



January

A Beacon of Hope, A Call to Serve

2017



## EPIPHANY

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” John 1:1-5*

God's blessings and joy as we begin a new year! And, what an exciting year 2017 will be! The long awaited repairs and renovations have begun at St. Peter's. The Parish Hall acoustical ceiling treatment has amazingly transformed the space into a place where we can actually hear one another speak, and the lighting, thanks to parishioner, John Afong, whose company did the work, has brightened up the place considerably. We are steadily moving through the permitting and diocesan approval process for the repair and renovation work to begin in the sanctuary mid-April through the end of July. By the fall, we should be experiencing a refreshed and enlivened house of worship with brand new bathrooms in the Parish Hall, one of which will be ADA accessible!

None of this is important, however, if we don't stay focused on why we are doing this, and that "why" is the life and light of the Word made flesh in the person of Jesus Christ, God's love made tangibly real for us. During the Christmas season, we celebrate Jesus' birth. During the Epiphany season, we celebrate the revelation of who this baby Jesus was. That's what Epiphany means, "manifestation"—the manifestation of the Word of God which has come into the world through Jesus Christ, bringing light to all people. That knowledge enables joy and hope even when facing the challenges of our earthly lives. This is the good news we are called to proclaim to the world; the reason we are fixing up our house of worship! We are an "invitational" people—called to invite people to come and see, come and hear, come and be part of our community as we worship, give thanks, and are nurtured in the promises of this Christian faith. Then, so nourished, we are sent out into the world to be a light to all people, caring for the poor and oppressed, the blind and the captive (Luke 4:18)—all who need the Word of God, the light of Christ in their lives. That's the "why" of what we're doing this year and every year.

Pastor Diane

**Love God. Love Your Neighbor.**  
**Change the World.**   
The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.



*Transforming the lives of homeless families. Because every child deserves a home.*

The mission of Family Promise is to help homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.

Family Promise is a program that provides housing, meals, employment assistance and counseling to families who struggle to afford a place to live. Host sites provide families with a safe place to stay. Supporting congregations assist by providing meals to the host sites, serving and, if possible, engaging the families in conversation during the meal.

As a church community, St. Peter's has volunteered to prepare and deliver one meal each quarter. The host site which we are supporting is United Church of Christ (UCC) Judd Street located just Ewa of Nu'uaniu Avenue.

St. Peter's 2017 dates are March 19, June 11, September 10, and December 10. A sign up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall for meal volunteers, delivery volunteers, and food servers.

Please join us in supporting this very worthwhile and successful program.

Mahalo, Tiare and Amy Ono

You are invited to the Ordination to the  
Presbyterate of the Rev. Dcn. Annalise  
Castro - Saturday, January 14, 2017  
10:00 a.m.  
The Cathedral of St. Andrew



## Coming Soon....

**Tuesday, January 10th**, an excellent presentation is being offered by Virginia Beck at **St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church**, 720 N King Street, from **10:00am-11:00am**, on the legislative process, how it works, and how we can be involved. Virginia works at the State Capitol in the "Public Access Room." Hawaii is one of only two states in the nation to have a full service office such as this in the Capitol for residents of the state. With the legislature opening on January 18th, the timing is most helpful for this orientation. This is a non-partisan presentation that encourages citizens to be active in the legislative process.

Prior to the presentation by Virginia Beck, the monthly meeting of **Housing Now!**, a coalition of churches, social service agencies, and non-profit developers that network with state and city/county officials to advocate for housing will take place at **9:00 am** at St. Elizabeth's. You are certainly welcome to attend that meeting, too. It's a good opportunity to learn what that group is doing and who some of the "players" are who are involved in the housing effort in Honolulu. Pastor Diane and Willis Yap have been attending the Housing Now! meetings.

## Altar Flowers

Every week, except in Advent and Lent, the altar is decorated with lovely floral arrangements. If you wish to sponsor the altar flowers on a particular Sunday, contact Estelle in the church office, [stpetershonoluluoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stpetershonoluluoffice@gmail.com) a week or two in advance so it can be included in the service bulletin. The altar guild is accepting donations for the flowers. The donation can be made in thanksgiving or loving memory of someone or in celebration of a special life event. You can either put your check in the offering plate or mail it into the office. The average cost is about \$75 for the two bouquets. If you would like specific flowers, please let Velma Lee [vklee2014@gmail.com](mailto:vklee2014@gmail.com), Altar Guild chairperson, know about your preferences. Thank you!

Begin 2017 **internationally** by hosting an exchange student sponsored by the International Hospitality Center, beginning January 26th for both short term (4 days) to Spring Semester -- Austria, Germany, Ukraine, Gaza, Malaysia, Japan and other countries. Be part of person-to-person diplomacy while gaining cross-cultural learning.

For additional information about a specific exchange student needing a volunteer host family stay, please contact IHC at [\(808\) 521-3554](tel:8085213554) or [<ihc@priory.net>](mailto:ihc@priory.net).

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*Barbara Bancel, Executive Director  
International Hospitality Center*

## Christmas Caroling

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18th, the St. Peter's Choir and Friends (and Cat the dog!) went caroling! They sang for seven of our elders at four homes, accompanied by Rae Gorman and Barry White on ukulele. Everyone had a wonderful time. Thank you to Dr. Joseph Eppink, our Director of Music, the carolers and those who welcomed us to sing for them!





## ANNUAL MEETING

**Mark your calendars! Sunday, January 22nd and Sunday, January 29th**

On **Sunday, January 22nd**, during the Adult Forum time, 9:00-9:45am, vestry members will present the 2017 budget as passed at the January 17th vestry meeting and answer any questions you have about the ministry of St. Peter's during 2016 and provide a vision for what is to come in 2017!

On **Sunday, January 29th**, 8:45am in the Parish Hall



Presentation of the reports from year 2016

Presentation of budget for 2017

Voting for vestry and diocesan convention delegates

Is God giving you a nudge to consider serving on vestry or as a diocesan convention delegate? Pastor Diane welcomes the opportunity to speak with you about this.

### St. Peter's in the News:

On December 22, **Jan Yap was the featured guest on the Danny Yamashiro Christian radio show, *The Good Life Hawaii***. The first part of the interview is about the trip Jan and her granddaughter, Kira Grace, took to Washington, D.C., to enjoy lunch with the First Lady. During the second part of the interview, Jan shared the story of her faith journey and the important role that prayer plays in her life.

<http://thegoodlifehawaii.com/lunch-first-lady-jan-yap/>

Note: Place the link in your search bar, and then click on listening icon.

On December 22, **Noe Tanigawa of Hawai'i Public Radio talked about her experience attending St. Peter's Jazz Vespers service**. Listen to her story and see photos of St. Peter's on the website!

<http://hawaiipublicradio.org/post/jazz-vespers-free-food-soul>

Text of Noe's experience is also posted in the Parish Hall.

### St. Peter's Partnership with Central Middle School

For several years, St. Peter's has been actively partnering with Central Middle School (CMS). A core group of St. Peter's parishioners meets monthly with school administrators along with administration from the Nu'uuanu YMCA and leadership from Harris United Methodist Church to plan activities that support the school and its students. On Monday, December 12, St. Peter's folks hosted a dinner and high school orientation night for CMS 8th graders and their families along with personnel from CMS and McKinley. Because many of the CMS 8th grade families live in Mayor Wright housing, the event was held at our sister church, St. Elizabeth's. Velma Lee, Joanne Shibuya, Jaime Yamane, Haroldwyn Chang, and Barbara Vlachos cooked a delicious meal with help from Keith Lee, Bruce Yamamoto, and Pastor Diane. Stephanie Wight planned and led a variety of fun activities for the younger siblings.

To become involved in this partnership, speak with any one of the folks listed above.



*CMS Principal Anne Marie Murphy, McKinley H.S. Freshman House Coordinator Kyle Hiranaga, CMS Vice-Principal Katchia Gethers*

*St. Peter's Folks top row Velma Lee, Pastor Diane, Barbara Vlachos, Keith Lee, Jaime Yamane, Bruce Yamamoto; lower row Haroldwyn Chang, Stephanie Wight, Joanne Shibuya*



### St. Peter's Staff has hidden talents!

On Tuesday, December 27th, St. Peter's staff gathered during the Twelve Days of Christmas to celebrate with good food and a few games. One game required them to wrap presents in pairs using only their non-dominant arm. There was plenty of laughter, but the results were pretty impressive!



## Building Repairs and Renovation Update



The acoustical ceiling treatment and new lighting in the Parish Hall is completed, and the results are fantastic! It is amazing how much easier it is to hear one another speak. In fact, one of our parishioners exclaimed that now everyone can hear what she says, and someone else jokingly replied, "Yeah, be sure you don't talk stink about me!" All the groups who use the space have commented on what a great improvement it is.

The contract with Constructors Hawaii, Inc., our general contractor, has been completed and signed by Constructors Hawaii, Inc. and is now with the diocese for passage through its three step approval process. Meanwhile, conversations and research are occurring regarding the large stained glass window in the chancel area which has been discovered to be in badly deteriorated condition; regarding the updating of the sanctuary sound system which continues to give us troubles; and regarding a diocesan sanctioned offer by a third party to place a PV system on the Parish Hall at no cost to the church but which would require us to invest in a new roof.

Please continue to keep the vestry and this repair and renovation process in your prayers. With the hot construction market and the continuing discovery of issues that need addressing in a building the age of ours, there is much to do and many decisions to be made!

Thank you for your commitment to this project which will ensure that St. Peter's will have a place from which to do ministry in this community for a long time to come. If you have questions about your capital campaign pledge or about the capital campaign generally, please speak to Pokhui McKinney who is serving as our Capital Campaign Coordinator or with Joette Comstock, our bookkeeper.

## 2017 Annual Pledge Update

We've made great strides since last month! As of January 1st, we now have 67 pledges for a total of \$184,419.00. Thank you for your faithful support to the ministry of this church! If you haven't made a pledge yet for the 2017 operating budget, please consider doing so. Knowing your intentions is particularly important this year as we will have a loss of revenue for three months while the sanctuary is closed for repairs and renovations.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and partnership in the ministry of St. Peter's!

More than 25 year ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:



*"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."*

Since that day, more than \$125 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Join us and be a part of the movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. This year beginning January 8 and up until Super Bowl Sunday, we will collect food, toiletries, gift cards and other items to benefit homeless youth struggling in our community. All donations will benefit Waikiki Health's Youth Outreach (YO!). YO! serves as a safe-haven for homeless youths, offering medical care, social services and non-judgmental support.

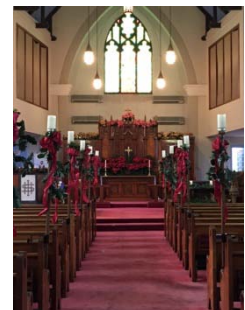
YO's most-needed items:

- 2017 Youth Point In Time Count Incentives (\$5 gift cards)
- Non-perishable food items (for teenagers)
- Backpacks (new or gently used)
- Athletic socks (high- or low-cut)
- Deodorant (travel-sized preferred)
- Disposable razors
- Boxer shorts (adult sizes)

Please drop off donations in collection bins located around the church and in the parish hall labeled Souper Bowl of Caring. For more information, please contact Jen Stasch at [jen.stasch@gmail.com](mailto:jen.stasch@gmail.com) or (925) 408-1149, cell.

## And the Church was Beautiful!

Many thanks to Ralph Panelli and Joseph Eppink who hunted, shopped, and added just the right touches to the always beautiful work of the Altar Guild to make the sanctuary warm, inviting, and absolutely gorgeous in its Christmas finery. Thank you, Altar Guild, and your two new, special helpers, Ralph and Joseph!





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

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

**2016 Vestry**

Executive Committee:

Senior Warden: Velma Lee

Clerk: Stephanie Wight

Junior Warden: Tim Yuen

Treasurer: Nancy Rowe

Rector: The Rev. Diane Martinson

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)