



September is here and fall programming is upon us!

Sunday, September 13th, starts a new year of Christian Formation for children and adults at St. Peter's.

9:00am Christian Formation for All Ages

Ages 3 years through 4th grade - Godly Play - The Loft (The stage area in the Parish Hall accessed by going through the kitchen.)

5th Grade through 8th Grade - The R.O.C.K. (Relationships, Outreach, Christ, Kids) - The Son/Sun Room (Accessed through the exterior door on the Diamond Head end of the Parish Hall.)

Adult Formation - Adult Education Room in the Ewa, mauka corner of the Parish Hall (The Tangerine Room)

Time & Talent

On **Sunday, September 13th**, a brochure of ministry opportunities will be distributed. Come and find out what new and interesting ministry opportunities await you!

Greetings from Pastor Diane:

We have lost some dear souls in recent weeks and months, most recently Jeanne Chun, who passed away peacefully at home on Friday, August 21st. Below is an abbreviated version of Pastor Diane's sermon on Sunday, August 23rd.

In recent weeks and months, we have lost a number of dear souls who died suddenly and unexpectedly. Many hope for exactly this kind of death—"When my time comes, I want to go quickly without pain or a long illness." Still, for those of us left behind, the loss is hard. The awareness that our relationships are not permanent and that we and those we love will die hits us in the face.

But, the church has a lot to say about this. We in the church do not shy away from this truth. In fact, it's central to who we are. We are Christians because we follow the way of Jesus Christ, and Jesus proclaimed an astonishing truth to his disciples: 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will

never die." Confused and uncertain concerning what Jesus was talking about, it only began to make sense to those early disciples after Jesus died and then made appearances before them reassuring them that death does not have the last word, that God's love is indeed an **eternal** embrace into which we are welcomed upon our departure from this earthly life.

Henri Nouwen, a Dutch-born Catholic priest who, in 1986, left a teaching post at Harvard University to live in a L'Arche community with developmentally disabled adults, had a profound experience of this eternal embrace which he wrote about in a little book entitled, *Beyond the Mirror: Reflections on Death and Life*. Nouwen died unexpectedly in 1996, but six years prior he was hit by the side mirror of a car while walking along an icy road and nearly died. As Nouwen's body was hemorrhaging, with his life hanging in the balance, he wrote that he had a deep awareness of God's presence:



"My whole life had been an arduous attempt to follow Jesus as I had come to know him through my parents, friends, and teachers. I had spent countless hours studying the

Scriptures, listening to lectures and sermons, and reading spiritual books. Jesus had been very close to me, but also very distant; a friend, but also a stranger; a source of hope, but also of fear, guilt, and shame....But now, when I walked around the portal of death, all ambiguity and all uncertainty were

gone. He was there, the Lord of my life, saying, 'Come to me, come.'"^{*}

"What I experienced then was something I had never experienced before: pure and unconditional love. Better still, what I experienced was an intensely personal presence, a presence that pushed all my fears aside and said, 'Come, don't be afraid. I love you.' A very gentle, nonjudgmental presence, a presence that simply asked me to trust and trust completely....Death lost its power and shrank away in the Life and Love that surrounded me in such an intimate way, as if I were walking through a sea whose waves were rolled away. I was being held safe while moving toward the other shore. All jealousies, resentments, and angers were being gently moved away, and I was being shown that Love and Life are greater, deeper, and stronger than any of the forces I had been worrying about."^{**}

That is very comforting to read and worth pondering—the thought of encountering such an intense moment of love and welcome as we are faced with death. But, as I told you, Henri Nouwen did not die then but, rather, went on to live another six years. The experience made such an indelible mark on him, though, that he continued to reflect upon this deep experience of love the rest of his life. Interestingly, he came to believe that it was a sense of unfinished business that prevented him from dying and that this unfinished business was not anguish over leaving those he loved—which is often what we assume—but rather unresolved anger. *"The real struggle had to do with leaving behind me people whom I had not forgiven and people who had not forgiven me....I realized on a very deep level, that dying is the most important act of living. It involves a choice to bind others with guilt or to set them free with gratitude."*^{*}

That is something we who are still on this earthly journey should think about—the assertion that dying is the most important act of living because it involves a choice to bind others with guilt or to set them free with gratitude. Nouwen believed that each step in our life's journey—childhood to adolescence, adolescence to adulthood, adulthood to old age—is preparation in learning to let go of the ways in which we cling to others so that we can move increasingly from needing others to living for them. Each stage offers new opportunities to either choose for ourselves or to choose for others, and, what we find, he says, is

that when we choose to live for others, we grow in the joy of God.

All of that comes into stark clarity when we are faced with a close brush with death or when stunned with the unexpected loss of people dear to us, but, the reality is that as time passes, we get busy with the demands of life and the clarity gained in the immediacy of death can become hazy. Nouwen found this to be true in his own experience. *"It requires an enormous discipline to remain a disciple of Jesus, to continue to stay anchored in his love, and to live primarily from above....As soon as I lose touch with the God who is Truth, Life, and Light, I will become entangled again in the myriad of daily 'realities' which present themselves to me as if they are of ultimate value."*^{**}

When we become too consumed with the ways of the world, too engrossed in the busy-ness of our lives, that we lose touch with the One who is the Source of our being, when we forget whose we are and who we are called to be, then we are in danger of losing our way and the peace and joy we desire in life and with which we hope to be greeted in death. A brush with death or the loss of one whom we love calls us back to that which **is** of ultimate value.

Henri Nouwen made a final observation after his recovery that is worthy of thought. He noted that it was surprising, given the countless liturgical texts that speak about our eagerness to live with God in eternal joy and peace, that no one ever suggested that a return to his old life might not necessarily have been the best outcome. No one, he said, ever said anything like, *"To have been found not ready to be completely united with the Lord to whom you have given your life must have been a disappointment, but as your fellow traveler I welcome you back into the struggle of life."*^{**} Could it be, he asked, that in our eagerness to hold on to this life, that we have lost contact with one of the most essential aspects of our creed: faith in eternal life?

It is that eternal life into which we entrust those we love who have departed from this earthly journey—and into which **we** will be entrusted someday, too. AMEN.

^{*} Excerpts from *Beyond the Mirror: Reflections on Death and Life*, Henri Nouwen (Crossroad Publishing Co.,2001)

Welcome, Estelle Hayashi!



Please welcome the newest addition to the St. Peter's administrative staff, **Estelle Hayashi**.

Estelle recently retired from IBM and lives in Kaimuki with her husband, Alan, and her son, Royden. She enjoys traveling, reading and

practicing yoga. She is a former member of Good Samaritan Episcopal Church where she taught Sunday school.

Estelle officially joined St. Peter's staff on September 1st. She is now our front line person in the office, answering the phones, preparing the weekly bulletins and the monthly ministers' calendar, and handling church record-keeping. This allows Joette's focus to be on the bookkeeping and property management.

Estelle will be joining us next Sunday, September 13th during coffee hour after the first service and then during the second service. Come and meet Estelle! She's looking forward to meeting you!



Christian Formation groups for children and young people at St. Peter's will begin the Sunday after Labor day, September 13, 2015. St. Peter's provides meeting space for the blended groups of young people from at least three communities. Invitations to participate are extended to St. Andrew's Schools, St. Andrew's Cathedral, St. Paul's and of course St. Peter's. The adult leaders of these groups are well qualified volunteers who are committed to the spiritual well-being of our children.

The youngest children (beginning at age 3 ½ through grade 4) gather in "the Loft" (aka. "stage") at the back of the parish hall. The program used

with these younger participants is **Godly Play**. Godly Play encourages children to learn the great stories of our faith through storytelling and reflection. This is a Montessori shaped way of engaging scripture and is designed to meet the needs of a wide age range.

The older youngsters (grades 5-8) are the **R.O.C.K.** group. These young people gather in the Son/Sun room. (Entrance through the exterior door at the back of the parish hall.) The program used is called "Making it Real and Relevant". This curriculum is both lectionary based as well as current event driven. It combines wisdom from scripture, experience from adult leaders and illustration from contemporary movie clips.

Both groups gather in their locations by 9:15 a.m. (we are making every effort to accommodate two overlapping service schedules) and finish by 9:50 a.m. so that children participating in 10 a.m. services can be vested in time. A more complete schedule of offerings will be available at the first day of classes.

The overall goal for both groups is the same: To create nurturing and safe environments where all participants are invited and encouraged to seek and experience a closer relationship with their God.

If you feel called to explore this ministry to our children, please indicate on your Time and Talent survey. If you have or know of a child you would like to have participate with these groups, please visit a classroom and fill out a registration form. If you care to offer prayer support for those who teach, those who learn and those who love them, please do. If I can answer any questions, please call. Stephanie Wight 808-436-4151 stephwight@hotmail.com

Episcopal Church Women Annual Meeting

Saturday, September 12, 2015, 8:30am-12:30pm
Von Holt Room, St. Andrew's Cathedral

Topic: "Do What You Have the Power to Do: Women and the Bible"

Keynote Speaker: Pastor Diane Martinson

Registration & Lunch: \$15.00 (Checks payable to "ECW-Diocese of Hawai'i")

To RSVP, contact Louise Aloy at 264-9830 or louisealoy63@gmail.com.

Memorial Garden of Peace

St. Peter's has an open-air Columbarium located on the mauka side of the church which serves as a final resting place of beauty and serenity for those parishioners, family members, and other Episcopalians who desire inurnment. Brochures are available in the back of the church. For more information, contact the church office.



Congratulations to Starr Kalahiki, St. Peter's Jazz Vocalist

Native Arts and Cultures Foundation (NACF) awards its distinguished National Artist Fellowship to Native artists who are "provocative, outspoken and challenge their imaginations to ever new heights of ingenuity, which invigorates their work." The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation (NACF) National Artist Fellowship gives a monetary award that assists with support in order to provide Native artists the opportunity to explore and experiment with new creative projects and further develop their artistic careers. St. Peter's Jazz vocalist, Starr Kalahiki, was one of only thirteen awardees who were selected from a national open call of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian artist applicants.

Welcome to Joseph Chang!

Joseph Chang, husband of long-time member Kathleen, formally joined St. Peter's Church on Sunday, August 16, 2015.

Joseph was the grandson of contract workers who came to Hawaii to work in the plantations. When their contract was complete, Joseph's grandfather remained in Hawaii and opened his own bakery, eventually returning to China in 1900. Because Joseph's father was born in Hawaii, he was eligible to become a US citizen, as was Joseph so in 1936, when the Japanese expansionist policy in was enacted in China, the family was able to move to Hawaii. When Joseph arrived in Hawaii, he spoke no English but nevertheless he had to enroll into the fifth grade in accordance with DOE rules. Neighbor, Mary Tong, was the secretary at St. Theresa School, staffed by the sisters of St. Joseph. She was very helpful to the family and convinced Joseph's father to enroll him into St. Theresa School where the sisters

devised a plan to start him in Grade Two, promote him to Grade Four, then Grade Six and so on. They offered him after school help almost daily. Thanks to them, Joseph was able to graduate from St. Louis and U.H.

Upon graduation from St. Louis High School in 1951, Joseph was hired by Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard as a draftsman. He became an engineering technician in 1953 and began taking engineering-related courses at U.H. at night and, when possible, during the day. He received his civil engineering degree in 1959 and became a naval architect whose responsibility was to ensure that after a ship is overhauled or repaired she left the shipyard structurally sound, watertight with good stability and maneuverability. Because U.H. did not offer a naval architecture program, he was sent to the University of California at Berkeley for two consecutive summers to take two 6-week naval architecture courses. By the time he retired in 1987, he was head of the Shipyard Naval Architecture Branch.

Joseph and Kathleen have been married for 60 years. They are parents to two daughters and one son, and have six grandchildren.



Joseph and Kathleen Chang surrounded by their family

Emmanuel's 13th Annual Chocolate Extravaganza

Saturday, October 3rd 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

\$25 pre-sale \$35 at-the-door

Limited Seating VIP Event at 5:00 pm *\$35 pre-sale*

A benefit for Family Promise and Emmanuel Church

www.emmanuelkailua.com/

Real Property Tax Discount

by members Ed Casebier and Bryan Matsumoto

If you own and live in your home, you may qualify for a discount on your Honolulu property taxes for your residence. If the total, summed income of all titleholders (owners) for your home is below \$60,000, you should investigate further by reading below.

The Federal Income from your April 2015 tax return is compared to the property tax bill that you received in July. If your annual property tax bill is above 4% of your income, you may qualify for the discount. If the oldest owner is 75 years old or older, the discount is even greater because 3% of your income is used.

If you don't have a copy of your tax bill, you can see your property taxes at this website:

http://qpublic9.qpublic.net/hi_honolulu_address.php

Find your home using your property address then scroll down and click on [Show Historical Taxes](#)

You can download an application at this website.

http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/bfs/treasury_docs/2016-2017_Tax_Credit_Application_PDF_Final.pdf

For more information, you can read the brochure at http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/bfs/2016_Tax_Credit_Information_Brochure_revised.pdf

You may also call the Honolulu Property Tax Relief office at 808-768-3205.

Greetings from Postulant Annalise Castro

I want to update you on the journey that I have been on since leaving St. Peter's for seminary. I am entering into my senior year, the third year of three, at Virginia Theological Seminary. It seems unbelievable that I will graduate with Masters of Divinity in May. Seminary has been a very unique experience. It's a time of intense formation. It's not only academic. At school, we spend a lot of time as a community praying, laughing, and learning about ourselves and the ministry God is calling us to. I would have to say my favorite part of seminary is being part of such a close community. I often joke with my 2016 classmates that it's like going to school with 40 of my brothers and sisters. We have grown close and know each other well. I know these

relationships will serve a greater purpose as we part ways to serve the church in different parts of the world.

I value all that I have learned about the Episcopal tradition and the history of our church. Seminary has given me the opportunity to learn about the Episcopal Church, and not only through books, but through conversations with classmates, professors, and visitors to our campus.

This summer, I was able to get a taste of what ministry might look like in Hawaii through participating in Clinical Pastoral Education with Pacific Health Ministries. I served as a chaplain in various departments at Queen's Hospital. Although I am still processing all I have learned, I am sure I will carry the lessons I have learned with me throughout my life and ministry.

I am currently a postulant in the diocese, which means I am on the ordination track. The next step in the formal discernment process is to interview for candidacy. These interviews will take place over my senior year. I will be traveling between Virginia and Hawaii several times over the year. I am looking at it as a time to transition back to life in the islands. I consider Hawaii my home I hope to return to the Diocese after graduation.

I am immensely thankful for the prayers and support that St. Peter's has given me throughout my time in the discernment process. I appreciate the way that all of the members of St. Peter's have participated in my process, from discernment committee members to pep talks to helping me navigate my time on staff before I went to seminary. Personally, this has been a time of growth and learning for me, and it would not have been possible without my church `Ohana.

Please keep in touch! I love hearing from folks when I am at school! My email address is annaliscastro3@gmail.com. My mailing address is 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA, 22304. It means so much to me to have connections with home! You all remain in my prayers often. I will be in touch as my senior year progresses.

Love and Aloha, Annalise



Greetings from Deacon Jar Pasalo

Greeting from the Republic of the Philippines. GOD IS GOOD. I am doing well here. I am learning a lot about the differences in our cultures.



It is amazing how much I depend on the internet and technology. Email, Facebook, and web surfing is no longer a part of my current

reality. Before I left for seminary it was not a big deal being able to have instant communication, but after living in Virginia and being exposed to the culture of DC metro area I have taken it for granted.

As far as technology goes I experienced for the first time having to hand wash and hang dry a full load of laundry. It is much harder than hand washing only a couple articles of clothing.

I am getting better at communicating with the locals and continually practicing the Ilocano language. It is a blessing that I am being exposed to many parishes and villages. It is great that I get to see my roots.

My time in Hawaii had gone by really quickly and I apologize that I did not have the time to thank you all. The ordination service was such an amazing experience and it was your presence and those who attended from St. Peter's that made it that much more special. I felt very honored that you all had taken the time out to make the trip and also to be presented with the stoles, I still do not have the words of how much it means to me. I really look forward returning and celebrating with everyone at St. Peter's.

I do not have many chances for strong internet connection so I will be in contact when I can. Thank you again for the support and love that you and St. Peter's continually to give me.

Much love and Aloha, Jar

St. John's By-the-Sea Annual Lu`au

Saturday, September 26
4:00 - 9:00 p.m.

\$25 pre-sale, \$30 at-the-door
www.stjohnsbytheseahawaii.org

Mahalos

From Family Promise of Hawaii: *Your generous support of \$500 will help put families in safe and stable homes of their own. Thanks to you our families will receive shelter, food, basic supplies and housing services to help get them back on their feet. With your support, we continue to take families off the streets and into safe and secure housing.*

From Sheri Yamashita, Jazzercise Instructor who was recovering from a broken wrist: *Thank you for delivering the fruit arrangement and delicious homemade soup. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness. Also, thank you for praying for my healing. I'm doing much better and on the road to recovery.*

From First United Methodist Church Food Pantry: *On behalf of the ..guests at our church's food pantry, thank you for your generous donation of \$500. You are welcome to visit with us any time to see how your donation is actually put to use serving.. those who come hungry in so many ways. Just to let you know the current state of things this month alone (July) we've served 386 people (282 adults, 104 children - no duplications).*

From Honolulu Habitat for Humanity: *Thank you for your participation in Honolulu Habitat's annual Build-a-thon. This year over 180 volunteers joined Habitat to make improvements at the Princess Ka`iulani Elementary School in O`ahu's Kalihi neighborhood. Your support of this year's event enabled us to complete needed projects that ensured the safety, enjoyment and learning experience for the students of the school. I..look forward to our continued partnership.*



Smart911 - Here's a smart idea you should know about! Smart911 is a new service of the Honolulu Police Department that allows residents to create a free Safety Profile for their household. When you call 9-1-1- from your phone, your profile with information you want first responders to know will be immediately displayed thereby facilitating the proper response to the proper location. You can watch a video about this new service on the HPD website, www.honoluluupd.org. Learn more and set up your profile at www.smart911.com

September



2 Stanley Kau	13 Nancy Rowe
3 Marilyn Lee	13 Madison Yee
4 Wei Mei "Mary" Fo	16 Myra Kong
5 Ava Gorman	17 Myron Chang
6 Pauline Lum	19 Joanne Shibuya
6 Kenneth Kau	27 Estelle Inn
10 Sim Kau	28 Donald Wong
12 Verna Lum	30 Wesley Ching

September Anniversaries

- 7 Karin and Taka Kimura
- 8 Doreen and Alfred Yuen
- 9 Kathleen and Joseph Chang
- 25 Laura Jean and Robert Thue

If your September birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact the church office to update your records.

Volunteer Opportunities at IHS

As summer rushes past, our IHS keiki are back to school, IHS has some new and exciting projects in the works that will help bring brand new solutions to its mission to end homelessness in Hawaii.

Here are a few ways you can get involved with programs and services at IHS:

- **Volunteer with our Children's Enrichment Program--** Help our keiki achieve success in school this year by volunteering with our Homework Club. Shifts are available Monday through Thursday from 3-5 pm. Or if toddlers are more your speed, you can work with our pre-school children to help them develop the vital skills they need to grow up strong and confident. Shifts are available weekdays from 9 am to 12 pm. To become a children's enrichment volunteer, contact volunteer@ihs-hawaii.org.
- **Donate Movie Passes and Restaurant Gift Certificates--** Many of our guests and clients are struggling with severe mental illness, and one of the things that helps them most is the simple act of getting out into the community and participating in fun and positive activities. Help them heal by donating movie passes, restaurant gift certificates, or passes to other attractions and activities to IHS. Contact drives@ihs-hawaii.org for more information.

Diocesan Education Day
Friday October 23rd, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

ANGLICANISM REMIXED: EMBRACING THE OTHER, OUR TRADITIONS AND THE FUTURE

In conjunction with the Annual Meeting of Convention, an Education Day will be held on Friday, October 23, at 10:00 am. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, Director of Mission & Formation and Adjunct Professor of Church & Society at the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church.



Cn. Spellers guides us on a practical, inspiring journey that explores The Episcopal Way of following Jesus and embracing the gifts of our changing cultural context. Are you trying to figure out how our Anglican traditions translate for church in the 21st century? Come with a team and get ready to envision the church we're becoming ... together.

Cn. Spellers is the author of *Radical Welcome: Embracing God, The Other and The Spirit of Transformation and The Episcopal Way*, Book 1 of the *Church's Teachings for a Changing World* series. She teaches and directs programs in Mission and Formation at General Theological Seminary in New York City; she also serves as Director of New Ministry Development with the Center for Progressive Renewal, an ecumenical church consulting group based in Atlanta.

The Chaplain to the House of Bishops, she has worked as Canon for Missional Vitality in the Diocese of Long Island and as founding priest at The Crossing, an emergent Christian community rooted at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Boston. An alumna of Harvard Divinity School and Episcopal Divinity School, Canon Spellers is a popular teacher and speaker nationwide.

Education Day is open to all persons in the Diocese. Registration for Education Day can be found through the Convention registration link <http://www.episcopalhawaii.org/diocesan-convention-xlvii.html>



Coffee Hour Hosts

	7:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Sept 6	Stephanie Goo, Helen Richardson Arlene Lum	Margaret Chun, Haroldwyn Chang, Audrey Effler
Sept 13	Pokhui and Bill McKinney, Beth and Barton Cox	Sim Kau, Cheryl Bochentin
Sept 20	Nancy and Chan Rowe Jackie Greeley, Ruth Merz	Elizabeth Winternitz, Steve Mitchell
Sept 27	Cheryl and Bert Fong Lori and Clint Yee	Nani Ho, Rae Gorman, Barbara Vlachos
Oct 4	Val, Michele, Josh, Rene Baldovi	Margaret Chun, Haroldwyn Chang, Audrey Effler



Unearth Your Talents

Sunday, September 13th
7:30 a.m and 10:00 a.m.
Discover exciting ways to use
your talents in ministry!

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Honolulu HI 96813

1317 Queen Emma Street
(808) 533-1943

2015 Vestry

Rector: The Rev. Diane Martinson
Jr. Warden: Terry Dang

Sr. Warden: Pokhui McKinney
Treasurer: Nancy Rowe

Term expires in 2015: Michele Baldovi, Cheryl Bochentin, Taka Kimura, Bryan Matsumoto
Stephanie Wight, Tim Yuen

Term expires in 2016: Kyle Chang, Elizabeth Winternitz, Clinton Yee

Term expires in 2017: Ron Kim, Velma Lee

Joette: stpetershonolulu@gmail.com
Estelle in the Church Office: stpetershonoluluoffice@gmail.com
Pastor Diane: pastordianem@gmail.com

Webpage: www.stpetershonolulu.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpetershonolulu