



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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

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

August 2019

Dear St. Peter's,

This morning, as the breeze blew in and the sun beat down, I went into the small garden I have created in front of my house, and harvested some



vegetables. I saw some cucumbers on the vine, ripe and ready to be picked. I noticed, as I bent down, the ants crawling on the fuzzy leaves of the plant. I noticed the tiny yellow flowers, and a few small cucumbers – just beginning to fruit, their yellow blooms still attached.

I moved on to the next thing on my list, chard leaves. I picked the largest, and went down their stems, and snipped. One after another, their heavy, deep greens fell into my hands, and I put them aside. I noticed, as I snipped, some of the tiny baby leaves which were now given space to grow. Even as small beginners they stretched upwards – this was, perhaps, the first time they had direct sunlight, with the larger leaves out of the way. I put the leaves in a stack to the side of the bed, and once again walked around the cedar bed with my clippers in hand.

I saved the best for last – my basil has been growing in a wild abundance, bushing out further than I had planned for, dwarfing the parsley next to it, and even encroaching on the space of some kale. I cannot keep up with its prowess – even my freezer is filled with pesto. So, I set to work trimming it, collecting the branches and leaves as I go along. As soon as I so much as touch the plant, the smell fills the air. It's unbelievable. Sweet, earthy, and floral, my nose catches a different dimension with each inhale.

I collect the cucumbers, chard, and basil, and stuff it into canvas bags to bring with me to church. I told Nancy I would be donating these things, and she graciously accepted. I am thinking about the simplicity of these moments, and the privilege it is to tend to this one patch of soil. I am overcome with God's wild abundance – the plants have produced of their own merit, with little help of mine. I spend a few afternoons a week – perhaps a total of five hours – in this small patch, watering and occasionally weeding. When it rains, I don't pull out the hose, and mostly these seeds have gone through an amazing transformation on their own.

This, I think, is the transformation God offers. It is not one which is time or resource intensive – we do not have to recede from the world and deny ourselves other things – we simply must be open to allowing the seeds inside of us to grow, and be nurtured. I am making an effort to notice these moments of delight – the moments where I can so clearly see God's goodness.

I am reminded of the 23rd Psalm, which is so often read at funerals – “You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows”. At the end of a life we often

think on the image the psalm gives, of God being a good shepherd, and walking beside us. I think, this morning, of how tied death and joy are – joy being that which is life, and death being the ending of it. Surely, the knowledge that death is inevitable only serves to make our joys, make our lives, that much sweeter.



May you be surprised, this month – this week – this day – this moment – by your cup overflowing.

Rev Jazzy

Diocese Authorizes a Trial Liturgy

Beginning with the August 4th Sunday worship, St. Peter's will be using a trial liturgy authorized by The Episcopal Church of Hawai'i for use from August 1st to November 30th of this year. It is largely taken from the Episcopal Church's supplemental liturgy, *Enriching Our Worship*, and *The Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada*.

Trying a new liturgy is an excellent way to heighten our awareness and thought regarding that which we say during worship. The changes in this trial liturgy are not major, but there are differences that will be noticeable.

The diocese is requesting evaluation from our congregations. Reflect thoughtfully on the liturgy during August and then share your reflections and suggestions with Pastor Diane, Rev. Jazzy, or send them directly to the diocese at an email set-up specifically for this purpose, rrevhawaii@gmail.com.

Welcome Theo Castro Pasalo!

Rev. Jar Pasalo and Rev. Annalise Castro Pasalo have welcomed their son into the world! Theodore Andrew Castro Pasalo aka "Theo" came into the world on Saturday, June 15th. He was 7 lbs. 13oz, and 21 inches long. All are doing well and enjoying their time together as a family of three!



The Diocese also announced that Rev. Annalise will be leaving St. Andrew's Schools to take the position of Priest-in-Charge/Vicar at Emmanuel Church in Kailua beginning in October.

Congratulations to Jar and Annalise and we wish them much joy!

Editor's Note: Jar and Annalise were both members of St. Peter's when at UH. Each served a year as Lay Minister for Youth and Young Adults for St. Peter's; each went to seminary from St. Peter's. Annalise was ordained priest at St. Peter's. Although now serving elsewhere in the diocese, they remain in our hearts.

THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

I realize that discussion of issues affecting society can be contentious and, therefore, we in the church who strive for the ideal of harmony and peace are sometimes uncomfortable discussing such issues. However, the Episcopal Church has a long history of engagement within society through its Office of Government Relations and through The Episcopal Public Policy Network, a grassroots network of Episcopalians from across the country—and with good reason because the Bible and Jesus mandate it!

God's call for justice and peace, for love and compassion, are throughout scripture. In baptism and again in the confirmation liturgy, we promise "to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as yourself" and "to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being." Of course, even if we are faithfully striving to do this, there will be differences in our understanding of *how* we do this, but that just makes having these conversations all the more important.

Below are two contemporary issues—one local to our islands and one impacting our nation. I share them not only for our information about discussions occurring within the wider church but also for our reflection.

Pastor Diane

Bishop's Teaching Regarding Maunakea

On July 21, 2019, Bishop Bob Fitzpatrick published "A Teaching from the Bishop" concerning the Maunakea controversy after asking Rev. Jazzy and Rev. Paul Nahoia Lucas, two kanaka maoli clergy, to prepare a statement. It is the position of the Bishop that the current controversy, at its core, is not about a telescope and the pursuit of science, but about past grievances concerning care of the mountain, a place considered sacred in Native Hawaiian tradition, and, more deeply, the disenfranchisement of the voice and say of Native Hawaiians since the overthrow of the monarchy. You can read the Bishop's teaching and the statement at the following link: <https://www.episcopalhawaii.org/bishop-on-maunakea.html>

An Official Statement from the Washington National Cathedral

Our current President of the United States is perhaps the most polarizing president any of us have experienced in our lifetime. Within our church communities, some politically support and some oppose the current president. That is as it should be in a democratic society. However, in recent years, the level of intolerance and insult within public discourse has increased. On July 30th, the Washington National Cathedral, seat of the presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church, issued an unprecedented statement in response to President Trump's increasingly inflammatory rhetoric. Whether you vote for President Trump or another candidate in 2020, as Christians we can demand better from our politicians, ALL politicians. This statement is directed more toward us in the church than President Trump:

*Have We No Decency?
A Response to President Trump*

The escalation of racialized rhetoric from the President of the United States has evoked responses from all sides of the political spectrum. On one side, African American leaders have led the way in rightfully expressing outrage. On the other, those aligned with the President seek to downplay the racial overtones of his attacks, or remain silent.

As faith leaders who serve at Washington National Cathedral – the sacred space where America gathers at moments of national significance – we feel compelled to ask: After two years of President Trump's words and actions, when will Americans have enough? As Americans, we have had such moments before, and as a people we have acted. Events of the last week call to mind a similarly dark period in our history:

"Until this moment, Senator, I think I never really gauged your cruelty or your recklessness. ... You have done enough. Have you no sense of decency?"

That was U.S. Army attorney Joseph Welch on June 9, 1954, when he confronted Senator Joseph McCarthy before a live television audience, effectively ending McCarthy's notorious hold on the nation. Until then, under the guise of ridding the country of Communist infiltration, McCarthy had free rein to say and do whatever he wished. With unbridled speech, he stoked the fears of an anxious nation with lies; destroyed the careers of countless Americans; and bullied into submissive silence anyone who dared criticize him. In retrospect, it's clear that Welch's question was directed less toward McCarthy and more to the nation as a whole. Had Americans had enough? Where was our sense of decency?

We have come to accept a level of insult and abuse in political discourse that violates each person's sacred identity as a child of God. We have come to accept as normal a steady stream of language and accusations coming from the highest office in the land that plays to racist elements in society.

This week, President Trump crossed another threshold. Not only did he insult a leader in the fight for racial justice and equality for all persons; not only did he savage the nations from which immigrants to this country have come; but now he has condemned the residents of an entire American city. Where will he go from here? Make no mistake about it, words matter. And, Mr. Trump's words are dangerous. These words are more than a "dog-whistle." When such violent dehumanizing words come from the President of the United States, they are a clarion call, and give cover, to white supremacists who consider people of color a sub-human "infestation" in America. They serve as a call to action from those people to keep America great by ridding it of such infestation. Violent words lead to violent actions.

When does silence become complicity? What will it take for us all to say, with one voice, that we have had enough? The question is less about the president's sense of decency, but of ours.

As leaders of faith who believe in the sacredness of every single human being, the time for silence is over. We must boldly stand witness against the bigotry, hatred, intolerance, and xenophobia that is hurled at us, especially when it comes from the highest offices of this nation. We must say that this will not be tolerated. To stay silent in the face of such rhetoric is for us to tacitly condone the violence of these words. We are compelled to take every opportunity to oppose the indecency and dehumanization that is racism, whether it comes to us through words or actions.

There is another moment in our history worth recalling. On January 21, 2017, Washington National Cathedral hosted an interfaith national prayer service, a sacred tradition to honor the peaceful transfer of political power. We prayed for the President and his young Administration to have "wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties that they may serve all people of this nation, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person."

That remains our prayer today for us all.

The Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington*

The Very Rev. Randolph Marshall Hollerith, *Dean of Washington National Cathedral*

The Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, *Canon Theologian of Washington National Cathedral*

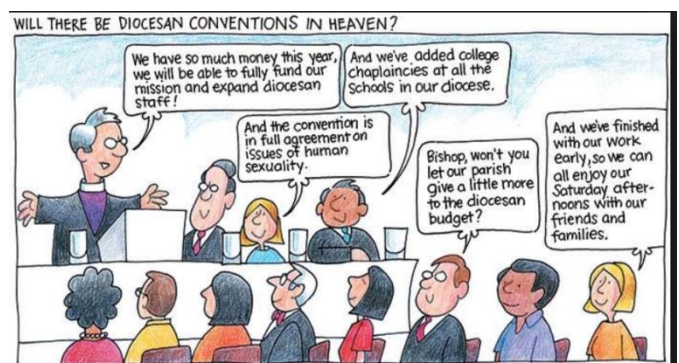


Diocese of Hawai`i Education Day is Friday, October 25th at St. Andrew's Cathedral - Convention is Saturday, October 26th.

Each year before The Annual Meeting of the Diocesan Convention, the Diocese holds an Education Day to which all in the diocese are invited. This year Rev. Jay Sidebotham, the Director of RenewalWorks, a ministry of Forward Movement, will be the featured speaker. Known for his light-hearted cartoons that have been featured in numerous church publications, Rev. Sidebotham is an engaging speaker who will focus on spiritual growth and the building of "cultures of discipleship" in Episcopal congregations.

Education Day is the day before the annual Diocesan Convention, Friday, October 25th. Convention is on Saturday, October 26th. Although St. Peter's elected delegates will represent St. Peter's at Convention, anyone may register as a visitor. For more information, see the diocesan website at <https://www.episcopalhawaii.org/51st-diocesan-convention.html>

Cartoonist: The Rev. JaySidebotham



Please Welcome Eva Cotter, Office Administrator

Hello St. Peter's,

I am the new Office Administrator for St. Peter's Church. I am taking the positions of both Estelle and Joette. It has been mostly a smooth transition as Estelle left me very detailed instructions.

I come from Southern California, where I was born and raised, and lived all my life. My husband, Mike, got a very good job offer here in Honolulu, so we moved. In California, I worked at my Acupuncture practice for about 24 years. I have a background in accounting and corporate financial management as well.

For fun, I used to ride Dressage with my horse Bryant. I had to leave him in California due to his age and the difficulty of bringing a horse to a tropical climate from a desert. We did, however, bring our two Australian Shepherds with us.

I have one son, named Colin, who also stayed in California with his cat Minx, and his bees. Colin is 29.



This past summer, my husband and I took a cruise to Alaska. The picture is of us on the Mendenhall Glacier.

I look forward to getting to know all of you.

Eva



Capital Campaign Update

On Pentecost Sunday, June 9th, St. Peter's celebrated the repayment of the construction loan taken out for the recent repairs and renovations of the sanctuary, the new bathrooms, and sound absorbing acoustic ceiling in the Parish Hall. On that day, we recognized and gave thanks for our treasurer, Nancy Rowe. Nancy's skill and expertise were essential in working with the diocese to navigate our way through the process of obtaining the loan and then the oversight of repayment over these three years. Bishop Bob made a surprise visit and joined us in thanking Nancy at the 7:30am service. In addition, Peter Pereira, the Diocesan Treasurer, also made a surprise visit and we, at the same time, were able to thank him as he, too, was an important partner with Nancy in obtaining our loan and managing the process. We are grateful to God for the dedicated and knowledgeable support Peter has given and continues to give to St. Peter's and the congregations of this diocese.

Nancy has been treasurer of St. Peter's for 14 years. Managing the construction loan was additional work on top of the considerable volunteer work she does for St. Peter's as treasurer. Thank you, Nancy, for your dedication to St. Peter's and the excellent work you do!
Pastor Diane, Rev. Jazzy, and the Vestry on Behalf of the People of St. Peter's



In July Maiesha, Lois, Glen, Sim, Velma, Ruth, Arielle, Lisa, Nathan, Bill, Joanne, and I made 48 sandwiches for the Hie Hie ministry. This ministry has an

unpredictable number of patrons each month. Last month there were 38 patrons and we ran out of the lunch bags by 11 am; this month we had only 20 patrons. Never the less, we had an enjoyable time together making sandwiches and packing lunch bags.



Thanks again for support for this ministry. God bless everyone.

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.

Still Blue, but a New Hue

St. Peter's has a new t-shirt! Thanks to Jaime and Paula for working with a designer, and to Barry for bringing this idea to the vestry, and to Steve and Rev. Jazzy for helping to figure out the ordering numbers.



If you are interested in updating your St. Peter's wardrobe, please sign up in the back of the church or call the office, and place your order. Money will be collected when the shirts are distributed. Men's, women's, and children's sizes and styles available.

Take advantage of this awesome new design. It is an easy way to evangelize, and show off our faith community!

Make a Planned Gift



We hope that you will consider including St. Peter's Episcopal Church in your estate or financial plans and help sustain its mission and ministries for generations to come. Whatever approach you choose, your gift will honor St. Peter's role as A Beacon of Hope, A Call to Serve.

There are many options for including St. Peter's in your long-range planning. This may include a bequest in your will, a life income gift (charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, or pooled income fund), a gift of life insurance or

other type of planned gift. If you have made a provision in your estate plans for a gift to St. Peter's, please let the office know. Neither the size of the gift, nor the type of gift matters. Only that you have made the provision in your estate plans. Mahalo.

Steve Mitchell

Quick Notes

- ❖ Honolulu Habitat for Humanity dedicated the 4 generation Johnson home in Waimanalo on July 26th. The **St. Peter's Habitat Lunch Bunch** was thanked. Steve Mitchell represented St. Peter's Church at the event. Twenty-four more homes over the next three years! Lots of lunches to prepare!!
- ❖ **Rally Day at St. Peter's is Sunday, September 8th.** On that Sunday, Christian Formation begins again for children, youth, and adults between services and the choir returns to the 10:00am service from summer break.
- ❖ Also on Sunday, September 8th there will be a **barbecue for acolytes and their families** from **11:30am-2:30pm**. There will be games, laughing, and enjoying one another's company. If you can help grill, please contact Rev Jazzy or Pastor Diane. We will put out an email for signing up for potluck. Hope to see you there!
- ❖ A **fall schedule of events** will be coming in the September newsletter.

Camp Mokuleia summer camps went very well. Two St. Peter's children attended the camp on the Square, Joyna and Martina Richard, and five attended week-long camps on the North Shore - Addison and Jay Scantlin, Noah, Eden, and Myra Young. Rev Jazzy went out for one week to the North Shore camp, to serve as a chaplain to the "mini" and elementary school camps - children ages 6-10. Rev. Jazzy says, "I was amazed by the relationships these children had with God - by how

present God was to them, and how clearly they were able to articulate the importance of their faith. Each day we had a theme, and a Bible passage. In the morning, we had a chapel service of music and some time for reflection, where I talked a bit about the theme. In the evening, we again had a chapel service where our musician played some songs, and I read a Bible verse and led the campers in a reflection. I believe that the seeds planted during our time together will be nurtured and grown by God, into robust faith lives. My prayer throughout our time together was that each child would know they are loved, deeply, by God."



Noteworthy News

Dr. Joseph Eppink

CHOIR BEGINS!! Mark your calendar for Thursday, Sept 5 at 7:15 pm! Choir will begin the one-hour rehearsals to prepare for services and other special events. We also rehearse at 9 am on Sundays so if you can't make it on Thursdays, join us on Sundays! Rehearsals are a wonderful place to not only learn new music, but become part of the music 'ohana here at St. Peter's. There are always a lot of laughs and we end each rehearsal with Compline (Evening Prayer). Everyone is welcomed and it is perfectly fine if you don't read music. For the current schedule of rehearsals and events check the St Peter's Music website page: <http://www.stpetershonolulu.org/music-ministry.html>. For more info josepheppink@gmail.com

A Call to Ministry - Thank you, Discernment Committee!

Mahalo to five St. Peter's folks who answered the call to serve on a Discernment Committee over the course of this year. Michele Baldovi (chair), Bill McKinney, Cheryl Saito, Elizabeth Winternitz, and Barry Wood met regularly with Maureen O'Leary to assist her in discerning a call to the ordained ministry in The Episcopal Church.



Maureen, who came to Hawaii with the AmeriCorps program and worked for Habitat for Humanity, has been at St Peter's over the past two years and has served faithfully in the choir. With the Discernment Committee's unanimous encouragement to pursue ordained ministry, Maureen will be returning to the mainland to continue the process in preparation for seminary. Maureen's last Sunday at St. Peter's was August 4th, and we wish her Godspeed until we see her again!

Everyday Stewardship: "Time is a Gift"

So many times in my life, I have failed to start something because I had not yet adequately prepared. I would have started working out or going for a jog, but I needed to get the right shoes. I would have started eating right if only I could find the time and money to buy the right foods. I would have started that journaling project, but I couldn't without a really nice leather-bound journal. I would have, I would have, and I would have!

I know many people can relate. We offer up excuses for so many things. Sometimes we even get to the point where we do start something, but by then, we have already lost so much time.

Some of us are thinking about taking a stewardship way of life seriously, but we are just not ready yet. We would be more generous if we can first get out of debt. We would give of our time, but we have to wait until the kids get older or until we fully research our options. The truth is, we don't have to be in any particular state of life or

have any specific financial portfolio to start giving our very selves to God. God takes us as we are now. No resume needed. Why waste so much time thinking about getting started and becoming serious? Time is a gift given to all of us. As we think and prepare endlessly, we are practicing poor stewardship. The time to start is today. Who wants to answer God one day at the gates of Heaven saying, "I would have"?

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Myron and Beth Chang just returned from a mission trip to Lourdes, France. They took two suitcases full of **hats and scarves made by the Knitters** reporting, "Those knitted items were a hit!! Badly needed. Nothing can describe hundreds of people in wheelchairs or pulled carts in a procession all needing a means to keep warm... Thanks knitting group. What a kind thing to do!!"

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2019 Vestry

Clerk: Karin

Treasurer: Nancy
Rector: The Rev. Diane
Curate: The Rev.



Term

Yamane

Term expires in 2020: Karin Kimura, Steve Mitchell, Barry Wood
Term expires in 2021: Gail Kuroda, Bill McKinney, Stephanie Wight

Senior Warden: Velma Lee
Kimura
Junior Warden: Terry Dang
Rowe
Martinson
Jasmine Bostock
expires in 2019: Edmund Choy, Kyle Saito, Jaime

Pastor Diane: pastordianem@gmail.com

Rev Jazzy: revjazzybostock@gmail.com

Church Office: stpetershonoluluoffice@gmail.com

Bookkeeper in the Church Office: stpetershonolulu@gmail.com