* A true Christian is a person who has become a "follower" of Jesus Christ. That is our new identity. We are called to a life in which all that

we are and all that we have revolves around Him. He is to be the center of our universe. Our lives are to be lived for His kingdom and His glory.

As followers of Christ, there is a radical shift in our perspective on life – because now all of life is no longer about me. It's no longer about my success or my business or my portfolio. It's now about the ETERNAL NEEDS OF PEOPLE. *"Follow me"* Jesus said, *"and I will make you fishers of men."* Life is now about seeing people's lives radically, eternally changed by the power of Jesus Christ.

Our stewardship campaign is about to become the best *"fishers of men"* that we can possibly be FOR GOD'S

*Rick Bartosik, Pastor*

GLORY. It's about seeing the lives of people transformed by Christ as they respond to the life-changing message of the gospel. It's about helping people grow in Christ so that they become mature followers of Christ who will go out from here to impact their world for Christ.

As we move toward the goal of building the first phase of our church facility, I pray that each and every one will see clearly that it is NOT ABOUT US; rather it is about what God wants to do through us for His glory in this community as we seek to reach as many people as we can with the gospel and help them to become fully devoted followers of Christ.

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### COME ONE, COME ALL TO

#### MCC'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION and STEWARDSHIP DINNER

If you haven't signed up to attend MCC's Silver Anniversary Celebration, please do so as soon as possible. You don't want to miss out on a fabulous time of reflecting on the past, celebrating the present, and anticipating the future. There will be wonderful fellowship and an onolicious feast of Hawaiian food, catered by our very own Jerry and Diana Ho.

Whether you're a member, regular attender, newcomer, or connected to MCC through a small group or MCC ministry, please come. There's no charge!

Our guest speaker will be Pete Anderson, pastor of Trinity Church Central Oahu, the site of the festivities. The members of Pastor Pete's church recently moved into a brand new sanctuary, after worshipping at a local school for years. Just being in the sanctuary (the one with the huge lighted cross that is visible on H-2, going Wahiawa-bound) will be such an encouragement, as we look forward to our own facility in Mililani Mauka.

Please join us by calling Cori Omura ([pomura@aloha.net](mailto:pomura@aloha.net) or 626-8868) or Daye Tominaga ([dayetominaga@hotmail.com](mailto:dayetominaga@hotmail.com) or 623-2693) immediately.

# Building For Eternity

## Youth and A Church Facility

When I was a teenager, my family's church was located in the middle of the small town where we lived. I loved to walk down to the church – day or night, regardless of whether anyone was there or not – and pray and sing as I wandered about the campus. I found much comfort and joy in doing so. It was a spiritual fortress to me, a wellspring of living vitality and joy. Oftentimes I would pray for my friends and others. Sometimes I would just sit, gazing up into the sky, and dream of ministries for Jesus. On other occasions, I was able to pour out my pain and sorrows to the Savior. Many times I had sweeter fellowship alone – there with God -- than during some regularly scheduled church activities.

I have fond memories of that church: stirring guest speakers; combined church fellowship and worship nights; learning the Word of God; spending different nights of the week playing ball on the church's courts; and attending scores of parties, plays, and other events with the Body of Christ there. I was baptized in the church's sanctuary. My mom was called to be a missionary while being raised in that church. So

was I. The leaders there were the first to commission me and send me out.

That church is part of my inner fabric -- it helped shape and mold me, gave me my outreach focus, filled me with joyful memories, helped sustain me through the sad times, and gave me a purpose for living. I am grateful and praise God for that church.

So why all of this reflecting? It is because we at Mililani Community Church have a chance to build a facility for such high and lofty purposes. A Church for God in Mililani Mauka -- just imagine that! I foresee it being used for all of the purposes God has for our lives.

Our highest and best purpose is to worship and enjoy our great God. Having a place to make beautiful music, stage dramatic presentations, and creatively express God's love and sacrifice -- both for grand formal occasions and informal spontaneous ones as well -- will allow us to magnify God and all His glory.

Another of God's purposes for us is to minister to believers and unbelievers. Having a facility in Mililani Mauka

## *Reflections by Associate Pastor Stephen Knapp*

will allow us to be used both for service to the Body of Christ and for reaching the lost.

The facility will enable us to better serve our brothers and sisters in Christ (as stated in Galatians 6:10) by providing a staging and service area for planning and carrying out ministry work with our own children, teens, young adults, married couples, and seniors, and also with outside believer groups -- such as TNC, the Mililani High School Fellowship Club, Campus Crusade for Christ, and Youth for Christ.

The facility will also allow us to evangelize and reach out to the community. We will be able to stage events using recreation, athletics, Vacation Bible Schools, conferences, Awana Clubs, Halloween Alternatives, and concerts/theme parties for outreach purposes and for building bridges to our neighbors.

Two more compelling purposes exist, in my mind, for developing a church campus. First, is the area of instruction, a very key component of our Lord's Great Commission. Matthew 28:19-20. Classroom instruction, ministry mentorships, intern programs, seminars, weekend retreats, and hosted events are all avenues available to us under the plans that we have

for our property. Can you envision kids, teens, and young adults coming to MCC for ministry preparation and spiritual development? I picture this place as a launching pad to send out trained and equipped disciples for Christ all over the world.

Last, but certainly not least, is the area of fellowship. I yearn for a place to commune with fellow believers -- a gathering spot to laugh and to cry and to pray together. Sharing burdens, casting vision, upholding one another. Celebrating home-goings and ordinations, graduations and marriages. It would be wonderful to have a place where our youth can hang out, be together, and invite their non-believing friends to join them for instruction, worship, and fellowship. Having our own facility would also enable us to host fellowship gatherings with others -- like the EFCA denominational youth, Mililani youth in general, visitors from the Neighbor Islands, mainland visitors, and, perhaps, even international visitors.

Best of all, the facility would be a place of fellowship with our dear and wonderful Savior and God -- the Lord Jesus Himself.