



## Wisdom of Kalaupapa

A Collaboration  
of Hawai`i Conference UCC  
Formational Missional Team;  
ReSource for Christian Spirituality;  
and the Episcopal Churches on Kaua`i  
(All Saints, Christ Memorial, Episcopal Church of West Kaua`i,  
and St. Michael and All Angels)

### Purpose of the Series

To receive the wisdom of kūpuna of Kalaupapa (those affected by Hansen's Disease) as they overcame challenges to become resilient people of purpose, and to be inspired by their example.

### Module 1- Personal Response to Crisis: From Fear to Faith

### Objectives

Know more about:

1. Experiences of those exiled.
2. Differences between Hawaiian & Western responses to ma`i ho`oka`awale (the separating disease).
3. How patients put their faith into action.
4. The wisdom from kūpuna of Kalaupapa

### Group Guidelines

1. Keep space sacred and confidential.
2. Listen to understand, not to agree or disagree.
3. Cultivate an open mind to what you can learn.
4. Practice holy listening.
5. Give everyone an opportunity to speak.

To find out more about Wisdom of Kalaupapa or to schedule a workshop for your church, please contact: Rev. Dr. Phyllis Meighen at [phyllismeighen@gmail.com](mailto:phyllismeighen@gmail.com) or 808-647-4346

## Questions for Reflection

- How did you respond to the uncertainty and unpredictability of 2020?
  - What bothered you most?
  
  - Is there a scripture you turn to in times of crisis or fear?
1. What has stood out for you or struck you most deeply?
  2. Where did you see the fear? Where did you see the faith?
  3. When you consider the experiences of the patients and compare them to your own today, what wisdom can you gather from kupuna?

## Modules in the Wisdom of Kalaupapa Series

- 1 – Personal Response to Crisis: From Fear to Faith (completed)
- 2 – Disruption of `Ohana: From Separation to Restoration (due 9/21)
- 3 – The Long Haul: From Despair to Hope (due 11/21)
- 4 – Speaking Your Truth: From Oppression to Freedom (due 1/22)
- 5 – Living into God’s Future: From Estrangement to Forgiveness (due 3/22)

## How You Can Become Part of Wisdom of Kalaupapa

- If you have a Kalaupapa family story you would like considered for inclusion in one of the modules, contact Phyllis Meighen at [phyllismeighen@gmail.com](mailto:phyllismeighen@gmail.com) or 808-647-4346
- Tax-deductible charitable donations to continue the mission of the Wisdom of Kalaupapa can be made by Paypal at [resourceforchristianspirituality.com](http://resourceforchristianspirituality.com) or Check to ReSource for Christian Spirituality, Suite B, 4364 Hardy St., Lihue 96766

## Suggested Resources for Further Reading

Ka `Ohana O Kalaupapa, *Adjourned with a Prayer: The Minutes of Siloama & Kana`ana Hou Churches, Kalawao & Kalaupapa, Molokai, 1866-1928*, Kalaupapa, Hawai`i, Ka `Ohana O Kalaupapa, 2011.

Law, Anwei Skinsnes, *Kalaupapa: A Collective Memory*. Honolulu: University of Hawai`i Press, 2012.

Law, Anwei Skinsnes and Monson, Valerie, *Ili Nā Ho`omana`o o*. Waipahu, HI: Pacific Historic Parks, 2012.

Quick Fact Sheet  
about Kalaupapa Settlement  
for Module 1

1. The first case of leprosy was officially diagnosed in a woman from Kaua`i in 1835. She lived for a number of years, and her husband who stayed with her never contracted the disease. However, by the early 1860's, more people were being diagnosed with leprosy, and there arose concerns that it could also become an epidemic.
2. In 1865, the Legislature passed "An Act to Prevent the Spread of Leprosy," authorizing the Board of Health to "reserve or set apart" land for the isolation of people with leprosy.
3. At the time, very little was known about leprosy. They did not even know what caused the disease. The bacteria that causes leprosy was not discovered until 1873.
4. The first 12 people were sent to Kalaupapa on January 6, 1866. There were some family members with them who went along as kokua, and there was a child of one of these 12 people. They landed on the Kalaupapa side of the peninsula. Then they walked to Kalawao where the government had purchased a few houses at both Kalawao and adjoining Waikolu Valley. The men were given digging tools to grow food; the women were given fabric and needles to make clothing.
5. A popular belief was that arriving patients were tossed overboard and left to swim to shore. This, however, is a myth drawn from historical fiction.
6. Kama`āina lived on the peninsula for hundreds of years before the settlement was established. They fished, grew sweet potatoes and kalo, and were known as superior kapa makers. The kama`āina took in the sick people. By 1894, one year after the illegal overthrow, all kama`āina were ordered to leave Kalaupapa.
7. The story of Kalaupapa is the story of two forced relocations: perhaps 100 families who had called Kalaupapa home for generations; and nearly 8,000 people who were taken from their families and sent to Kalaupapa for having leprosy.
8. Siloama was the first church in Kalawao. The names of the 35 founding members are memorialized on a plaque in the sanctuary. It is believed that these 35 people included not only the people who were sent to Kalaupapa, but also kama`āina and kokua.
9. The church organized itself and kept minutes from that first year. The minutes were all kept in the Hawaiian language and translated into English in the 1940's.

*He Aloha no Kalaupapa*  
Nā Kuaha'a a Ka'upumoa'ula Arranged by Kapalai'ula de Silva  
Song Director – Keila Mokulehua  
*Hawaiian with English Translation*

He aloha kēia no Kalaupapa

'Auhea 'oukou e nā koa ahuahu, eō  
Ahuwale Kalawao me Kalaupapa  
Noho papa i ka ua Ko'iawe  
He awe aloha no nā kau a kau

Hū mai ke kai uliuli o Kawaluna  
Ka līpoa lilo i ke kai 'okia  
Hao mai Ka'upumoa'ula  
Heahea mai ke oha o Mōkapu me 'Ōkala

Kalakala ka 'ili i ka malu hala 'ula  
'Ula 'ole i ka lihi o ka pō  
Pūlamahia ka hulili o Ho'olehua  
Ua ao ka pō, e ao mālamalama

Eia nā leo aloha 'āina o Kalaupapa  
E kūpa'a mau ana nā pali hāuliuli  
I ke kuamo'o o ia kaha  
No ka po'e i aloha i ka 'āina

Puana 'ia ke aloha no Kalaupapa  
Ka 'āina kāhelahela i ke Ko'iawe  
He awe aloha no nā kau a kau  
'Auhea 'oukou e nā koa aloha 'āina, eō

Our aloha for Kalaupapa

Where are you our strong and growing  
warriors, respond  
Kalawao and Kalaupapa are revealed  
Dwelling for generations in the Ko'iawe rain  
A precious love, always and forever  
The deep blue sea of Kawaluna surges  
The līpoa is lost to the separating seas  
Ka'upumoa'ula blows with force  
Mōkapu and 'Ōkala welcome with affection

The skin is rough in the shade of the red  
pandanus  
Not red at the edge of night  
The sparkle of Ho'olehua is cherished.  
The night has become day, an enlightened  
day

Here are the patriotic voices of Kalaupapa  
The dark cliffs are steadfast and loyal  
To the backbone of this place  
This is for you, the people who love their  
land

The refrain is told of our love for Kalaupapa  
The vast land in the Ko'iawe rain  
A precious love, always and forever  
Where are you our strong and growing  
warriors, respond