

The background of the slide features several large, vibrant pink flowers with yellow centers, resting on a light-colored wooden surface. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some petals fully open and others still budding. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the petals and the grain of the wood.

# Mililani Presbyterian Church and Preschool Present:

## *Our Worship Journey towards Understanding...*

- How very young children learn about God
  - How to facilitate that learning
  - How to intertwine our culture with that learning
- How to bring our church and preschool closer together

# FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

love,  
joy,  
peace,  
patience,  
kindness,  
goodness,  
faithfulness,  
gentleness,  
and self-control

Galatians 5:22-23

From September 2020 through May 2021, the overall religious education theme for both the church and the preschool was the fruit of the Spirit. Each month we concentrated on one “fruit”. The pastor used the “fruit” in his Sunday sermons as well as in the monthly preschool chapel lessons.



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Galatians 5:22-23

We taught the preschoolers the Hawaiian word translations to incorporate Hawaiian culture into the lessons.

Love~Ke Aloha

Joy~Ka'oli'oli

Peace~Ke Ku'ikahi

Patience~Ke Ahonui

Kindness~Ka Lokomaika'i

Goodness~Ka Maika'i

Faithfulness~Ka Mana'o'I'o

Gentleness~Ke Akahai

Self Control~Ka Pākiko



- We started in September with our first fruit of the Spirit, love/ke aloha.
- We wanted to teach the children using music and dance.
- Eventually, the children will be able to teach the song and hula to the congregation.

IN DECEMBER, WE LEARNED THAT  
CHILDREN DEFINITELY LEARN BY DOING, EVEN WHEN LEARNING ABOUT BIBLE STORIES

The youngest students really enjoyed learning the Christmas Story through the use of hands-on activities and pictures. Teachers read to them, and then they re-enacted the Nativity!





Everyone wanted a turn! It was a fun way to learn!

Older students used other activity pieces in the classroom to elaborate on the story, building a wall around the stable to keep Jesus safe. They also added other figures to show that all of God's children are a part of the Nativity story!

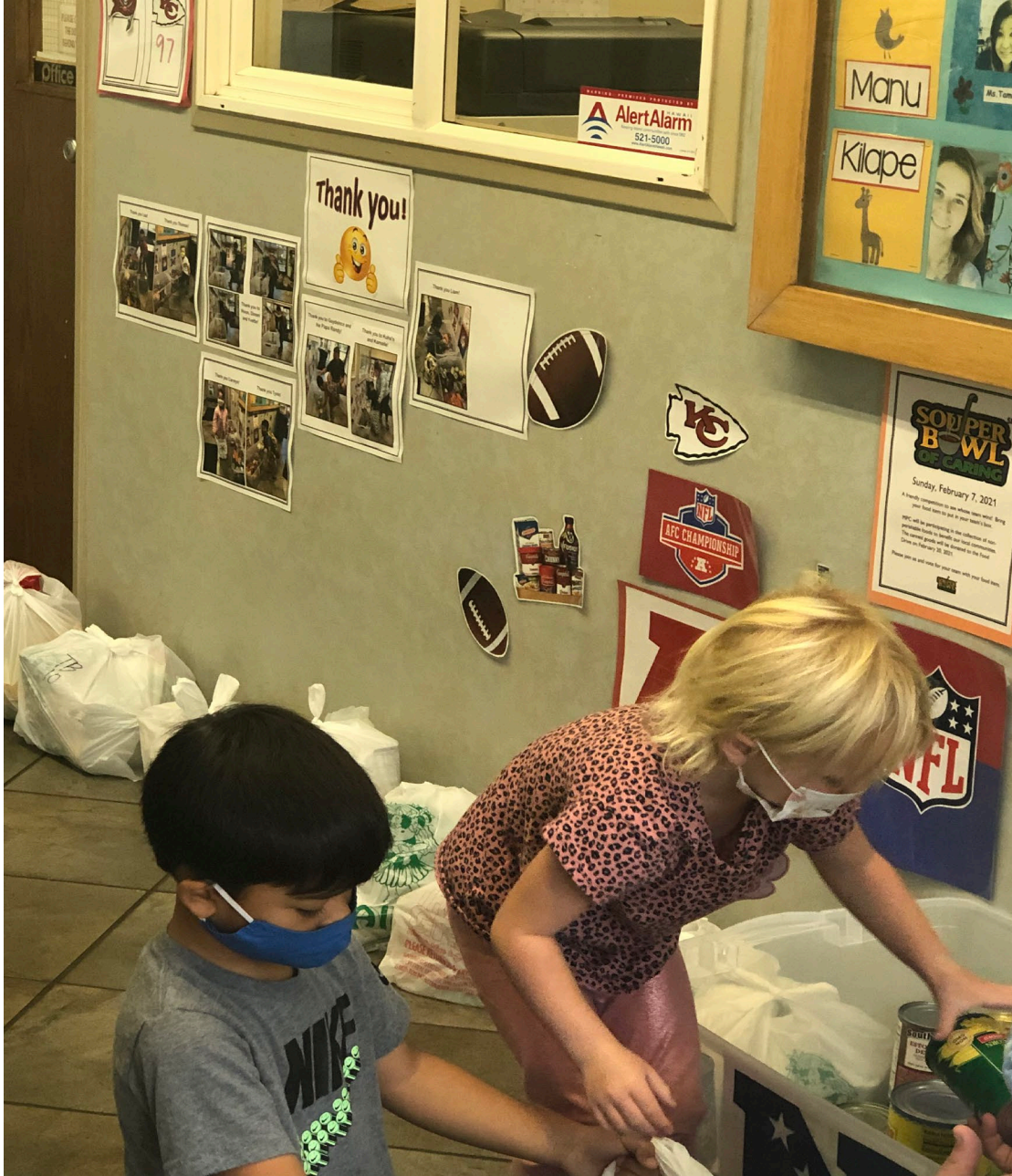




WE LEARNED THAT  
CHILDREN  
LEARN ABOUT CARING  
THROUGH  
SHARING WITH OTHERS.

Beginning in January and ending on February 8, the church and preschool participated in the "Souper Bowl". The children brought in a total of 432 non-perishable food items to "Tackle Hunger"! They loved being able to choose their conference and/or team. They learned the importance of sharing and caring for those in need. And it was a project that united the church and preschool.





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The older students even got a math lesson while learning about sharing and caring for all God's children!



On April 1, we were finally able to welcome a guest speaker to show us different ways to teach our keiki about religion. The main focal point was faithfulness, which was our “fruit” for the month of April.

Aloha & Welcome!

Michael K. Pa’ekukui





We learned about using Hawaiian dance and song to teach children about religion, using a song by David Haas.

E na lima hana  
E mālama 'āina  
me ke kino  
me ka pu'uwai

Working hands  
Care for the land  
The body  
And the heart



The teachers then taught the hula to their students. As you can see, they loved it!

The Nativity Story activity set worked so well that we purchased the Noah's Ark set to help the children learn about faithfulness, our "fruit" for April.



Just as God rewarded Noah for his complete and unwavering faithfulness, so shall we, too, be rewarded for our faithfulness.

We are very grateful to God for helping the world begin to overcome the pandemic through vaccinations.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has already impacted our plans for the grant, as well as our efforts to bring the church and preschool closer together.

Once we are able to, we plan to finish our project by having the children attend Sunday services and teach the congregation their dances and songs.

A great big mahalo from us to you, for allowing us the opportunity to increase our understanding of how very young children learn about God, how to facilitate that learning, how to intertwine our culture with that learning, and how to bring our church and preschool closer together.

