

## Prayers

**Prayer #1** – Heavenly Father, the Kanaka people of Hawaii are suffering in poverty. They know too well the despair, hopelessness, hurt and often violence that comes as a result of extreme poverty. Many of these same people do not know You. They need to know You are always with them. We pray for these people, that through this grant and the new ministry it will provide that they will come to know You as their Lord and savior. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

**Prayer #2** – Dear Lord, help us through this grant to the Kanaka people in Hawaii to restore hope in the face of severe poverty and homelessness. We pray that through this ministry of Kanaka-to-Kanaka a trust will be created and the men, women and children will learn about Jesus. We pray for the new Bible studies and VBS programs that through them the Holy Spirit will open their hearts to Jesus. In His Holy name we pray. Amen.

**Prayer #3** - Gracious Heavenly Father, we give You thanks for Clarence and his desire to bring the Gospel to his people. We pray that he will be encouraged through this grant to step out in faith and show the love of Jesus to the homeless and desperately poor in his community. Help him to spread the Good News of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection for the salvation of all people. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of all who hear his words that they may come to faith in You. We pray for this grant that it may be a tool to bring new believers to the family of Christ. In Jesus Holy name we pray. Amen.

## Story

*The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound ... (Isaiah 61:1).*

Hawaii to most Americans is a vacation paradise with beautiful beaches, warm sunshine and carefree days. But to the native Kanaka people life has been full of pain and suffering since the island was colonized. Many were victimized in ways similar to the Native Americans of the mainland during the expansion of the west. Now, many social issues face this proud people.

In recent years the homeless population has grown. Many of homeless are native Hawaiians who are hardworking people but can't afford the extremely high cost of living. So, even though they work two jobs, they struggle with poverty and the resulting problems of crime, violence and suicide.

Lutheran Indian Ministries (LIM) is at work in Hawaii with the Kanaka people but they have found that the ministry works best if it is done by Kanaka people so a Kanaka-to-Kanaka program was started. One of the Kanaka men, Clarence, has completed two years of theological training. He is working with LIM to be a witness of God's love to his people, to train new leaders in the faith and to address the spiritual, social and emotional needs of his people.

# February 2019

Programs of Restoration in Paradise Lost  
Lutheran Indian Ministries - \$75,000



**LWML**  
Lutheran Women in Mission

## Prayers (cont.)

**Prayer #4:** Faithful Father, we know that the Hawaiian culture is deeply rooted in oral history and storytelling. Help us through this grant to teach the greatest story of all, the story of Your birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection for all sinners. *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life ... (John 3:16).* We pray for the Kanaka people that they will hear the Good News and believe. Hear us for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## Story (cont.)

This grant will help pay for Clarence's theological training; set up a VBS/Teen Camp; provide materials for Bible studies and set up seminars about sexual abuse and leadership training. A former church building is available for these programs provided through this grant. Because of LIM and Clarence, a soon to be LCMS pastor, the Kanaka people will have someone they know and trust to bring the life-saving message of Jesus Christ to them and their families.

