



A Beacon of Hope, A Call to Serve

2016

### The Tenacious Joy of Easter

Perhaps you, like me, had the elementary school experience of planting seeds in Styrofoam cups filled with dirt which we then placed along a classroom windowsill. Every day we tended our little cup of dirt, eagerly watering and watching for some sign that something was happening. The day that little shoot finally broke through the dirt, it was nothing short of miraculous after all that waiting and wondering.

The green shoots of thriving plants still capture my attention today (maybe because I am so "green thumb" challenged!), but I have also grown to appreciate that within every green shoot is a promise, a promise that speaks to the tenacity of life—even where it should never be found.



When I lived in Manhattan, I attended a small church in Washington Heights. Outside that subway stop is a solid wall of granite rock. Manhattan sits on a slab of granite, so that's not so unusual, but one Sunday out of the middle of that rock was a green shoot--a green shoot out of the middle of solid rock! How tenacious life can be.

When I hiked around Kilauea Crater on the Big Island, I was astonished to find green shoots growing underneath the cracked, parched lava rock—life determined to grow where it would seem most unlikely, most inhospitable.

Easter is about this tenacity of life, the power of life to persevere and defeat death, the magnitude of hope revealed in Jesus Christ and the tenacious promise of God that life and light, hope and an endless offering of new beginnings will prevail. That's the Christian story and we're sticking to it. Come and join us along the journey!

*Pastor Diane*



### Episcopal Bishops Issue A Word to the Church

*The House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church, meeting in retreat at Camp Allen Conference Center in Navasota, Texas unanimously approved the following Word To The Church.*

Holy Week 2016

*"We reject the idolatrous notion that we can ensure the safety of some by sacrificing the hopes of others."*

On Good Friday the ruling political forces of the day tortured and executed an innocent man. They sacrificed the weak and the blameless

to protect their own status and power. On the third day Jesus was raised from the dead, revealing not only their injustice but also unmasking the lie that might makes right.

In a country still living under the shadow of the lynching tree, we are troubled by the violent forces being released by this season's political rhetoric. Americans are turning against their neighbors, particularly those on the margins of society. They seek to secure their own safety and security at the expense of others. There is legitimate reason to fear where this rhetoric and the actions arising from it might take us.

In this moment, we resemble God's children wandering in the wilderness. We, like they, are struggling to find our way. They turned from following God and worshiped a golden calf constructed from their own wealth. The current rhetoric is leading us to construct a modern false idol out of power and privilege. We reject the idolatrous notion that we can ensure the safety of some by sacrificing the hopes of others. No matter where we fall on the political spectrum, we must respect the dignity of every human being and we must seek the common good above all else.

We call for prayer for our country that a spirit of reconciliation will prevail and we will not betray our true selves.



**Our Capital Campaign is underway! It is our great pleasure to announce the Leadership Team.**

**Honorary Campaign Chair - Eleanor Chang**

There could be no better honorary chairperson for St. Peter's Capital Campaign than Eleanor Chang. On November 22, 1914, the community of St. Peter's along with Bishop Restarick celebrated the service of Consecration for the sanctuary in which we now worship. In his consecration sermon, Bishop Restarick said, "You have made this church like the solid rock that it may express your faith that the Christian religion is to last to the end. You live and you die. Your children come and go. Generations pass away. But this church (St. Peter's) tells the world that what you believe (your faith) is to go on up-lifting, blessing, and sanctifying men, women, and children." Almost from the beginning, Eleanor Chang has been part of the faithful community that has worshipped within this consecrated space, and she embodies the future oriented words that Bishop Restarick preached.



Eleanor was born on November 30, 1916, and soon after was baptized at the font where we still baptize today. Today she still worships God, sitting in these pews almost every Sunday.

In her early years, Eleanor remembers that everything at St. Peter's was in the Chinese dialect of Hakka, including the sermons. She and Katharine Kong, the minister's daughter, sat toward the front in the middle of the pew, pulpit side. She remembers Katharine getting scoldings from her father, Rev. Kong, because they chatted through most of the services! Eleanor fondly remembers singing in the choir through her

teen years, Sunday School in the basement (Aloha Room), and socializing that took place almost exclusively at church.

After college, Eleanor spent time away teaching on Moloka'i and then the Big Island. With the advent of WWII and now married, she returned home, worked at Pearl Harbor, and eventually returned to teaching when a position opened up. She remembers teaching many church parishioners during her years at Stevenson Middle School. During this time she raised a family, reconnected with St. Peter's, and spent many, many years serving on the Altar Guild. It was during the war years, she recalled, that a second, earlier service was added at 7:00am because people had to work on Sundays.

Eleanor was the FIRST to make a gift to the Capital Campaign and a very significant gift at that. Her love and faithfulness to the church has only grown over her 99 years of life. Early on, her dad taught her to turn to prayer, and she has always appreciated that it is the people who make St. Peter's a good place to worship. Her advice is to "just keep going" and remember to show gratitude. She points out that the physical structure of the church is not falling apart yet, but that we must do the work now to strengthen and preserve it and not wait until it crumbles. If we don't join together as a community in doing this work, she said, we won't have a church. After all, the church is the people!



**Campaign Co-Chairs - Elizabeth Winternitz and Steve Mitchell**

**Elizabeth:** In 2007, after twenty-three years on Maui, smarting from a painful separation from a nearly thirty-year relationship, I came home to Honolulu. I moved into a Chinatown

condo, and promptly sought out a faith community in walking distance. By the grace of God, I landed at St. Peter's! I recall with deep gratitude the generous welcome and support I received from my new church family. As I began my life anew, this community continued to offer healing, growth, and spiritual sustenance.

In December 2014, Steve Mitchell, and I joyfully married at St. Peter's, and together find great

reward in our shared spiritual life here. The energy and enthusiasm of the leadership and congregation towards becoming increasingly mission-driven inspires us, and we have personally experienced ways in which our church is growing as a beacon of light and hope in our neighborhood. I'm honored to be a part the momentum by serving as co-chair with Steve of the Capital Campaign, *Honoring our Past, Embracing Our Future*.

A little about me: I am the proud parent of two adult children, Peter and Jenta Russell, and the proud tutu of beautiful one-year-old Rachel Elizabeth Russell, all of whom live on Maui. I graduated from Kalani High School and University of Hawaii Manoa, with a BA in Environmental Education and a MA in Geography. I've worked -- mostly on Maui -- as a planning consultant, geography lecturer, writer, and editor, and have volunteered in various capacities in the non-profit sector. For fun and rejuvenation, I enjoy cooking, reading, yoga, hanging out with Steve at the beach, visiting family on Maui, and time in the company of friends.

**Steve:** And I am Steve Mitchell, the other half of this co-chair team and of this marriage! In 2010 after 20 years on Maui, I returned to Oahu, where I was born and raised in Kaneohe. In spite of losing my spouse of 30 years to advanced Alzheimer's in 2013, wonderful things started to happen. I met Elizabeth Winternitz, who introduced me to her Chinatown community, her family, which has grown to include a daughter-in-law and grandchild (Rachel turned 1 at the end of February!) Elizabeth also invited me to join her spiritual family at St. Peter's, where I was warmly received when I began to attend the 10 o'clock service with her.

2014 was a big year: Elizabeth and I were married at St. Peter's, I became a member of the congregation, was confirmed, became a Eucharistic minister, began participating in several ministries, and attended the Episcopal Convention, where I was elected Diocesan Lay representative to the Chapter of the Cathedral at St. Andrews.

It is my privilege and pleasure to embrace the future of our beloved St. Peter's by joining Elizabeth as co-chair of the Capital Campaign. Together we can honor the past, by restoring the Sanctuary and improving the Parish Hall. As we stabilize the

foundation of St. Peter's, we can continue to grow as a mission driven church.

A little about me: I have two younger sisters, both of whom live with their families off-island, one on Maui, and one in Maryland. I attended the University of Hawaii and have spent most of my adult life as a manager, sales trainer, and business owner in various fields, mostly in the communications industry, and ran my own business of 3 cell phone stores on Maui. I attended Kaneohe Elementary, King Intermediate, Castle High School in Kaneohe, and the University of Hawaii as a Marine Zoology major. I enjoy eating Elizabeth's cooking, yoga, fishing, basketball, golf, body surfing, and I'm looking forward to getting up on a surfboard again this year.

According to Matthew (16:18), Jesus said, *"You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church."* We believe that this capital campaign makes us good stewards of St. Peter's Church, thereby allowing us to grow our capacity to be that rock from which to share God's love in downtown Honolulu.

## An invitation

Our capital campaign is underway!  
Capital Campaign Volunteer Training

On April 17, our Capital Campaign kicks into gear with a training session for volunteers who will work closely with the co-chairs and Pastor Diane to secure gifts for the campaign. A core group has been selected to be participants in this training, but the training is open to everyone and will take place beginning with lunch at noon and wrap up by 2pm. If you are interested in experiencing this and seeing if it might be something to which you are called, please RSVP the church office at 533-1943 or to [pastordianem@gmail.com](mailto:pastordianem@gmail.com) by Sunday, April 10.

**Sunday, April 17th**  
**St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Parish Hall**  
Lunch will be served at noon,  
and the training will be from 12:30pm-2:00pm.



### St. Andrew's Schools Summer Program

Our neighbor and a diocesan school, The St. Andrew's Schools, will be offering a variety of summer-time college-prep and enrichment opportunities for girls

and boys, grades K-12. Half-day or all-day options and classes and activities will be offered both in and outside of the classroom. Program and registration information is available by calling 532-2464 or visiting [www.standrewsschools.org/summerprograms](http://www.standrewsschools.org/summerprograms) or by calling 532-2464.

### April Birthdays and Anniversaries

#### Birthdays

2 Diane Martinson	2 Kelly Pang
6 Greyson Kawamoto	6 Amelia Lao
6 Rodney Pang	7 Mimi Wu
8 Karla Lee	9 Miriam Everhart
10 David Lee	12 Corinne Kong
14 Nora Fong	14 Ryan Ong
14 Michael Turner	16 John Afong
16 Cheryl Saito	16 Willis Yap
19 Nancy Tyau	21 Sharilynn Ching
21 Ronald Kim	24 Carole Kau
27 Gavin Lee	29 Lily Ing
29 Jasmine Dayao	30 Marley Connors

#### Anniversary

23 Gary and Elise Karr

*If you do not see your April Birthday or Anniversary on this list, please contact the church office to update your information.*

### Housing Now Rally

Mark your calendars! **Thursday April 21 from 3:00pm-6:00pm** the Housing Now! Coalition, a group of faith communities, advocates, and service providers, will gather at the rotunda of the state capitol to encourage full funding of the rental housing trust fund (allows building of affordable rentals), the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (the primary resource for those at 30% area median income and below), and for infrastructure needed to support affordable housing. Why? Because Hawaii has one of the highest homeless populations in the country; because there aren't enough affordable housing units for our teachers, fire fighters, police officers, nurses, etc.;

because building projects take years to come to fruition and we need to start now.

If you can't attend the rally, we invite you to assist in making signs during the Sunday morning coffee hour. Watch for more information on this from Willis Yap. Thank you, Willis, for coordinating this!

### Hawai'i Faith-Based Homelessness Summit

*Elizabeth Winternitz*

On March 14, 2016, the Institute for Human Services and the Interfaith Alliance Hawai'i sponsored the full-day Hawai'i faith-based summit on homelessness, collaboration between homeless service providers and faith communities. Central Union Church hosted the Summit, which was attended by nearly 140 people representing faith communities from all of Hawai'i's counties. St. Peter's Church was well represented with five of us attending: Pastor Diane, Velma Lee, Willis Yap, Steve Mitchell, and me. We participated in a full and informative day of workshops and presentations, both sobering and inspiring. We left Central Union Church at the end of that long day with a clearer sense of the changing face of homelessness, and the many factors that contribute to this growing crisis. We also left with a deeper conviction that as Christians we have a moral and ethical responsibility to reach out to our neighbors in need. The Summit provided information on opportunities for engagement, and encouragement and support for discerning how we might do so commensurate with our gifts. As Rev. Ogawa, Chaplain and Community Liaison for IHS put it in her excellent article, Theological and Ethical Considerations Regarding Homelessness in Hawai'i. Referring to Ephesians 4 (*"But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift . . ."*), Rev. Ogawa wrote:

As Christians, we are invited to always be reminded of God's abundance. We are one body, one house, of many parts, and each of us has gifts that are worthy and needed, and to give or utmost, we need to be whole and lifted up from any lingering shame or oppression that tamps down our gifts. As a communal body we are called to do our best to provide safe shelter to those who need it most. As we build, we might notice our landscape and read it for signs of God's presence. We can build in the faith that when we get there that there will be enough for all, as God provided manna in the desert (Exodus 16:13-15), and as Jesus provided abundantly for the gathered crowds out of a few loaves and fish (Luke 9:12-17).

### Stewardship Prayer for the Easter Season

Christ is risen  
and with him all creation!  
Light replaces darkness,  
joy replaces sadness,  
life replaces death.



There is no failure  
the Lord's love cannot  
reverse,  
no humiliation he cannot exchange  
with blessing,  
no anger he cannot dissolve,  
no routine he cannot transform.  
All is embraced  
by the victory of his cross and resurrection.

May we always be good stewards  
of Easter's light,  
see Resurrection as a daily event,  
and yearn for Jesus' love as intensely  
as he yearns for ours.

We pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen.



### Hui Pu Summer Youth Camp Coming Soon

GIVE TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA A BREAK and join us for an awesome and spiritually fulfilling summer break. Hui Pu is a summer camp for youth in grades 4 - 12. Expect a week full of adventure, fun and GOD, all the while making new FRIENDS!

- June 24- 26: Elementary School (Grades 4-5)
- June 27 - July 1: Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- July 3 - 7: High School (Grades 9-12)

For more information, contact Seini Lino, Associate Program Director, at (808) 637-6241.

### Mahalo for Your Generosity

Coins, bills, and checks were lovingly tucked into the St. Peter's Lenten Mite Boxes. Because of your generosity, \$598.83 will be sent to two organizations that serve the homeless--Partners in Development (pre-school for homeless children) and Youth Outreach (YO), a project of Waikiki Health Center and Hale Kipa. If you forgot your mite box on Easter, bring it any Sunday.



### Work Day Mahalos

Have you noticed the polished pews and touched up black grill work around the church?!! Thank you to Terry Dang and the Facilities Ministry Area folk for coordinating the Saturday, March 12th work day and to



all who came out to help "spiffy up" the church for Easter! Special kudos to Keith Lee who cleaned years of use from the kitchen stove. It positively gleams.



#### Every Sunday:

- 7:30am Rite II Eucharist with piano
- 9:00am Christian Formation for Children and Youth
- 9:15am Adult Forum (Tangerine Room)
- 10:00am Rite II Eucharist with organ

#### Every Thursday:

- 6:00pm Jazz Vespers followed by Fellowship and Soup Supper in the Parish Hall

Easter Mahalos to....



Arlene Sullivan and the Holy Week/Easter Singers



The Altar Guild for the Beautiful Decor



Stephanie Wight for the St. Andrew's Easter Egg Hunt

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Honolulu HI 96813**

**1317 Queen Emma Street  
(808) 533-1943**

**2016 Vestry**

Executive Committee:

Rector: The Rev. Diane Martinson

Junior Warden: Tim Yuen

Clerk: Stephanie Wight

Senior Warden: Velma Lee

Treasurer: Nancy Rowe

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

Term expires in 2017: Michele Baldovi, Beth Cox, Ron Kim

Term expires in 2018: Bryan Matsumoto, Pokhui McKinney, Stephanie Wight

Joette: [stpetershonolulu@gmail.com](mailto:stpetershonolulu@gmail.com)

Estelle in the Church Office: [stpetershonoluluoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stpetershonoluluoffice@gmail.com)

Pastor Diane: [pastordianem@gmail.com](mailto:pastordianem@gmail.com)

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1317 Queen Emma Street + Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

