

"I am the vine, you are the branches; abide in me and you will bear much fruit." John 15:5



Vine & Branches

News from St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church, 720 N. King Street, Honolulu, HI 96817

**August
2007**

The Right Reverend
Robert L. Fitzpatrick
Bishop

The Reverend
Jodene S. Hawkins,
Rector

The Reverend Dr.
Gerald G. Gifford,
Rector Emeritus

The Reverend
Peter S. M. Fan,
Chinese Language Priest

Hsiao Ying "Ajaon" Chen
Music Director

Marie Wang
Organist

Katherine Crosier,
Parish Administrator
Graphic Design

Stuart Ching,
Senior Warden

Jerry Goo,
Junior Warden

Nella Kleinschmidt,
Secretary

Bill Eng, Treasurer

Sue Yap, Contributor

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Read about
Li Tim-Oi
on page 3

From Mother Jodene *Aloha Beloved in Christ Jesus,*

As a child I loved to read. I still do. It gives me deep satisfaction to see our neighborhood children run to our Outreach Center to hear stories and to read stories. One of my favorite books, no longer in print, was about a little burro in Ecuador entitled Looking for Something. What I remember well is this lost and lonely donkey trudging over hillsides and dusty pathways searching for the place where he belonged. After miles and miles of weary walking and searching he finally did find where he belonged.

Belonging. In the heart of Jesus' preaching is the Good News that God's love for us says there is a place in the heart of God for each of us to belong to God. In the heart of Jesus' teaching is also the Good News that we belong to each other. If we break apart the word we can come up with two words; 'be' and 'longing.' Growing up, we 'long' to 'be' somebody or to 'be' something. We long to belong to someone special---to belong to a group of people who care about us. We long to discover the meaning and purposes of our lives and to 'be' come more like our uniquely created self. We may long to make a difference in our world. We may long for peace of mind, for a loving community, and perhaps for some space in our lives just to 'be' still in our chaotic world.

To see our children and young people on Wednesdays and Sundays is a blessing to us. However, imagine what being welcome at our church or at St. Elizabeth's Outreach Center means to the children. More than the reading, more than their music lessons, more than the snacks, or the crafts, these children have a safe place to belong. They have a family. Not necessarily by birth---but by birthright. They belong to our family of God. Loved and accepted, they begin to believe they belong. Jesus said, "let the little children come to me, for to such

belongs the kingdom of God." For some children this gift of belonging can be an unimaginable gift that will change their lives and perhaps even save their lives.

We are all in some way a child at heart.

We long to belong and have a need to belong. Pascal, a 17th century philosopher wrote, "There is a God-shaped piece of loneliness inside everyone." Belonging helps change that. By birthright in our baptism, we do belong to God, and we belong to God's family. 'There's a place for us' is from the lyrics of West Side Story. There's a place for us in the heart of God. There is a place for us at God's table. There's a place for us in each other's hearts as we walk the ways of Jesus. On days when we're struggling to cope---On days when we're struggling to hope--- Because we belong, it is the loving heart of God and the loving prayers of the family of God that carries us.

As we think about family, friends and neighbors, is there some one who seems to be seeking or longing for a place to belong? A place to find hope and meaning? A place to be loved and accepted? Broken hearts can be mended by God. Lost ways can be found. Hearts and minds can be healed. Joys can be freely shared. New beginnings can come from dark endings. All because we belong to God. All because we belong to each other. St. Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have." We may have no silver and gold, but we do have treasures beyond price. The love of God. And the love of each other. People are longing to hear this Good News. And the treasure of the Good News is free! Please offer them the treasure we have to give.



Mother Jodene +

Sunday School News

Sunday School will begin on August 26, 2007. The children can begin registering for Sunday School, registration forms are on the table in the narthex. Hope you all had a very safe and happy summer!

See you in the Education Building at 8:15 am on Sunday August 26th! Meet the teachers, Lisa Anne Mitsuka Chan and Jamie Chock, assisted by Lillian Tyau, and Dean Sue Yap. Please join us if you would like to join the team of teachers!

The children can look forward to a school year of challenging work sheets and 'guest appearances' ... last year 'Flat Stanley' visited the Sunday school from Massachusetts! The children always look forward to learning new songs and sharing their musical percussion rhythm on special Sundays, thanks to our choir director, Ajaon Chen.



Ajaon Chen conducts the Sunday School children on Mother's Day this past spring.

From generation to generation

is the theme of this year's Midsummer Night's Organ Concert, a yearly benefit concert for the Hawaii Chapter American Guild of Organists scholarship programs. The concert is on Tuesday, August 21st at 7 pm at Central Union Church. It will feature several generations of organists, including Nyle Hallman and Margaret Lloyd of Central Union Church, John McCreary and John Renke of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Katherine Crosier of Lutheran Church of Honolulu, Joey Fala and Jordan McCreary, two young Organ Scholars. Special guest will be Dr. Frederick Swann, national president of the American Guild of Organists, and former organist at the Crystal Cathedral and the Riverside Church, New York.

Our own organist, Marie Wang, and Joshua Yuen-Schat, son of Ajaon Chen, have been recipients of the organ scholarship program.



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August Humor

Even young ones have hearing problems!

The children had been learning about angels in their Sunday School class. The teacher used the verse from Hebrew 13:2.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

When Jason's mom asked him what he learned in Sunday School, he said, "Our teacher told us we should be kind to strangers, because you never know, you might be entertaining angels in their underwear!"



Organ scholar Joshua Yuen-Schat plays the St. Elizabeth's organ.



The Rev. Li Tim-Oi with The Right Rev. Barbara Harris, first woman bishop.

The Story of Li Tim-Oi

First Woman Priest Ordained in the Anglican (Episcopal) Church was Chinese

The Reverend Li Tim-Oi has been called the “spiritual godmother” of women’s ordination. When she was born in Hong Kong in 1907, Li Tim-Oi’s father called her “Much Beloved” because he valued a daughter even if other parents preferred sons. When she was baptized as a student, Tim-Oi chose the name Florence after Florence Nightingale, the famous nurse known as ‘the Lady of the Lamp.’ At age 24 at the ordination of a deaconess in Hong Kong Cathedral, she heard and responded to her calling from God.

She studied four years at a theological college in Canton. Ordained a deacon in 1941, she was placed in charge of the Anglican congregation in the Portuguese colony of Macao.

When Japan invaded South China in 1940, refugees poured in to Macao from war-torn China. The Rt. Rev. Ronald Hall, Anglican bishop of Hong Kong and South China, would send a priest to China to celebrate communion whenever it was safe to travel. But, soon none dared to make the hazardous journey. Bishop Hall of Li Tim-Oi’s ministry with the refugee community, and wanted to ordain her priest if she would come to Zingxing, a week’s travel through the war zone to Free China.

On January 25, 1944 she was ordained a “priest in the Church of God,” becoming the first woman priest in the Anglican Communion. Bishop Hall knew that this was as momentous a step as when the Apostle Peter baptized the Gentile Cornelius in biblical times. Just as Peter recognized that God had already given Cornelius the baptismal gift of the Spirit, so Bishop Hall also confirmed God’s calling to Li Tim-Oi and the Church.

In the Church of England, her ordination caused an uproar. Bishop Hall was reprimanded by the Archbishop of Canterbury

and by his fellow provincial bishops for ordaining a woman.

To defuse the controversy, in 1946 Tim-Oi surrendered her priest’s license, but not her Holy Orders. She served the Church of God until the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s closed all the churches in China. She was sent to cut wood in the hills. However she remained true to her faith and was priest of the first church to reopen in the 1970s in Canton. In 1971, the Diocese of Hong Kong voted to ordain women and reconfirmed Li Tim-Oi’s priesthood.

In 1981 she retired to Toronto, Canada. She has been awarded Doctorates of Divinity by General Theological Seminary, New York, and Trinity College, Toronto. She died on February 26, 1992 in Toronto and is buried there.

The Rev. Li Tim-Oi was interviewed when the first woman bishop, Barbara Harris, was ordained. Her comments follow: “I, a Chinese woman was ordained the first Anglican woman priest and now Harris, a black woman is ordained as the first woman bishop. To me this has great significance, this evolution helps the Anglican Communion play an increasing role as peacemaker in a multi-racial society.”

In 2006, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church of the USA included the anniversary of Tim-Oi’s Priesting in the Church’s calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts, to be observed January 24. The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada meeting in St. Catharine’s, Ontario in the calendar of Holy Persons in their Book of Alternative Services, on the anniversary of her death, February 26.

Information for this article comes from Li Tim-Oi’s website and The Witness, 1989.

Gracious God, we thank you for calling Florence Li Tim-Oi, much beloved daughter, to be the first woman to exercise the office of a priest in our Communion. By the grace of your Spirit inspire us to follow her example, serving your people with patience and happiness all our days, and witnessing in every circumstance to our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Prayer of the Month

A Prayer for Wholeness

Lord, I have become too busy;
 too busy for you,
 too busy for me,
 too busy for those
 who need me.

Gather the fragments of my
 scattered self,

Help me to discern what is

important and what is expendable.

It is so difficult, this business of giving—of being all
 for you.

I am overwhelmed by its enormity and lose sight of its
 utter simplicity.

Show me how to let go—to give up control—

that you might draw and bend and mold and carry,

Lord, in your goodness and incomprehensible love for
 me,

That I may be now and ever one in you,

Gather the fragments of my scattered self.

Ms. Patricia B. Clark

(from Women's Uncommon Prayers)

St. Elizabeth's Provides School Supplies for Princess Kaiulani

Many children at Princess Kaiulani reside in Mayor Wright and even IHS. When school begins they need supplies that parents often cannot provide. Thanks to St. Elizabeth's generosity, these children will not have to go without and can start school with a smile on their faces. Mahalo to everyone who donated supplies or money to purchase supplies. Mahalo to Ed and James Fitzpatrick for organizing our efforts and delivering them to the teachers and counselors.

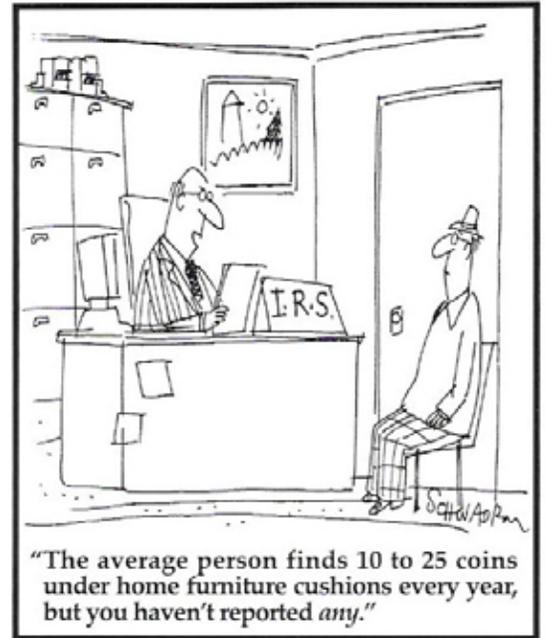
Church Humor

Three girls were on the playground
 bragging about their mothers.

The first girl said, "My mom scribbles
 a few words on a piece of paper, she calls
 it a poem and they give her \$50.

The second girl said, "That's nothing. My mom scribbles a
 few words on a piece of paper, she calls it a song and they give
 her \$100.

The third girl says, "Hey, I've got you both beat. My mom
 scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, she calls it a sermon.
 And it takes four men to collect all the money!"



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Wilfred Tyau	8/2
Sue Yap	8/4
Pablo Venenciano	8/4
Nicholas Chang	8/5
Wayne Pacupac	8/6
Raymond Leong	8/8
Akiu Chock	8/11
David Hirashiki	8/13
Linda Woo	8/13
Elyjah-Dane Badua	8/13
Etta Leong	8/15
Kenneth Ho	8/16
Jo Ann Young	8/17
Keith Ho	8/17
Harold Ware	8/17
Patsy Ann Ching	8/18
Douglas Ing	8/18
Kaitlin Nagamine	8/18
Karen Batangan	8/19
Caren Jean Esaki	8/20
Pedro Timonio	8/20
Marietta Ware	8/20
Nancy Shim Au	8/21
Joel Jong	8/21
Francis Kau	8/21
Jarrett Young	8/25
Inaria Repaky	8/25



The Rev. Wai On Shim is shown in a historic photo of St. Elizabeth's on Palm Sunday.



Dedicated on Palm Sunday, April 6, 1952, St. Elizabeth's was the first church in Hawaii to be equipped with air conditioning. A large crowd of members, clergy, and well-wishers gathered for the dedication service. Several furnishings from the old wooden church were incorporated in the new building, including the Tiffany window of St. John the Baptist, a cross, a railing, and candle stands.



A photo of the historic St. Elizabeth's mission interior shows the Tiffany window behind the altar.

St. Elizabeth's Church Building Preservation Fund Begins

Donations and Bequests Needed and Welcome

Have you ever wondered how St. Elizabeth's Church continues to look so beautiful on the inside and outside even though our building is 55 years old? It begins with many, many volunteer hours, painting, cleaning, repairing, and maintaining. However, many repairs and maintenance requirements go far beyond the scope of volunteers. We continually find pressing needs that pop up on an emergency basis or an on going basis.

There are plumbing repairs and replacements, roof repairs and maintenance, gutter cleaning and repair, air conditioning maintenance and repair, electrical repairs and replacements, high ladder work to change 20 foot high light bulbs, stained glass maintenance and repair.

Our regular operating budget is strained with these pressing and essential needs.

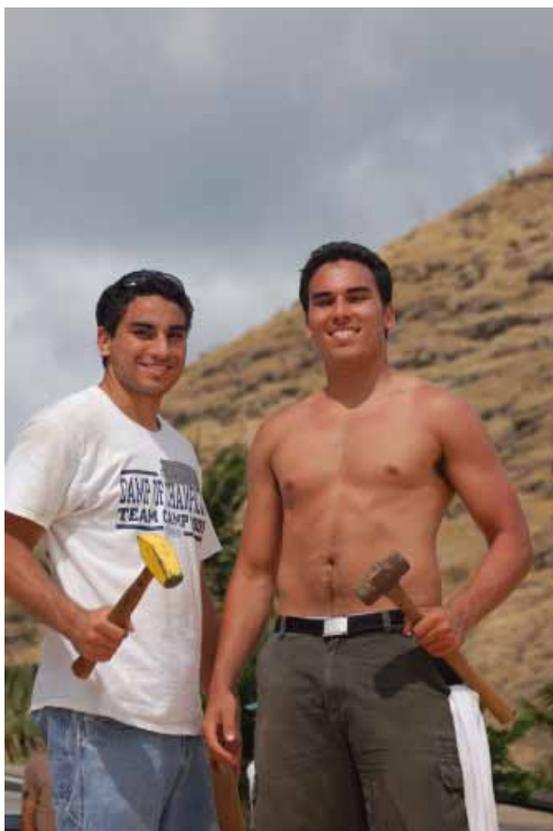
With your help with donations or bequests to St. Elizabeth's Building and Preservation Fund, we can keep our beautiful building. Please help us with the care and maintenance of our Church. Donations and bequests, small and large, are welcome at any time. To date, \$775 has been received for this purpose. Please designate **St. Elizabeth's Church Preservation Fund**. These donations will only be used for our Church building.

Mahalo for your care for our historic Church.

St. Elizabeth's Vestry.



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James Fitzpatrick (left) and his brother, Ed, work on a Habitat for Humanity home building project.

An Opportunity for Change

by James Fitzpatrick

At the beginning of the summer I was approached by my brother, Ed, to work with him at St. Elizabeth's doing jobs for the Church and organizing community service events. At first I did not know what to expect. I was about to graduate from Iolani and I had never really worked on anything like this before. I had been to St. Elizabeth's on several occasions, mostly just when my father was there or when my brother asked me to come. I have always felt warmly welcome. That made joining the St. Elizabeth team easy.

Our first project was working with Habitat for Humanity, building a house in Waianae. I had never had experience doing any building before and it was an incredible experience. My brother and I really enjoyed spending time nailing boards, laying the floor and putting the roof on. As usual, the food made the labor easier. It was also very important to be with other Christians making a real difference in people's lives.

Throughout the summer my brother and I have spent each Wednesday with neighborhood children in the reading and music program. The children play drums, triangles, tambourines and all sorts of other instruments. After the music program, we read books to the children and sometimes they read to each other. The children are energetic and always ready to read and participate in the music program.

The latest program was the Princess Ka'iulani Elementary School students' supply drive. I am extremely happy with the donations that our parish gathered for those in need. This giving really shows the neighborhood what type of community and ohana we have. It makes me proud to call St. Elizabeth's my church.

What I have taking most from the summer is the time I have spent working with and learning from the parishioners of St. Elizabeth's Church. Painting, digging irrigation, demolishing selves and cleaning as a member of the Church family has taught me again about Christian community and respect.

Working this summer has really helped me to explore both my faith and my own personality as I prepare myself to go off to college for the first time. As Ed heads back to Macalester College and as I go to Wabash College in Indiana, we want to thank everyone at St. Elizabeth's for this opportunity to share in the ministry of our Church in such a deep way.

James Fitzpatrick, son of Bishop Bob Fitzpatrick, is one of the newest members of St. Elizabeth's.



St. Elizabeth's college-age members and friends helped build a Habitat for Humanity in Waianae this summer. Their efforts built the house literally from the ground up. In three weekends the home went from the foundation flooring to install walls, windows, doors, beams and roofing. Quite a feat for our group of 12-15 of our team of gals and guys and a few adults who wielded hammers along with them!



The first dolls were sent out to Palestine and distributed in Bethlehem and to other children in West Bank villages. Since then, Mary Page Jones, now living in Wyoming, continues to ship rag dolls throughout the world. We at St. Elizabeth's ship the rag dolls to our brave young men and women in uniform and they distribute them to the children in Iraq and Afghanistan. And Mary Page always asks and ships additional rag dolls to our armed forces whenever the need arises.

These photos were taken in Mosul. Since then, the young 1st Lt, now a Capt. and leader of a surgical team in Texas, was 'home' in Hawaii for a week. In Hawaii, the young Capt was a volunteer worker at Camp Mokuleia with the Cancer Kids Camp and we offered her some rag dolls to share with the kids. The rag dolls not only brought love and hope to the young children at Camp Mokuleia, but to the volunteers who handed the rag dolls out!

RagDolls2Love Update

On August 5th there will be another blessing of the rag dolls made by many truly wonderful volunteers. Millie Goo and Nora Kurosu have brought the latest group of rag dolls to St. Elizabeth's Church.

In April 2004, Mary Page Jones shared her thoughts on the Rag Dolls 2 Love, and how it was first created for children who have been maimed, traumatized or orphaned by war. In war, children suffer.

Mary Page Jones wrote... 'The cloth ambassadors that grace the table in St. Elizabeth's sanctuary aren't just dolls. These rag dolls are a gesture of good will; they are a gesture of understanding. The St. Elizabeth's volunteers who made them have put love into the fabric and stuffing and stitches and heart and eyes and smile. They know these dolls will be in the hands of a child who has so little, a child who needs love, a child turned all too quickly into an adult by the violence of everyday life.

These dolls are without hair, dolls without clothes, dolls that have nothing but a heart, a smile and a gentle face. These aren't beautiful dolls; they need to be loved to become beautiful. The dolls can become real as a child hugs it at night, washing the doll's body with their tears and telling the doll the secrets buried in their heart. These dolls offer children solace that, unfortunately, real life doesn't offer.

With the blessings of St Elizabeth's, the dolls will go out from here into the world carrying your love and hope for peace...'



Marine Trevor Manu who helped with the Habitat for Humanity Waianae home building this summer has recently left Hawaii and will deploy to Haditha, Iraq with a rag doll that was sitting in the basket in the church. More rag dolls will join Trevor in Haditha, carrying blessings, aloha, love and hope from St. Elizabeth's to Trevor, his fellow marines and to the children in Haditha.

Thank you to St. Elizabeth's and all who support and participate in the rag dolls 2 love project. The rag dolls share your warm aloha, love and hope to children both near and far!

Prayer-Like Poem

Ring the bells that still can ring.
Forget your perfect offering.
There's a crack in everything.
That's how the light gets in.

By Leonard Cohen,
from *Anthem*



Born to eternal life

Charles Chung Chu, July 22, 2007
Moses En Fo Chu, June 24, 2007

*Rest eternal grant to them,
O Lord, let light perpetual
shine upon them.*

A teenager was headed to school one morning when his mother told him that the neck tag on his shirt was hanging out.

"I know," he replied. "Its a fad me and some of the guys started."

Weeks later, as the style persisted, and mom commented, "I can't stand it! Every time I see that, I want to fix it for you."

I gently tucked the tag in place and tumbled his hair.

"Yeah," he said smiling slyly. "All the girls do."



St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
720 N. King Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

A House of Prayer for all People

July 2007 Attendance

Sunday 8:15 service
average

102

Chinese service

5

Return Service Requested

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