

## SATURDAY PRAYER MEETING 7:15-8:45AM // MGMC CONF ROOM

Please join us this Saturday as we pray for our church and other needs in the community and the world around us. Prayer is the backbone to all that we do! If you would like to utilize the free childcare during our time, please contact the church office @ 839.4002 or admin@mgmchawaii.com by Friday.

## BLOOD DRIVE NEXT SUNDAY, NOV 26 8:00AM - 1:15PM

Please sign up to donate blood and help save lives! The Hawaii Bloodmobile will be at MGMC next week Sunday. Sign up online at bbb.org or on the tear-away. Please indicate a preferred time and someone will contact you to confirm.

## SALT WORSHIP & PRAYER NIGHT MON, DEC 4 6PM // NEW LIFE CHURCH

6-7:30 Worship  
7:30-8:30 Heavy pupus pot luck & fellowship

All are invited to this special night of worship and lifting up the Name of the Lord as the Ekklesia of Hawaii. Municipal parking is available around the church.

*"In everything give thanks;  
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

**1 Thessalonians 5:18**

This Thursday is Thanksgiving 2017 and the holiday season begins. As we've been learning about the power of the Ekklesia to transform where we live, work, and play, I believe God wants to use us to bring His Ekklesia to all of our Thanksgiving parties. So as you prepare for Thanksgiving, here's a few things you can do to bring the Ekklesia to Thanksgiving:

**1. Pray over the food as you prepare it.** Jesica MacNaughton, Ed and Ruth Silvoso's daughter talked about how she prays over the food as she prepares it. As people eat it, they are blessed and experience the presence of God. As you prepare your favorite Thanksgiving dish, your turkey, stuffing, green bean casserole, pumpkin pie, mac salad, ham, etc., pray for God to infuse His love, peace, and joy into that dish.

**2. Invite a friend or someone new** to your family Thanksgiving party, especially someone who may be away from their own family. Pastor Marion shared a few weeks ago about how he was "Hanai-ed" by a local Waimanalo family at Thanksgiving years ago when he first came to Hawaii since he was not able to go home to Texas that year. It was a powerful experience for Marion, as he was able to feel the love of a family.

**3. Pray for God to bless your Thanksgiving party.** Then on Thursday, gather everyone before you eat and pray. Keep it simple and invite God's presence to come. Maybe ask one of the children to pray.

**4. Pray for opportunities to minister** to others during your Thanksgiving event. Be ready for God to open up divine appointments to pray for someone's needs. As we step out in obedience to the Holy Spirit, God will use us powerfully to bring His kingdom to those in need.

This Thanksgiving will be a special yet bittersweet time for our Yoshida family, as it will be the first Thanksgiving without my mom, Helen, as she suddenly went to heaven on August 8, 2017. From "small kid time" Thanksgiving has always been hosted by my mom and dad at their house. Even after my dad passed on 29 years ago, my mom continued this tradition, inviting the entire family and extended family to her house for Thanksgiving. And so this Thursday we will once again gather at my mom's house in Kaneohe, everyone bringing their favorite potluck dish, eating, laughing, kids running around, and of course playing bingo. We will begin with prayer, inviting the presence of God to come and touch each person, and to fill her house with the joy of the Lord. My mom and dad left a legacy of loving and serving others unselfishly. For my siblings and I, it's now our turn to carry on this legacy.

For some of you, you also will be missing that special family member as you celebrate Thanksgiving this year. Just know that God is with you and is close to the broken hearted (Ps. 34:18). This Thanksgiving, may God bless you and your entire 'Ohana, as you experience His powerful presence that brings peace, joy, and healing to all.

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

Pastor Ron