



December 2019

This year on December 1st, Matthew's Gospel begins a new church year and the season of Advent with words about the promised return of Christ: "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" (24:36)". During Advent we are invited to wait – for Jesus who will surprise us by when and where He shows up. Come, and step into the season with us!

**Advent Sunday Services - December 1, 8, 15, 22
7:30am and 10:00am**

Each week we are invited to step into sacred space, to experience the beauty of Advent music and the lighting of the Advent wreath, to wait and wonder. As the light grows, so does the approach of Christmas and the miracle of Christ's birth.

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Jazz Vespers - Thursday evenings, 6:00pm

Advent Jazz Vespers - Dec. 5, 12
Christmas Jazz Vespers - Dec. 19
A light supper in the Parish Hall follows the service each Thursday.

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Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24th

5:30pm Family Christmas Eucharist Service, St. Paul's Church, St. Peter's Church, St. Andrew's School and the Cathedral of St. Andrew, at the Cathedral
8pm Carols, Special Music, and Candlelight Worship with Eucharist

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25th

9:30am Festive Eucharist with Music by Dr. Joseph Eppink and organ and Mike Lewis on trumpet

Advent Devotionals

Let Every Heart Prepare

- SSJE – <https://www.ssje.org>
- Advent Word - <https://adventword.org/en/home/>
- Luther Seminary- <https://www.luthersem.edu/advent/>
- Day by Day – pick up from the ushers' table in the back!
- The "Presence Jar" Advent Calendar – available at both doors

Advent Prayer

Alleluia the Christ child comes,
And we await his birth.
Let us throw off our distractions,
And allow the chaos to settle.
Let us watch for the signs,
And listen to the messengers.
Let us stand on tiptoe,
And shout aloud and sing.
Something new is emerging,
Something new is being birthed.

~ written by Christine Sine



Alternative Gift Ideas

Animals, tools, classroom supplies, etc. that you can gift in the name of a loved one:



Episcopal Relief & Development
Healing a hurting world

+[Episcopal Relief and Development – http://support.](http://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts)

[episcopalrelief.org/gifts](http://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts)



[Heifer International – https://www.heifer.org/gift-catalog/index.html](https://www.heifer.org/gift-catalog/index.html)



[Oxfam gifts - https://www.oxfamgifts.com](https://www.oxfamgifts.com)

Uniquely crafted, global gifts where profits go directly to the artisans:



[SERRV – http://serrv.org](http://serrv.org)

the little market

<https://www.thelittlemarket.com>

THISTLE FARMS

[Thistle Farms - https://thistlefarms.org](https://thistlefarms.org)



A big “Mahalo” to Beth Cox, Joanne Shibuya, Ruth Merz, Haroldwyn Chang, Lois Gray, Pokhui McKinney, and Bill

McKinney, who came to St Peter's to make sandwiches and lunch bags for November Hie Hie Ministry.

Work started a bit late due to the traffic situation, but everyone was so efficient and dedicated to their responsibilities we completed 35 sandwiches in 30 minutes. Mahalo!!!

Also a big “Mahalo” to Haroldwyn Chang, Sim Kau, and Lois Gray, who came to Harris UMC for distributing lunch bags. 26 patrons were served.

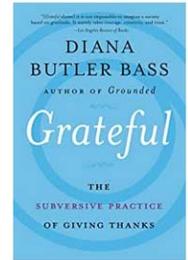
A patron of Hie Hie Ministry, Fabian, also came to last Thursday's Jazz Vespers and to K2P2. Fabian requests our prayers for some health issues.

Pokhui McKinney

Editor's Note: On the third Thursday of each month a volunteer group meets at St. Peter's to make lunches for an outreach program to the homeless headed by IHS at Harris United Methodist Church. The ministry takes its name from the shower van that is part of the outreach program. To participate, contact Pokhui McKinney at pmcki55@gmail.com.

Adult Forum Book Study

Join us this Advent season as we travel through Diana Butler Bass's new book, "Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks". For four weeks we will work to deepen our practice of gratitude, both personally and communally.



December 1 - Grateful, part one: Gifts and Thanks:

Join us to talk through part one of Diana Butler Bass's book, *Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks*. We will talk about what it means to feel grateful, or not to - is gratitude an emotion?

December 8 - Grateful, part two: Awareness and Practice:

Join us to talk through part two of Diana Butler Bass's book, *Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks*. We will talk about forming habits of gratitude. Can we practice being more grateful?

December 15 -Grateful, part three: Joy and Celebration:

Join us to talk through part three of Diana Butler Bass's book, *Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks*. How does community affect our gratitude, and how does our gratitude affect our communities?

December 22 - Grateful, part four: Community and Politics:

Join us to talk through part four, our final session of Diana Butler Bass's book, *Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks*. Is gratitude political? If so, how? Could it change the way we interact with the world around us?

Join us for one, some, or all of the sessions. If you need help getting a copy of the book, speak with Rev Jazzy!

Charitable Giving Tip: Support Ministry Through Your Retirement Account

If you are 70 ½ and have an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), you are required by law to withdraw a certain amount of money from the account each year — this is known as TMD, required minimum distribution.

Many people find that although they do not need the extra income, they're required by law to take it. With recent tax code changes, not everyone can itemize deductions, which means the RMD is taxed as income. Making a gift to the church directly from your retirement account in the form of a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) may allow you to meet your RMD requirement without increasing your taxable income.

Share the Gift of Your Time

For a second year, Central Middle School will hold a holiday gift store for its students to "purchase" Christmas gifts for their family. Many of these families have little to no discretionary money for gifts. Students can "buy" presents by using their "Bulldog Bucks" which they have earned during the year for academic and personal excellence and distinction.

Community volunteers are needed to make this happen! You can volunteer to be a "Floor" assistant to assist with gift selection, a Cashier, and/or a Gift wrapper. Time slots for all three are the following:

Monday, Dec.16: 8:00-10am; 10:45-12:30pm; 1-3pm

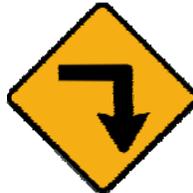
Tuesday, Dec.17 -8-9am; 9:00-10am; 10:15-12:15, 12:30-2pm

Wednesday, Dec.18 - 8:15-10am; 10:15-12:15; 12:45-1:45

If you can help, speak with Pastor Diane or Rev. Jazzy to sign up. Thank you for considering this outreach ministry to the youth across the street.

Senior Warden's Corner

Velma Lee, Senior Warden



Highlights of the November Vestry Meeting:

Father David Kennedy, who served as both rector and interim at St. Peter's and Anna Marie Kennedy have moved to Spokane where they are close to family. Anna Marie is very happy in her new place, and Father Kennedy "is seeing life return to her." Father Kennedy is living with their son, Carl, in his home that's only about 5 minutes away. He is most grateful for the new St. Peter's t-shirts!

Central Middle School is having their annual Christmas Fair for their students from Dec. 16-18.

Special thanks to Sim Kau who has spent weeks to audit St. Peter's Capital Campaign that ran January 2016-July 2019. We are most grateful for her auditing knowledge and skills, as well as the time and efforts involved with this arduous task. Sim's conclusion: "There were no areas of concern uncovered during our review. On the whole, I would say that this capital campaign has been very well managed by the clergy, vestry, treasurer, office staff and church members appointed to handle different aspects of the whole project."

The vestry approved motions designating housing allowance allocations for Pastor Diane and Rev. Jazzy for 2020 and future years. Also approved was "the compensation for all supply clergy during 2020 be designated as cash housing allowance."

Pledge Update

Thank you to all who have returned pledge cards in support of the 2020 operating budget. As of the end of November there are 45 pledges totaling \$139,592. By the end of last year there were 70 pledges totaling \$214,138. If you have not done so yet, please prayerfully consider your pledge for 2020, write it on a pledge card (there are cards in the pew racks), and place the card in the offering bowl or mail it to the church office. Budget planning and decision making for 2020 will begin again soon.

Pledge materials were mailed in November. If you did not receive a packet, pick one up from one of the Greeter's Tables.

The Art of Narcissus

The Art of Narcissus will have its annual Narcissus Carving Workshop beginning January 4 2020 for four-week instructional workshop. Dates are Jan 4, 11, 18 and 25th at St. Peter's.



Registration is required. Forms are available on the ushers' table at the rear of the church. For more information, contact Terry Dang or email narcissus4ever@outlook.com.

Parking Stalls Available

Two parking stalls at St. Peter's have become available. For details and rental cost, please contact Eva in the church office, 533-1943.

EYE (Episcopal Youth Event) 20 is Unite! ¡Unámonos!

Applications are now being taken for the Hawaii delegation to the Episcopal Youth Event EYE20 which will be held at the University of Maryland in July. Youth from St. Peter's will join with youth from other churches in the diocese to participate.

Youth participants in EYE20 must be enrolled in 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade during this school year and must have turned 15 or no older than 19 by the event start. Current freshmen who are 14 will have an opportunity to attend EYE2023 as the Episcopal Youth Event is on a three-year cycle. No other youth will be permitted to attend EYE20.

EYE20 will be an awesome coming together of Episcopal teens from around the church nationally and internationally with upbeat worship and music, faith exploration, discussion of contemporary topics and service in the community. Speak to Pastor Diane or Rev. Jazzy for details.

More information will be posted as it becomes available. See <https://events.episcopalchurch.org/eye/>

Christmas Choir and Chimes

Sing with the choir or play chimes for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. It is a great time to join the ensembles as they rehearse for these special liturgies. Contact Joseph for details.

Dr. Joseph Eppink
Director of Music
josepheppink@gmail.com
225-7906

For more information on the music ministries at St. Peter's, click on <http://www.stpetershonolulu.org/music-ministry.html>

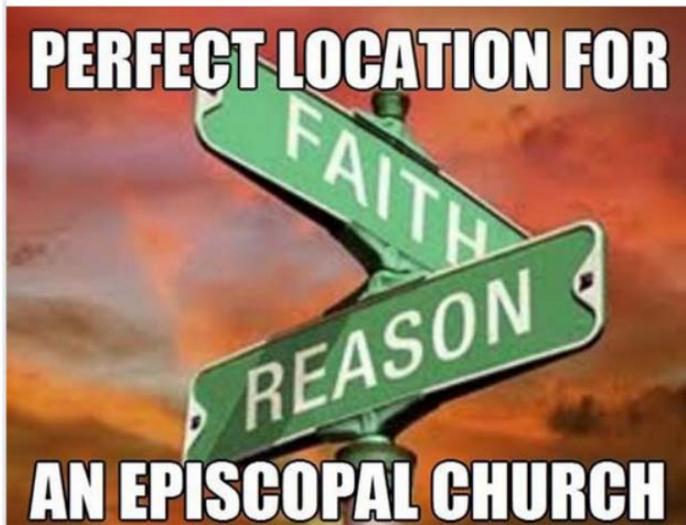
Soul Food Ministry

The Soul Food Ministry is a group that gathers monthly to make and package soup for individuals in the congregation or the community who are in need of nourishment for body and soul.



Snacks, drinks, and a potluck supper are enjoyed while soup simmers on the stove. It is not only an important time of service, Soul Food is also a wonderful time of fellowship. On Wednesday, December 11 Soul Food will prepare turkey barley Soup and its signature Chicken Jook.

To learn more, please contact Velma Lee at vklee2014@gmail.com.



Godly Play - A way for young people, their families and the church at large, to engage with the foundational stories of the Kingdom of God.

December 1: The Holy Family

Before our second Advent story, we light the second blue candle, and remember Mary and Joseph and their long and uncomfortable trip to Bethlehem when Mary was heavy with a baby inside. They must have been the last people to arrive in Bethlehem that night!

December 8: The Shepherds

We prepare for the third story of Advent by lighting two blue candles and a rose colored candle. The rose color is one of the colors we use to remember Jesus' mother, Mary. But we also light the rose candle for this week to add a little joy to this dark time of Advent patience and pondering. We recall the angels' announcement to the shepherds that night. "Get up and hurry to Bethlehem, for a savior had been born". And hurry they did.

December 15: The Wise Persons and Christmas

The fourth Advent story begins by lighting the two blue candles, the pink candle and the final blue candle. We remember the Three Magi who knew all the stars in the sky. When they saw "a wild star" they knew they had to follow it, and they began the long journey from their homeland in the east. We remember them in the fourth story of Advent but we also keep in mind that they really arrive for our celebration of Epiphany on January 6th because they have so far to go.

December 22: Service Project

You will be kept informed about the details as they emerge. We will have a Christmas service project. (and tiny party)

December 29: No Godly Play gathering in the Loft today.



Support the ministries of St. Peter's by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to St. Peter's. Shop through the Amazon Smile button on St. Peter's webpage.

Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.



Advent Hymn Lesson - Mel, Sim, Joseph



Blessed for the Pineridge Reservation. It is cold in S. Dakota



Happy 103rd Birthday, Eleanor Chang.



Hie Hie Lunch Crew
November
(nice shirts!)



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

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

2019 Vestry

Senior Warden: Velma Lee
Junior Warden: Terry Dang

Clerk: Karin Kimura
Treasurer: Nancy Rowe

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

Term expires in 2019: Edmund Choy, Kyle Saito, Jaime Yamane
Term expires in 2020: Karin Kimura, Steve Mitchell, Barry Wood
Term expires in 2021: Gail Kuroda, Bill McKinney, Stephanie Wight

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