

# Amazing Grace

July 2015

A Missionary Basic Christian Community of Hawaii – Renew Newsletter

## MBCC Executive Board 2015 - 2016

### Spiritual Director

Rev. David Lupo, ss.cc.

### Co-Spiritual Director

Deacon Kin Borja

### President

Larry Ritter

### Vice-President

Isaac Valencia

### Recording Secretary

Susan Solomon

### Corresponding Secretary

Kaleo Ho

### Treasurer

Joseph Jucutan

### Pre-Encounter Chair

Russell Yamamoto

### 3-Day Encounter Chair

Rosa Lefu'a

### Post Encounter Chair

Lori Ing

### Evangelization Chair

Mike Reis

### Finance Chair

Nadine Yamamoto

### Planning Chair

Jessica Ham Young

### Young Adult Chair

TBA

### **We're on the Web!**

See us at:

<http://www.mbccchawaiiirenew.com>

Aloha and Welcome to the July 2015 issue of our MBCC Hawaii- Renew Newsletter "Amazing Grace".

This issue finds us bidding farewell to our much loved Spiritual Director, Father David Lupo, as he is returning to Massachusetts in August. Join us for a farewell karaoke send-off on August 4<sup>th</sup> (details on page 7)

*Mahalo, Father David, for all your love, zaniness & guidance these last almost three years.*

*You were truly a blessing to MBCC and will be missed!*

*Love,  
Your MBCC 'ohana*



## Farewell Address from Father David Lupo, MBCC Spiritual Director

On Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, we on the MBCC Executive Board, past and present members got together for a nice meal at a local restaurant. There was no business scheduled, for it was just a time of celebrating one another, and it was an official time to say good bye to me, as I prepare for a departure to Massachusetts. I do not leave until August, but July will be extremely busy, especially weekends.

It is hard to leave. I always have mixed

emotions, and a sense that I am leaving with so much undone. Part of what is undone is a successor to be the Spiritual Director for MBCC. I feel the need to have someone in my place as I make my exit. That may not be my responsibility at all, but I cling to it as if it is. Fr. Tony Biswas, ss.cc., will be coming in on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. He will be working here at the St. Anthony's Retreat Center. I would like him to fill that little void I leave. But he might not. I made my own way once I arrived

here, and I must allow for him to do the same. Still, we can all pray on this!

My time in MBCC has been very little, not even three years. I have been blessed by communities--both Our Lady of the Mount, and the general community--that have offered me so much, in exchange for the little seed of an input that I offer.

*[Continued on page 7]*



Father David presiding over Mass while on retreat, October 2013. (Photo courtesy of Dwayne Fedalizo)

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## President's Corner ...

The month of July 2015 finds MBCC of Hawaii – Renew at a bit of a crossroads in a number of ways. One of these ways is somewhat bittersweet. As most MBCC members know by now Father David Lupo, SSCC, our Spiritual Director extraordinaire, has been called to duty elsewhere. He will be departing August 11, 2015 for Fairhaven, MA where he was requested by name to become pastor of a parish in the vicinity of the headquarters of his order, the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. To be

asked for by name says a lot about our dear Fr. Dave. Other persons love him as much, maybe more if that's possible, than we do!

Thankfully Fr. David will have spent Encounter #102 with us as Spiritual Director for the weekend of July 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2015, ably assisted by own Deacon Kin. Fr. Dave found out first hand of MBCC by wandering in, out of curiosity, on one of our encounter weekends being that he is stationed at St. Anthony Retreat Center already in addition to his many

other duties. Fr. Dave was curious about all those wild and crazy people gathered for dinner singing praises to our Lord, and kissing and hugging everyone. And we were all wondering who this wild and crazy stranger was that had jumped right in and joined us! You see, we found out right away that Fr. Dave likes to sing and dance and let his hair down as well. From that moment on Fr. Dave became an important member of MBCC through spiritual

[continued on page 7]

## **UPCOMING MBCC RETREAT:** **October 2, 3 & 4, 2015**

*“Go Out and Tell the Good News!!”*

Invite your family and friends to experience an MBCC Retreat Encounter for themselves!

*They will love you for it!*

## Masquerade Ball

**October 30, 2015, Ala Moana Hotel...save the date!!**



Fun & Fellowship  
Dining & Dancing  
Lucky Number & Door Prizes



Come Join us for MBCC's 1st Ever  
**Masquerade Ball**



Friday, October 30, 2015  
Ala Moana Hotel  
\$50.00/ticket



...more details to come~ stay tuned...



# Getting to Know You...

## MBCC 2015-2016 Executive Board Edition



**Rev. David Lupo, ss.cc.**  
*Spiritual Director*

*Congregation of the Sacred  
Hearts of Jesus and Mary*

Community Name:  
*Our Lady of The Mount*



**Deacon Kin Borja**  
*Co-Spiritual Director*

Parish:  
*St. Elizabeth*

Community Name:  
*Na Kupa'a*



**Lawrence P. Ritter (Larry)**  
*President*

Parish:  
*St. Rita, Nanakuli*  
Community Name:  
*Pu'u Wai Ho'ano (Sacred  
Heart) & Together Loving Christ  
(TLC)*



**Isaac Valencia (Ikky)**  
*Vice-President*

Parish:  
*St. Philomena*

Community Name:  
*St. Michael's*



**Susan Solomon**  
*Recording Secretary*

Parish:  
*Sacred Heart, Waianae*

Community Name:  
*Together Loving Christ (TLC)*



**Teri Ho (Kaleo)**  
*Corresponding Secretary*

Parish:  
*Our Lady of Good Counsel*

Community Name:  
*Faith, Hope, & Love*



**Joseph Jucutan**  
*Treasurer*

Parish:  
*Our Lady of Good Counsel*

Community Name:  
*Na Kupa'a*



**Russell & Nadine Yamamoto**  
*Pre-Encounter Chair  
Finance Chair*

Parish: *St. John Apostle &  
Evangelist*

Community Name:  
*Synergizers*



**Rosa Lefu'a**  
*3-Day Encounter Chair*

Parish:  
*St. Rita, Nanakuli &  
Sacred Heart, Waianae*

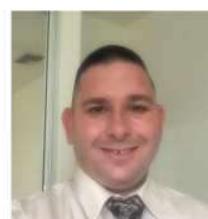
Community Name:  
*Pu'uwai Ho'ano (Sacred Heart)*



**Lori Ing**  
*Post-Encounter Chair*

Parish:  
*St. Jude*

Community Name:  
*Synergizers*



**Mike Reis**  
*Evangelization Chair*

Parish:  
*St. Jude*

Community Name:  
*St. Michael's  
Synergizers*



**Planning Chair**  
*Jessica Ham Young*

Parish:  
*St. Jude & St. Joseph*

Community Name:  
*St. Michael's*

The position of Young Adult Chair is available...  
We'd love for you to join us!  
*Is Jesus calling You?*

## A Spiritual Note

From Deacon Kin Borja

“The Essence of a hug...”



There is no greater show of affections than a hug. It does not cost much but does take conscious efforts to embrace someone you love. It does not matter the time or the place nor the circumstance, hugs are freely given and must be freely accepted.

A hug gives you the assurance that you are alive because you can feel the heart beats of the other person; you can feel the very essence of who you are. You can identify each other with all of your senses.

A hug gives you the ability to feel the other person's gentle touch as your child touches your face to feel your soft facial features or run his or her fingers through your hair. The touch gives us the reassurance that no matter what happens, it would be OK.

A hug makes you feel that someone very special is holding you close to his or her heart. A hug is the sharing with you the quite gestures of friendship, of love and of admiration.

Hug your love ones as often as you are awake. There is no limit on the number of times you can say, "I love you with my whole being!"

Remember, A Hug A Day Will Keep the Devil Away! STOP whatever you are doing now and give your wife and children a Loving Hug! Amen.

## Post Encounter #102



Join us for  
**Post-Encounter #102**

at

**St. Jude Catholic Church**

92-455 Makakilo Drive

Kapolei, HI

**Saturday, August 1, 2015**

**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**\*\* Come meet new missionaries and MBCC Communities \*\***



**\*\* Fellowship \* Food \* Games \* Prizes \*\***



**\*\* Bring family and friends \*\***

**\*\* Donate canned goods, cereal or toiletries\*\***



Please call Lori Ing at (808) 393-1496 to let her know you're coming!  
SEE YOU THERE!

*Mahalo to Mike Reis for securing St. Jude for our team formation, board and post-encounter meetings! You are a blessing!*

## Bible Trivia-Give it a try! (answers on last page)



1. According to the Bible, what weapons was the Philistine giant Goliath carrying when he was slain by David?? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What were the names of the three wise men? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who were the parents of King Solomon? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How much time did Jonah spend in the belly of the whale? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which two wicked cities were destroyed by God in Genesis.? \_\_\_\_\_

*Bible Trivia excerpts taken from [www.triviplaying.com](http://www.triviplaying.com)*

## Yummy Summertime Recipes...



### **Strawberry Spinach Salad with Poppy Seed Dressing Recipe**

Approximately 10 servings

#### **Dressing:**

- \*\*1/3 cup olive oil
- \*\*1/4 cup sugar
- \*\*3 tablespoons white or balsamic vinegar
- \*\*2 tablespoons sesame seeds
- \*\*1 tablespoon poppy seeds
- \*\*1 tablespoon chopped onion
- \*\*1/4 teaspoon paprika
- \*\*1/4 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

#### **Salad:**

- \*\*1 package (9 ounces) fresh spinach, trimmed
- \*\*4 cups fresh strawberries, sliced
- \*\*1/4 cup chopped pecans, toasted

#### **Directions:**

1. Place the dressing ingredients in a jar with a tight-fitting lid; shake well [alternative: whisk well together in a medium-sized bowl]. Refrigerate for 1 hour.

2. Just before serving, combine the salad ingredients in a large bowl. Shake dressing and drizzle over salad; toss to coat.



[recipe from: [www.tasteofhome.com](http://www.tasteofhome.com)]

### **Orange Dream Layered Squares**

Recipe makes (1) 8-inch square pan

#### **Ingredients:**

- \*\*6 graham crackers, finely crushed (about 1 cup)
- \*\*2 Tbsp. butter, melted
- \*\*1/2 cup orange juice
- \*\*1 pkg. (3 oz.) JELL-O Orange Flavor Gelatin
- \*\*1 pkg. (8 oz.) PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened, divided
- \*\*1 tub (8 oz.) COOL WHIP Whipped Topping, thawed, divided
- \*\*1/2 cup cold milk
- \*\*1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) JELL-O Vanilla Flavor Instant Pudding
- \*\*1 tsp. orange zest

#### **Directions:**

1. Combine graham crumbs and butter; press onto bottom of 8-inch square pan. Refrigerate until ready to use.
2. Microwave orange juice in microwaveable measuring cup on HIGH 1 min. Add to gelatin mix in small bowl; stir 2 min. until completely dissolved. Gradually add to half the cream cheese in medium bowl, beating with mixer after each addition until blended. Whisk in 1 cup COOL WHIP; spread over crust. Freeze while preparing next layer.
3. Beat remaining cream cheese and milk in separate medium bowl until blended. Add dry pudding mix; beat 2 min. Stir in remaining COOL WHIP and orange zest; spread over gelatin layer. Refrigerate 3 hours.

[recipe from: [www.jello.com/recipe/orange-dream-layered-squares](http://www.jello.com/recipe/orange-dream-layered-squares)]

A Hui Hou, Malama Pono-  
Farewell Address from  
Father David Lupo, MBCC  
Spiritual Director  
*[continued from Pg. 1]*

I am grateful to all of you, and for the love you have shown me, and each other. This is what keeps MBCC going strong.

The challenge is--always--to remain as a strong community once preparations begin for the next MBCC weekend. Blood is thicker than water, the saying goes. In other words, it is always more pleasant to hang with family and have fun, than it is to work with baptized Christians we do not know to build up the Reign of God.

There is a sense, therefore, that we tone down our fun activities, our time with family and friends, our travel, whatever may be occupying the major portion of our time, to mentally and socially get ready for the upcoming retreat. We come together like the Justice League of America, ready for the work at hand. With so much attention recently about super heroes, this might be an apt comparison. Be a super hero! Design your own costume! Indeed, if I stayed on, I would like to be the Incredible Bulk!

So, I wish you all the best! May upcoming weekends in 2015 and 2016 be the best ever, and bring in a dozen or so people ready and willing to work on team. I must say that if I offended any one of you, I am sorry. This is a reality of working in a community. Even the focus of today's celebration, St. Peter and St. Paul, did not always see eye-to-eye on everything. Be assured of my prayers, and my correspondence. I will want to know how things are coming along. I send my love. "For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus" (Phil. 1:6, NASB).

~Rev. David Lupo, ss.cc.

President's Corner ...  
*[continued from Pg. 2]*

guidance and leadership as well as just being one of us. It was a match made in Heaven!

Sadly we must bid Fr. Dave farewell...for the time being. We pray that he will be back, even if just for a visit. Yes Fr. Dave will be leaving us, but not without a bang! A potluck gathering is planned at Hmc Karaoke in Pearlridge on Tuesday evening, August 4<sup>th</sup>. There's a party going on, let's celebrate! Crooners/divas and crooner/diva wanna-bes are welcome to bid Fr. Dave a fond farewell. Or rather should I say, "A Hui Hou Fr. Dave; until we meet again." God be with you always.

Larry Ritter  
President, MBCC of Hawaii – Renew

**Farewell Karaoke Dinner for  
Father David!!**

**Tuesday, August 4th  
6:00 p.m.**

**HMC Karaoke Pearlridge**  
Cost is **\$10 per person** or  
**\$20 per family**

*Please bring a potluck dish to share*

Join us for a fun Farewell karaoke  
dinner with Fr. David.

Please **RSVP** by **July 28, 2015**  
to **Bernice Biscocho Nicolas**  
(aka Vinnie) at 206-2927

See you There!!

If **you** have an idea for our  
October 2015 Newsletter, I'd  
love to hear from you!  
Please e-mail me at:  
[kaleoz@yahoo.com](mailto:kaleoz@yahoo.com)

Mahalo,  
Kaleo Ho  
Corresponding Secretary

MBCC Hawaii- Renew Newsletter  
"Amazing Grace" July 2015

**Mahalo to the following for their  
contribution to this edition:**

Father David Lupo

Deacon Kin Borja

Larry Ritter

MBCC Executive Board 2015-2016

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Strawberry Spinach Salad with  
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Orange Dream Layered Squares  
recipe from:  
[www.jello.com/recipe/orange-dream-layered-squares](http://www.jello.com/recipe/orange-dream-layered-squares)

## ANSWERS- Bible Trivia-Give it a try!

1. According to the Bible, what weapons was the Philistine giant Goliath carrying when he was slain by David? **A sword and a spear, according to I Samuel 17:45**
2. What were the names of the three wise men? **Balthazar, Caspar and Melchior**
3. Who were the parents of King Solomon? **David and Bathsheba**
4. How much time did Jonah spend in the belly of the whale? **Three days and three nights**
5. Which two wicked cities were destroyed by God in Genesis? **Sodom and Gomorrah**

**How'd you do??? Stay tuned for more Fun Trivia in the next edition of our newsletter...**

A Hui Hou Father David!  Your MBCC 'ohana

