

"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
2009**

*The Right Reverend
Robert L. Fitzpatrick
V Bishop of Hawaii*

*The Reverend
Jodene S. Hawkins,
Rector*

*The Reverend Imelda S.
Padasdao, Priest Associate*

*The Reverend Saimone
Lino, Diocesan Missioner*

*The Reverend Dr.
Gerald G. Gifford,
Rector Emeritus*

*The Reverend
Peter S. M. Fan,
Cantonese Language Priest*

*Hsiao Ying "Ajaon" Chen
Music Director*

*Marie Wang
Organist*

*Katherine Crosier
Parish Administrator
Graphic Design*

*Arleen Young
Senior Warden*

*Mark Anderson
Junior Warden*

*Preston Lentz
Secretary / Clerk*

Bill Eng, Treasurer

*Roy Chee, Assistant
Treasurer*

Sue Yap, Contributor

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From Mother Jodene

Aloha, beloved in Christ,

During the Sunday, July 26th announcements, or via the coconut wireless, or by official letter from our Senior Warden Arleen Young, most everyone has heard that following my retirement on September 1, that Fr. David Gierlach has been called as St. Elizabeth's new rector. I give thanks to God for the vestry's hard work and discernment in listening to the Holy Spirit's guidance. I also give thanks to God for the calling of Fr. David. He knows St. Elizabeth's church family and our Palama neighborhood well.

Change and transition began early June. Change and transition now continues as St. Elizabeth's begins walking into her new future. God is in our midst. All will be well, for Kit and for me, for St. Elizabeth's, for Fr. David and for the ministry and mission of St. E's.

I share with you some reflections on change and transition that I have learned over the years. Never have I experienced a genuine change in my life that did not make me cry, even though many of these changes were positive ones. Never have I experienced an important change in my life that did not involve the loss of something or someone(s) dear to me. I have never experienced change that did not make me laugh at myself, laugh at the situation or laugh at the delight or the absurdity of that change. Many times the laughter broke through my tears being shed.

I have never experienced change that did not bring me God's hope and bring something new and wonderful into my life. Sometimes God's blessings were not apparent in the beginning. Those blessings might have arrived a long, long later, but God's blessings still finally revealed themselves.



Jesus was always calling his followers to go into uncharted territory. Often they would tell Jesus, an equivalent of 'no can!' or "not now, later---let us have a little more time to adjust and get used to your idea. Jesus, it's too soon." God's timing is often not our timing. Changes emerge, disturbing us, inviting us to walk upon the water with Jesus to the new beginnings and future that God is preparing.

We know that change is not only what we get in Chinatown when we give a five dollar bill for two dollars worth of vegetables. So here are some thoughts about change. A woman bought a sign at a garage sale. It said "Prayer Changes Things." When her husband saw it on the kitchen wall he said, "Could you take that sign down right now?!" "Why, you go to church, you do believe in prayer," answered his wife. "Yes, of course I do," said her husband, " but I don't believe in change!" Perhaps we've heard one of these before. "How many Episcopalians

continued

From Mother Jodene

does it take to change a light bulb?" Answer. "Eleven. One to change the light bulb and ten others to prepare the food in the parish hall so that everyone can eat and celebrate the changing of the light bulb." How many "Episcopalians does it take to change a light bulb?" Answer. Eight. One to call the Jr. Warden, and seven others to say how much they liked the old light bulb better."

Change and transition are not easy. Even if they are for the best. Humans seem to prefer predictability. But, God is the God of new beginnings, new hopes and new dreams. And God promises to direct our paths and to walk with us and talk with us every step of our way. May God continue to bless you in this transition and to bring you peace, hope and joy.

Mother Jodene +



PAH KE'S

MJB: Mother Jodene and the Boys

Thursday, August 20th, 11:30 am
Pah Ke's Restaurant
46-018 Kamehameha Hwy. Kaneohe

No-host luncheon with Mother Jodene and the men of the church. Please sign up on the clipboard if you can attend.

Holy Baptisms

will be held on Mother Jodene's farewell Sunday

Sunday
August 30th

All adults or children who are interested in the Sacrament of Baptism, please see Mother Jodene.



Wisdom via Wally Amos

You get a lot farther on 1 gallon of optimistic thinking, Then you will get on a tankful of negative thoughts.



Sue Yap
Pablo Venenciano
Nicholas Chung
Wayne Pacupac
Raymond Leong
Akiu Chock
David Hirashiki
Linda Woo
Elyjah-Dane Badua
Man Love Sos
Etta Leong
Kenneth Ho
Jo Ann Young
keith Ho
Harold Ware
Patsy Ching

Doug Ing
Kaitlin Nagamine
Karen Batangan
Marietta Ware
Caren Esaki
Pedro Timonio
Nancy Au
Joel Jong
Francis Kau
Jaden Morey
Jarrett Young
Inaria Repaky

God's blessings to those with August birthdays.



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Attendance July 2009

8:15 am Eucharist average	115
Cantonese language Eucharist	5
Ilokano - First Wednesday	42
Ilokano - First Sunday	85



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July 28, 2009

St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

Dear Members of St. Elizabeth's:

As you know from the last newsletter, Mother Jodene is retiring at the end of August 2009. We are saddened that she is leaving so soon, but the voice of God has spoken to her telling her that it is time. Guidance from Bishop Fitzpatrick and Mother Jodene has been valuable during this period. They have educated us and prayed for us through this journey. When we met with Bishop Fitzpatrick on the day that Mother Jodene announced her retirement to the Vestry, he reminded us that St. Elizabeth's is a very special church with a need for someone who has a calling to be engaged in the mission that we are embarking upon.

St. Elizabeth's church is returning to its roots when we provided for the needs of our diverse community with open arms, learning, eating, and worshiping with each other. We are truly a "House of Prayer for All People" where each person is welcomed with joy and respect. We are in an economically depressed neighborhood with many social needs and we are responding to those needs, particularly with the Children's Outreach program and our ties to Kaiulani Elementary School. St. Elizabeth's needs a priest who can embrace our Kalihi-Palama neighborhood and the "old timers" who commute to their family church. St. Elizabeth's has provided spiritual support through generations of families and we see them still committed and attending services regularly. Among the "new" regulars are families, recent immigrants to Hawaii, where parents speak English as a second language while their children speak English as their first language. We are home to one and all, a familiar place where you are always welcome no matter if you come every Sunday, to special events or only at Easter and Christmas. With Mother Jodene, the church has established strong roots again. Now we are growing and need a spiritual leader who will nourish and challenge us as we continue on this journey.

The Holy Spirit has guided the Vestry to call The Reverend David J. Gierlach as our new rector. Many of you remember when he was a Deacon here and we hosted his ordination ceremony to become a Priest of the Episcopal Church. Many parishioners have shared that they were praying to have Father David return to St. Elizabeth's Church because he loves this community, wants us to continue our mission work, is the perfect choice and the perfect match for our church family. Our prayers have been answered and we are fortunate to have Father David accept the call and begin ministering at St. Elizabeth's officially on Sunday, October 11th. He will be on part time status while he transitions out of his law practice until the end of the year. He begins his full time position with us in January 2010. We will continue to have Mother Imelda, Father Simone and Father Fan providing services as before. More information will be forthcoming regarding his schedule as it is formalized.

On behalf of the Vestry, thank you all for your prayers and support during this transition time.

Your servant in Christ's name,

Arleen Young, Senior Warden

THE FAMILY CIRCUS™

By Bil and Jeff Keane



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Positive Thinking

When we are closed to the ideas and suggestions of others, We just might be turning away the missing piece to complete our life puzzle. From *Be Positive*

Prayer for an Open Mind

O Lord, help me not to despise or oppose what I do not understand. William Penn 1644-1718

Good Morning Holy Spirit

Good morning Holy Spirit.
I need you this day.
Fill me with your presence
And guide me on my way.
Good morning Holy Spirit.
I need you this day.
Fill my mind, my soul, my thinking.
And guide me as I pray.
Precious Holy Spirit
I need you every day.
Surround me with your Being
And in my heart, please stay.



Mrs. Jacqueline Russel from *Women's Uncommon Prayers* Morehouse Publishing



Ruby Chock is shown at the Tacoma Astronomical Society Summer Star Party at Goldendale, Washington. She camped out for 3 Earth rotations (3 days) and observed God's Universe including The Big Dipper, Polaris, Teapot, Milky Way, Maui's Fishhook (Scorpius), Swan Nebula, Veil Nebula, Dumbbell Nebula, Mars, Venus, Neptune, Jupiter and the 4 moons, and the International Space Station. Her mother Akiu introduced her to front yard astronomy as a child.

Baptized

Tarla Francis, parents are Walter and Delia Francis. Baptized on May 31, 2009.

Charlemagne Julian, parents are Dante Julian and Bemerlyn Corpuz. Baptized on May 31, 2009.

Jeldan Romualdo, parents are Henry Beltran and Lovella Romualdo. Jeldan was baptized on July 5, 2009.



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Walter Kau

will give a mini-recital
after church on
Sunday, September 6
9:30 am

Invite your friends.



Day by Day

Thank you Lord Jesus Christ,
For all the benefits and blessings
Which you have given me,
For all the pain and insults
Which you have borne for me.
Merciful Friend, Brother and
Redeemer,
May I know you more clearly,
Love you more dearly,
And follow you more nearly,
Day by day.

Richard of Chichester 1197-1253

Holy Spirit think through me,
till your ideas are my ideas.

Amy Carmichael 1868-1951

Faith no doubt moves mountains,
but not necessarily where we want them."
Mason Cooley in Fabric of Faith

The steadfast love of the Lord never
ceases, his mercies never come to an
end;

They are new every morning; great is
your faithfulness, O Lord.

Lamentations 3:22,23

Chinese Proverb

The ties between gentle folk are as
pure as water.



*Nancy Shim-Au brought her Quan Yin to the luncheon on July 21.
It was given to her by her mother-in-law many years ago when her
husband was ill.*

Born to Eternal Life

Harriet Kameyo "K" Green. Born September 25, 1916, born
to eternal life, June 30, 2009. Harriet was a former Holy Trinity
parishioner. Her family shared these pictures of Holy Trinity.



*Holy Trinity Mission, Honolulu, burns the mortgage on the church building at a service on Trinity
Sunday. The service was conducted by Bishop Harry Kennedy, assisted by the Rev. Lawrence Ozaki
and the Rev. Philip Fukao, former vicars of Holy Trinity. Charles Kokubun served as acolyte at this
service.*

Lady Quan Yin Luncheon, July 21

At a recent gender-specific luncheon, twenty-one women returned to Pahke's Restaurant in Kaneohe to thank Mother Jodene for her ministry and to honor her upon her retirement. At the same time, we paid tribute to the Chinese Goddess of Mercy, Lady Quan Yin. She is believed to be a healer as well as a symbol of good health, fertility, safety and protection. She has often been likened to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

According to Mother Jodene, throughout history, women have played significant roles in the family and community and served as the "glue" that held the family together. In Biblical times, they would meet at the well, where they drew water and had conversations to identify and resolve problems.



Back Row: (L-R) Nancy Shim-Au, Mother Imelda, Patsy Ching, Fay Tsukamoto, Arleen Young, Mother Jodene and Christine Ling. Front Row (seated): Gretchen Jong, Dorie Horio, Sharon Oshiro.



Back Row: (L-R) Laura Iwama, Mother Jodene, Faith Chock, Jamie Chock, Mother Imelda, Pearl Kau. Front Row (seated): Ipolani, Lani Kealoha, Dorothy Jung, Sarah Bush and Akiu Chock.

In alignment with their virtues, Mother Jodene encouraged us to continue assuming leadership roles in the ministry of our church and to capitalize on our strength, gifts and nurturing qualities to support each other.

While feasting on a palette of specially-prepared gourmet dishes by Raymond Siu, we gazed upon favorite Guan Yin statuettes and wore our pendants.

We devoured a refreshing House Special Salad, Peking Duck with Buns, Lettuce Wraps, Sea Bass with Baby Bok Choy, fine Thread Noodles and a sumptuous assortment of signature desserts.

Blessings of Appreciation and Aloha

written by Nancy Shim-Au

We thank you, Lord, for Mother Jodene and Kit and for their ministry to St. Elizabeth's and the Kalihi-Palama neighborhood.

Please continue to bless their lives and families with optimum health, stress-free experiences, leisure and relaxation along with steadfast faith. They deserve no less. They are truly the embodiment of all that is good. The positive impact and legacy they leave is immeasurable.

We are truly grateful for their extraordinary contributions and accomplishments. They provided direction in our lives, restored our faith, addressed our needs, shared their administrative skills, implemented innovative programs for worship, initiated special programs for children and families and touched the lives of the people in the community in myriad, positive ways.

We are indeed enriched by their friendship, genuine love, concern and compassion which transcended all economic and language barriers.

You will be dearly missed, never forgotten, and deeply appreciated! We love you forever.

St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
A House of Prayer for all People
720 N. King Street
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If you would like to receive Vine and Branches by email, please inform the church office of your email address. We can save money on postage and paper plus save the environment, too!



Save the Date!

for Mother Jodene and Kit Hawkins
Retirement Luau

Saturday, August 29 5:00 to 8:00 pm

Cost \$15 per person

Tickets available from any Vestry member

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

Complimentary Valet Parking

