



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

...a faith community in the heart of downtown Honolulu

A Beacon of Hope...A Call to Serve!

October 2018

From the Rector

*Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy*
Psalm 96:11-12

This week PBS Newshour began a series on the impact of plastics on the environment. It is disturbing, but a necessary message toward our increasing awareness that we have been dangerously ignorant and even callous in responding to God's call to be good stewards of this beautiful earth on which God has placed us. The widespread use of plastics, a product that has revolutionized the way we live in, many important and even lifesaving ways, also has dire consequences that we have been slow to realize. An estimated 91% of plastics material is not recycled. It eventually breaks down into "microplastics," traces of which have been found even in the fish we eat and the water we drink.

This month of October begins with our remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi whose feast day is October 4th and whom we commemorate on the first Sunday in October with a blessing of the animals—your pets! St. Francis lived a life of simplicity, humility, and love. He rejoiced in all of God's created order, revering not only living creatures but all of God's creation. Take time to read and reflect upon The Canticle of Creation of St. Francis which is found below. It's an important reminder and opportunity to give thought to how we as individuals and as a community are living in response to caring for God's creation.

Lately, I have been reading a book of devotional meditations that I highly recommend, *Deep Is the Hunger*



by American theologian and scholar Howard Thurman. Although written and collected almost 70 years ago, the meditations are transcendent of time. The first line of his book, "There is a universal urgency for both personal and social stability," is a statement as deeply felt today as it was after WWII.

In one of his meditations, Rev. Thurman tells the story of a man he observed planting a small grove of pecan trees in Georgia. Since the

treelets were not more than two and a half or three feet in height, and this man was 81 years old, Rev. Thurman was curious. He wrote:

Why did you not select larger trees so as to increase the possibility of your living to see them bear at least one cup of nuts?"

He fixed his eyes directly on my face, with no particular point of focus, but with a gaze that took in the totality of my features. Finally, he said, "These small trees are cheaper and I have very little money."

"So you do not expect to live to see the trees reach sufficient maturity to bear fruit?"

"No, but is that important? All my life I have eaten fruit from trees that I did not plant, why should I not plant trees to bear fruit for those who may enjoy them long after I am gone? Besides, the man who plants because he will reap the harvest has no faith in life."

In this world, like the church, we live in community and, as Christians, we are responsible not only to God but to one another and the care of the earth on which God has placed us. Attentiveness to this responsibility is essential and will bless the lives of our children and grandchildren and the future into which God is calling us.

The Canticle of Creation

by St. Francis of Assisi

O Most High, all-powerful, good Lord God,
to you belong praise, glory,
honor and all blessing.

Be praised, my Lord, for all your creation
and especially for our Brother Sun,
who brings us the day and the light;
he is strong and shines magnificently.

O Lord, we think of you when we look at him.

Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Moon,
and for the stars
which you have set shining and lovely
in the heavens.

Be praised, my Lord,
for our Brothers Wind and Air
and every kind of weather
by which you, Lord,
uphold life in all your creatures.

Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,
who is very useful to us,
and humble and precious and pure.

Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Fire, through whom you
give us light in the darkness:

he is bright and lively and strong.
 Be praised, my Lord,
 for Sister Earth, our Mother,
 who nourishes us and sustains us,
 bringing forth
 fruits and vegetables of many kinds
 and flowers of many colors.
 Be praised, my Lord,
 for those who forgive for love of you;
 and for those
 who bear sickness and weakness
 in peace and patience

Pastor Diane

Blessing of the Animals - St. Francis Day

Stephanie Wight

This year October 7 is the Sunday closest to the celebration of the life and ministry of St. Francis of Assisi. (October 4 is the actual feast day.) In keeping with St. Peter's tradition of several years, the church will again emulate the actions of St. Francis by giving thanks to a kind and generous God, for the gifts of the pets that were or are to share our lives on this earth. Often we refer this thanksgiving as a blessing of the animals, but



more accurately, we are showing our gratitude for the animals in our lives. I speculate that our animal companions have a far less complicated

relationship with our Creator God than do we. Animals give love easily and forgive willingly. It is the human who is in need of blessing and prayer so that we can honestly, freely, and lovingly care for our animal companions, as well as those animals living in the wild.

Sunday, October 7, at both the 7:30 and the 10:00 AM services, you are invited to bring your companion animal (or a photograph or even a stuffed creature) to receive our appreciation and blessings. Please bring appropriate restraints for your animal, cages, leashes or boxes as are required. There will be a special team of ushers to assist with seating, clean up and any necessary supplies. ****Several pews will be reserved for those more comfortable in a pet-free zone.****

At the time of communion, you are invited to bring your animal, (photo or stuffed representative) forward to receive a blessing and prayer at the time you receive the bread and wine. There will be pet appropriate snacks and an activity or two in the parish hall after both services. Commemorative medals will be available for those wishing to mark the occasion.

The Episcopal Church regards saints as ordinary people who lived their lives in a way that they can be examples

for us all. We may want to show our appreciation for the animals in our lives by making a donation as a token of our thanksgiving.



You may recall that a few weeks ago the largest "no-kill" animal shelter/spay clinic in Hawaii, was burgled. Thieves took electronic equipment, money and medicine. The shelter is not the only veterinary clinic that has been robbed this year, yet it is the one least able to replace the lost funds and materials. Should you see fit, please consider making a contribution to the Oahu SPCA. Suggestions for donations include: kitty litter (all brands), sheets, linens, towels of all sorts, (used for bedding as well as in surgeries), laundry detergent, bleach and of course monetary donations. (There are specific brands of food that cannot be used at the clinic. If you wish to donate food, please call me at 808-245-9100 for input prior to purchase).

The Oahu SPCA, "no-kill" status means that any animal accepted by the clinic, (even those with treatable medical conditions) will be given humane care for the entirety of their lives or until that animal finds a forever home. Just the sort of thing St. Francis might do.

On October 7th, all manner of creatures are welcome at the services: fur, feathers, scales, hair, wings, fins, claws and paws.

Psalms: Poetry & Prayer Set to Music! Adult Forum October 14th



- Ĥ Why do we sing the Psalms each Sunday?
- Ĥ There seem to be patterns within the Psalms, what are they?
- Ĥ How do we sing the various types each Sunday?
- Ĥ What do those markings mean?
- Ĥ How is the Psalm setting chosen?

You won't want to miss October 14! Let's figure out the answers to these questions and much more as we find out the beauty of Psalmody and their use in our services. Bring your creative and prayer-filled souls as we discuss, answer questions, do some simple singing, and maybe even have a hand at creating your own Psalm! Contact Joseph for more information... josepheppink@gmail.com or 225.7906.

In the News

Congratulations to three members of St. Peter's who were again nominated by their peers as tops in their fields: Endocrinology, Diabetes, & Metabolism-John S. Melish; Internal Medicine-Anthea Wang; Pediatric Infectious Disease- Marian E. Melish. (*Honolulu Magazine, Sept 2018*)

Welcome Hawaii Literacy to St. Peter's!



Through the support of a diocesan grant and a bequest from former member Kay Wery, St. Peter's welcomes partner Hawaii Literacy in bringing language and literacy skills to those in our Micronesian community who are seeking a way to learn English.

Instructor Fred Visaya, Jr. is an ELL Instructor with Hawaii Literacy. He was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawai'i and recently moved to Honolulu after graduating from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. Fred majored in Linguistics and Japanese Studies and a minor in English. He received his TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) certification.

He says, "I am very fortunate to have been welcomed by Hawaii Literacy and to be a part of their Ohana. I was just blown away by their vision for their students and the community. I am excited to take part in an organization that reaches out to people by giving them the resources needed to take the steps in achieving their goals. My purpose as an ELL teacher is to help my students with English language skills, but to ultimately never allow them to believe that literacy should hold them back from doing anything they dream.



"Currently, I am teaching at three locations: Kaumakapili Church, Kuhio Park and Mayor Wrights Home. I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to begin a fourth ELL class at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. My teaching philosophy revolves around teaching in a very interactive-communicative fashion. I believe that interacting and communicating are the best ways in developing language skills. Having that type of classroom in a stress-free environment will surely develop the students' language skills needed for everyday situations. I am so excited to start this class and share a journey with those who have a goal because I will do my best to get them there!"

There will be an Open House Breakfast for the class Tuesday, October 16, 9:30am-11am in the Aloha Room. Classes will be every Tuesday and Thursday during that same time in the same space.

Senior Warden's Corner

Velma Lee, Senior Warden

St. Peter's has been blessed by an anonymous donor who has given a \$15,000 gift for the renovation of the parish hall kitchen. That, combined with \$3,000 from an earlier fundraiser, provides the opportunity for the gathering of a Kitchen Renovation Task Force. The task



force is pricing a frost free freezer with an ice maker, a gas range, new countertops and putting a "face" on the cabinets as well as other repairs.

A teacher has been found for the Hawaii Literacy Project! Classes will begin soon at St. Peter's. See article in the previous column.

Blessing of the Pets will occur at both services on Sunday, October 7th. There will be an in-gathering of pet supplies and monetary donations for the non-profit animal shelters that have been recently burglarized.

On October 21, St. Peter's will honor its 18 nonagenarians and 3 centenarians at the Elders Appreciation Sunday. A unique gift has been created for each of them. Everyone will have the opportunity to "talk story" with these special elders at either coffee hour.



Movie Night hosted by Paula Choy and Sheri Yoshida
Friday, October 5th
Featured Film: *Wonder*

Following the hurricane-forced cancellation of the August 24th showing of *The Shack*, the next movie night date will be Friday, October 5. Hosted by Sheri Yoshida and Paula Choy, dinner will be provided. Dinner begins at 5:30pm with the movie to follow. The movie is *Wonder*, a heartwarming story for the entire family about love and sacrifice, courage and triumph over bullying and adversity, starring Julia Roberts and Owen Wilson as parents, Izabela Vidovic as the older sister, and Jacob Tremblay as "Auggie," the boy we come to love.

Capital Campaign Update



Many thanks to those who have continued to support St. Peter's Capital Campaign. The total cost of the 2017 church repair and renovation project was \$809,050.00.

\$150,000 of the funding came from church reserves with the balance donated or pledged through the three -year capital campaign. St. Peter's took out a construction loan of \$252,000 to cover the construction costs while capital campaign gifts are being received. As of September 30, the balance on the loan was \$79,786. Payments toward principal are made each month as monies come in thereby lowering the monthly interest payments on this loan. New gifts are always welcome. Thank you!

St. Peter's October

Friday October 5th **Movie Night**, *Wonder*, Supper and Popcorn Provided

Adult Forum Schedule

Sunday, October 7th 9:15am

Discussion of *Grounded in Prayer*

Sunday, October 14th Dr. Joseph Eppink *Psalms:*

Poetry & Prayer Set to Music!

Sunday, October 21st 9:15am

Discussion of *Grounded in Prayer*

Sunday, October 28th Rev. Jazzy *Communion*

Study/Worship

Grounded in Prayer reading group and on-line discussion

Every Wednesday 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Every Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Every Thursday 6:00 p.m. Jazz Vespers followed by a light supper

Middle School/High School Youth Group

October 7th 4:00-6:00 p.m. *Cosmic Bowling - details to follow*

October 21st 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Sun/Son Room

Bring your friends!

Quick Thoughts

- ✓ During the month of September, St. Peter's began a **youth group of middle and high school** students here at St Peter's! At the first gathering there were three youth, and at the second there were five. The next meeting will be on October 7th, to go bowling together. After that, we will meet on October 21st - mark your calendars! Our youth group is open to any middle school/high school youth in the community who want to come and share fellowship.
- ✓ **Honoring our Elders:** Centenarians-Eleanor Chang, Bernard Ching, and Nora Fong. Nonagenarians: Annette Besvold, Joseph Chang, Violet Chew, Rebecca Ching, Rosie Ching, Barbara Chung, Miriam Everhart, Ellen Jean Fo, Lily Ing, Stanley Kau, Velma Kim, Loretta Loo, Theodora "Teddy" Luke, Lynda Pang, Helena Won, Adrienne Yee, Laura Young, Alfred Yuen
- ✓ **Save the Date:** The Bishop has announced that **the ordination of the Rev. Jasmine Hanakaulani Bostock**, Transitional Deacon, to the Presbyterate will be on Saturday, December 22, 2018, 10:00am in the Parish of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Honolulu.

Curates Connection

The Rev. Dcn. Jazzy Bostock

There is something magical, something unexplainable; something Divine that happens at the Eucharist. There is a mystery that exists beyond words when bread and wine are blessed, and God's people are gathered. And, every Sunday, I get to be a part of that mystery.

At St. Peter's, there is a beautiful tradition of using freshly baked, homemade bread for the Eucharist. This is offered by a parishioner, as his ministry - I can only imagine the time he must get up, the discipline and commitment it takes to do something every week, for months and years on end. I am grateful for this gift. Every week, I help Pastor Diane to distribute the bread. I sink my fingers into the warm, soft bread, and tear off chunks (trying hard not to make them too big or too small), lift up the piece of bread and place it in the hands cupped before me, saying, "The body of Christ, the bread of heaven".

Sometimes, I look directly into people's eyes. Sometimes they are searching my face for meaning, or smiling, or wanting to tell me they need a wafer or gluten free instead. Sometimes, their heads are down, deep in prayer. Sometimes, hands stay open after I place the bread - sometimes they close around this small piece of heaven on earth.

This Sunday, as I was moving from the end of the altar rail back to the beginning, I glanced up, and to the left. I saw, briefly, that an elder was coming up to the rail - and I saw another parishioner hold out her hand, with a smile on her face, beckoning to the space next to her, and inviting this kupuna up.

It was beautiful, and magical, and deeply moving. It, too, was a piece of heaven on earth.

Lord, make me an instrument of your **peace**,
Where there is **hated**, let me sow **love**;
where there is **injury**, **pardon**;
where there is **doubt**, **faith**;
where there is **despair**, **hope**;
where there is **darkness**, **light**;
where there is **sadness**, **joy**;

O Divine Master, grant that I may
not so much seek
to be **consoled** as to **console**;
to be **understood** as to **understand**;
to be **loved** as to **love**.

For it is in **giving** that we **receive**;
it is in **pardoning** that we are **pardoned**;
and it is in **dying** that we are **born to eternal life**.

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Blessing of the Knitting ↓



←St. Peter's welcomed Bishop and Bea Fitzpatrick and Archdeacon and Rae Costa on Sunday, September 23rd for the Bishop's Annual Visitation. The Bishop preached at both services and met with the congregation during both coffee hours.



Braided Chord ↓

Did you notice? ↓



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

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(808) 533-1943**

2018 Vestry

Senior Warden: Velma Lee
Junior Warden: Terry Dang

Clerk: Karin Kimura
Treasurer: Nancy Rowe

Rector: The Rev. Diane Martinson
Curate: The Rev. Dcn. Jasmine Bostock

Term expires in 2018: Bryan Matsumoto, Pokhui McKinney, Stephanie Wight
Term expires in 2019: Edmund Choy, Kyle Saito, Jaime Yamane
Term expires in 2020: Karin Kimura, Steve Mitchell, Barry Wood

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