

"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

## February 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, Assisting Priest

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

Website:  
[www.stelizabeth720.org](http://www.stelizabeth720.org)

Email:  
[stelizabethhawaii@gmail.com](mailto:stelizabethhawaii@gmail.com)



### *The Rector's Annual Address and Homily, The Annual Meeting of St. Elizabeth's Church, January 18, 2009 The Reverend Jodene S. Hawkins*

"You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, your bones shall flourish like the grass." Isaiah 66:14 Inscription cut into a stone wall remnant of the Temple in Jerusalem, 363 AD.

In pictures of Jerusalem or the Holy Land two features stand out: the Dome of the Rock and the Wailing (Western) Wall. The Dome of the Rock is a silent sentinel glowing golden in sunlight---a testament to history past and present. Beneath the Dome, tradition and history tell us, lies the altar of God and the Holy of Holies going



far back to the time of King Solomon. The other feature of Jerusalem that etches itself in people's minds eye is the Wailing Wall, also known as the Western Wall. For countless centuries the prayers of the faithful have been inscribed onto slips of paper and tucked into the tight crevices of the wall trusting that those prayers will go straight to heaven. There is a reason that people believe the prayers will go straight to heaven, for the foundation stones of the Wailing Wall are the strong, massive stones surrounding God's temple built more than 2000 years ago---built rock solid. The stones that remain are the bones of the Temple. And the bones are still good.

People who have traveled to China as I did this past year have a memorable feature etched in their minds. The Great Wall---

weaving like a dragon across nearly 4000 thousand of miles of mountains and valleys. For centuries pilgrims and tourists have climbed the steep stone steps and tackled the inclines that take your breath away. The Great Wall is a testament to history past and present. Originally built in the 7th century B.C. it was rebuilt again and again. Today the Great Wall too, is rock solid. The stones are the bones. And the bones of the Great Wall are still good.



In Hawaii nei, once there were temples built of stone. Hawaiians called the temples heiau. However over the years the temples tumbled. The stones lay hidden---buried in lush tropical growth---buried in times that silenced tradition---times that silenced the Hawaiian's story. However, the stones yet remain a witness to history and tradition. And the stones are still here. Today, Hawaiians rebuild many heiau rock solid with original stones as old as time. The stones are the bones of ancient temples. And the bones are still good.



In the Temple in Jerusalem thousands of years ago the elder priest Eli and young Samuel, Eli's assistant were keeping a night vigil before God's altar. Eli the elder had an important duty--he was to pass on the traditions, the sacred rites, and the

*continued inside*

# Mother Jodene

mysteries of the Holy to young Samuel. One night, Samuel hears a voice. He thinks Eli is calling him. After some confusion and repeated questions to Eli, Samuel finally understands that the voice is God's voice. The young boy Samuel remarkably responds: "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." And so Eli's commitment to hand on God's sacred tradition and a faith in a Holy God was passed on to Samuel and on through generation, after generation. Though the Holy Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed over and over again, yet the foundation of those stones is still standing. Today, people are still at prayer. Today, faith in a Holy God remains rock solid. For the bones of the faith are still good.

We stand at the threshold of the Year of the Ox and the beginning of the year 2009. Some of us are approaching or have attained the age of Eli and the status of 'Elders.' Some are still learning like young Samuel. One hundred and seven years ago St. Elizabeth's church was built of wood. Termites and time 'got' the wood church. In their wisdom St. Elizabeth's ancestors built our new church, our new 'temple' out of stone. Our House of God is now 57 years old. St. Elizabeth's temple was built with the ancestors' sweat and the labor of their hands---built with money from their wallets and their commitment to pass on the faith to their children and to their children's children. Like Eli, our ancestors had commitment, faith and hope. Our ancestors knew what hard times were--Some in plantation work toiled from dawn 'til dusk, some as seven day a week shopkeepers and teachers. Some as farmers. Education for their children came at a sacrifice to themselves. They endured not one World War, but two World Wars---a Great Depression---confusing and frightening times. But, the ancestors had something going for them that was rock solid. The bones of the ancestors' faith were good.

Today St. Elizabeth's stone temple is not as young as it used to be. St. Elizabeth's stone temple now has some cracks in the walls. St. Elizabeth's temple now has water leaking through the roof. Our ancestors knew that the stones would be good and St. Elizabeth's temple would not come 'a tumblin' down. But roofs are different from stone walls. St. Elizabeth's temple now does need repair and restoration to keep our

church rock solid. Every temple of the Lord came to this pass. The good news is this, like the Jerusalem temple, the Great Wall and the Hawaiian heiau, our church has stones which remain good bones. Our ancestors did not build on shifting sands. Most importantly, in the eyes of God---St. Elizabeth's bones of faith are solid as a rock and the bones of faith still good.

God's promises inscribed into the remnant stone of the ancient Temple in Jerusalem are still good: "You shall see and your heart shall rejoice, your bones shall flourish like the grass." What shall St. Elizabeth's hearts rejoice in? How are our good bones of faith flourishing? At the January 2007 annual meeting, we noted Sunday attendance had grown to an average of 111---a 10% increase. In 2008 our Sunday attendance increased to 136---more than an 18% increase from 2007. God's promise to flourish like the grass is a reality, for in the past two years our attendance increased 28%. Sixteen adults and children were baptized in 2008. Many of our baptized are new to St. Elizabeth's via our



St. Elizabeth's today.



The Shim Hall 'Dirty Dozen' helpers who did preliminary work on renovating Shim Hall: (L-R) Roy Chee, Charles Kokubun, Peggy Ishida, Tom Ishida, Kit Hawkins, Richard Yee, Father Saimone Lino and Wai Wah Yee.

We also want to thank the Oahu Contractors Association for their community service to St. Elizabeth's: JSC Construction; John Caro, outgoing president; David Rosa, Jesse Segura and Francis Salgado, workers; Aaron Arakaki, general contractor; and Wallace Miura of Wally's Flooring for all their hard work in renovating Shim Hall. Your generosity is simply overwhelming and we thank you all very much!

## Mother Jodene, cont.

outreach in our Palama neighborhood and via our vestry mission initiative to found an Ilokano language Eucharist on Wednesday nights with the leadership of The Reverend Imelda Padasdao, Priest Assisting. Bishop Fitzpatrick confirmed 3 candidates in 2008.

St. Elizabeth's bones of faith are still good. Our hospitality was rated magnificent, especially by our Bishop. We 'fed the hungry with good things' in many joyful celebrations in Shim Hall and through our Sunday food assistance. We visited the sick and cared for our five members who were born to eternal life this year. Palama children know that Jesus loves them because of our Music Academy, Sunday school, our Outreach Reading ministry, our fabulous Christmas party and our school supply drive for Princess Kaiulani kids. Babies and children in Palama receive quality health care because of our Daniel Ho fundraiser on behalf of Kalihi-Palama Health Center's Pediatric Program.

Yes, St. Elizabeth's faces the challenge of restoring our temple built of stone. We don't face this challenge on a shaky foundation or alone. The ancestors are with us. They were baptized here, married here, worshipped here, celebrated here--they were buried from here. The immigrants who passed through our doors of A House of Prayer for all People have been baptized and gone on into their own fields of God's service. God's bottom line is that St. Elizabeth's is here for many reasons. Our ancestors had an open door policy. A Korean congregation was birthed here. A Cantonese congregation was birthed here. Vietnamese congregations were birthed here. Now an Ilokano congregation is being birthed here. Past, present and future. All in God's hands. All handed over to us. God chose St. Elizabeth's to be in Palama. Our ancestors made a rock solid commitment to build in Palama not just once, but twice! That is our legacy. The walls surrounding us are the rock solid stones. Sometimes we think our faith is fragile, but that thinking is the shifting sands of our humanity. In God's eyes, the bones of St. Elizabeth's faith are still good. Those bones of faith were good in the past. The bones of faith are good in the present. And by God's grace, those bones of our faith will take us into our future where, God promises, our "bones shall flourish like the grass." Amen.

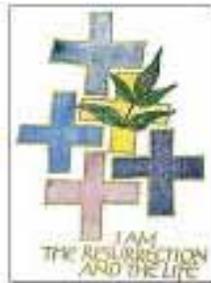
*Mother Jodene +*

There is a wisdom of the head and a wisdom of the heart. *(Charles Dickens)*

## Born to Eternal Life

Linda Chang (Jan. 9, 2009)  
Aileen Wong (Jan. 12, 2009)  
Jeffrey Abe (Jan. 21, 2009)

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



"We have two choices for Valentine's Day: we can fly away by private jet to a romantic meal in Bali, or we can plunk down 12 bucks for the church's spaghetti supper."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
© Ed Sullivan  
Reprinted with permission

## Happy Birthday



Elsie Okubo  
Zachary Okimoto  
Ben Junior Robert  
Alicia Ho Nakata  
David Kaloi  
Beatriz Timonio  
Elyson Badua  
Ed Fitzpatrick  
Betty Wong  
Collette Arakawa  
Sue Jean Chun  
Faye Tsukamoto  
TulenkunTulenlum  
Lilia Timonia

*God's blessings to those with  
February birthdays.*

## From scripture

The heart of the wise instructs his mouth. *(Proverbs 16:23)*

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. *(Luke 6:45)*

Where your treasure is there your heart will be also. *(Jesus)*

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your mind and all your soul. This is the first and great commandment.

# Recognition Awards and Gratitudes

**Roy Chee** is a long time member who has served St. Elizabeth's in a multitude of ways. He gives generously of his time and talents. He has served as chairperson of the Recognition Committee for the past four years. This committee recommends members whose involvement in church ministry deserves recognition. Roy drafts and finalizes the citations accompanying the awards to be presented at St. Elizabeth's Annual Meeting.



Roy also serves as Treasurer Assistant. As a member of the Finance Committee he provides keenness in management of church finances. His extra contribution this year was to conduct a properties and utilities audit with HECO, Board of Water Supply, and Waste Management which resulted in a timely management of costs in this year of escalating utilities costs which utilities have passed on to all organizations.

Roy assists the Treasurer and Parish Administrator in the monthly check reconciliation and other accounting tasks. His administrative skills are frequently put to use in preparing correspondence needed to complete tasks designated by the Vestry.

In addition to his participation in the administrative tasks of the church, Roy also wades in on the work-day projects. Roy can always be found with a paint brush, a hammer or similar tool in hand, working to beautify and maintain our church and grounds.



**Bill Eng** has been attending St. Elizabeth's for over fifty years. He has held different positions over the years but most recently as treasurer during difficult economic times. It was during this period with the church's declining revenue and increasing costs that Bill looked consistently at reducing expenses where possible but not curtailing events or programs. Frequent financial reviews have been required.

During his many years at the church he has many memories which we fall back on pertaining to costs

and other factors. In recent times he has taken it upon himself to deposit Sunday collections on the same day into the bank as recommended by the last church audit. This has not been easy for him having to give up part of his weekend each Sunday.

**Donella (Nella) Kleinschmidt** comes to St. Elizabeth's from a family with deep roots in the church. Her mother is a long-time member as was her late father. Nella's strong financial background has been invaluable as we battle rising costs to the church and look for ways to protect our investments and maximize their returns. She developed a spreadsheet to compare proposals by various companies competing for our financial business. This spreadsheet simplified our review and made it easier for the finance committee to compare proposals.

Nella is also well-known for her culinary skills and is a frequent contributor to the many functions held at Shim Hall which numbered thirty for the past year. She and her family have purchased and wrapped Christmas gifts for the one hundred or so children at the Children's Outreach Reading Program. This is no easy task with the different age groups, gender and many interests. Her art skills were used to develop various signs for church concerts.



Nella is also a strong supporter at St. Andrew's Priory where her daughter attends, and helps with various projects. Finally, her family is well-known for their help on church work days, especially with powerwashing sidewalks, walls and anything that needs to be washed.



**Arleen Young** is a long-time member of St. Elizabeth's who does not hesitate to serve in any capacity which benefits the church. She has been the clerk of the vestry for many years. This is no easy task, requiring interpretation of verbal input into writing which becomes policy and history.

In addition, she serves on the finance committee, advises the youth group on various projects, participates in the handbell choir from its inception, performs as a lector during services and other activities too many to mention.

Arleen can always be counted on with her "can do" attitude and attending meetings despite her long commute from Kailua.



#### KUPUNA AWARD.

**Tim Chong Young** has been an active member of St. Elizabeth's for well over fifty years. Although he is not as active these days due to his age, there were many days that he led work groups and individuals as they maintained the church, rectory (now the Education Building), and Shim Hall.

He designed the Gifford Narthex and the stained glass window above the church front double doors, led a team to move the altar to its present position and many other projects using his sheet metal background and other skills. Today many of his projects remain in use.

Many members do not know of his painting skills, such as the portrait of Father Wai On Shim which hangs in front of the church.

#### RECTOR'S JERUSALEM CROSS AWARD

**Stuart Ching** has admirably and faithfully served as Sr. Warden of St. Elizabeth's Church, both during The Rt. Reverend Bob G. Jones tenure and during the call and installation and ministry of The Rev. Jodene S. Hawkins as Rector. The role of a Sr. Warden is not a job, but a calling, thus requiring a high level of commitment to both assist the priest as well as to give wise counsel to the priest regarding the spiritual well-being of a parish.



During Stuart's tenure of over six years, St. Elizabeth's new strategic plan was developed, our parish profile written with Stuart's editing, our financial commitments to the Diocese were brought current, memorial gifts to our building and our worship space were handled with the eye and care of his skills as a trained and experienced Curator, and the gates and the doors of our church which had not been opened to the neighborhood for many years were unlocked.

During Stuart's tenure, St. Elizabeth's has grown rapidly in Sunday attendance and membership. Stuart actively supported the founding of our Children's Outreach Center Reading ministry, the expansion of our music programs to help attract

neighborhood children to our church, helped St. Elizabeth's become a community leader in outreach through our outstanding benefit concerts and special programs with noted musicians. He warmly greets guests, visitors and church members at our doors on Sunday mornings. He's rolled up his sleeves to renovate Shim Hall, paint interiors and exteriors of our buildings. He can even be found in Esther's Kitchen, not just with chopsticks in his hand to eat, but with a broom and a mop in his hands as well. All with good humor and spirit!

It is with my deepest gratitude and respect for Stuart's support and guidance for me as I have learned to serve as your Priest and Rector that I present Stuart with the Rector's Jerusalem Cross Award. The Jerusalem Cross has been personally carried by his rector in prayer on the Way of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa, to the Stone of Golgotha and to the Holy Sepulcher which cradles the site of Jesus' Empty Tomb. Stuart, God bless you for your friendship, your prayers and for your support these five years of my ministry.

The Rev. Jodene S. Hawkins, Rector

## Appointment of New Senior Warden

**Arleen Young** has been appointed by Mother Jodene to serve as Senior Warden for 2009.

**Stuart Ching** served admirably and faithfully for almost six years. Mahalo to you, Stuart.

## Mahalo to all elected to Serve

Junior Warden: **Mark Anderson**

Newly Elected Vestry Members

**Stuart Ching, Thomas Ishida, Lani Kaaihue, Preston Lentz, Christine Ling**

Continuing Vestry Members

**Mark Anderson, Rowena Blaisdell, Lowell Ing, Richard Yee**

Delegates to Diocesan Convention

**Gretchen Jong, Nancy Shim-Au, Kit Hawkins, Stuart Ching**

ECW delegates: **Jamie Chock, Laura Iwami, Gretchen Jong, Gertrude Tyau**

## Love Quotes

A friend is what the heart needs all the time.  
*(Henry Van Dyke)*

If you judge people, you have no time to love them. *(Mother Teresa)*

# Senior Warden's Annual Report

As evidenced from last year's activities, the leadership and parishioners of St. Elizabeth's continue to show their faithfulness to God and commitment to the Christian principles of hospitality, compassion and service to others. They have also demonstrated due diligence in safeguarding the legacies left by previous generations. Here is a summary of activities:

## **Parish Leadership**

This past year, there has been a nurturing of new parish leadership. On Easter Sunday, The Rev. Imelda Padasdao joined our parish family as priest associate. Although she makes herself available for the spiritual and pastoral needs of everyone in the congregation, she has initiated a focused ministry for our Filipino parishioners. On the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. and on the first Sunday of every month at 10:30 a.m., Mother Imelda celebrates an Ilocano-language Eucharist. Both services are well attended.

The parish also welcomed The Rev. Saimone Lino, formerly of Tonga. He has been assisting with our Music Academy and Literacy Program in our Children's Outreach Center for children in our Palama neighborhood.

A Discernment and Spiritual Guidance Committee, composed of members of this congregation, affirmed and nominated Lani Kaaihue as a candidate for Holy Orders. Bishop Fitzpatrick admitted her as a Postulant for Holy Orders as a Vocational Deacon.

Bishop Fitzpatrick licensed Preston Lentz as a Eucharistic Minister for this parish.

In recognition of their dedication and commitment to St. Elizabeth's, senior cross awards were presented to Thomas Ishida, Laura Iwami, and Harold Ware; and a junior cross award was given to Sarah Kleinschmidt.

## **Education and Training**

As part of Lenten studies, Mother Jodene, Dr. Gifford, Kit Hawkins and Dr. Jonipher Kwong made presentations on a variety of topics related to the Bible and Christianity. Twenty parishioners also attended a project-planning workshop in the spring sponsored by the Weinberg Foundation.

Mother Jodene and Lani Kaaihue flew to St. Louis, Missouri for the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes. Both Lani Kaaihue and Charles Kokubun received certification as parish hospital chaplains, following a six-week Chaplaincy Training Program sponsored by Pacific Health Ministries. This training will provide them with the necessary skills to offer support to those who are hospitalized, or those in mourning.

## **Distinguished Guests**

There were a number of distinguished guests who visited the Parish last year. Dr. Walter Y.M. Chang presented *Today's Miracles: Medicine, God, Healing and Prayer*. His documentation of the miraculous healing of cancer patient Audrey Toguchi is being used in the case of sainthood for Fr. Damien

The Rt. Rev. Carol Gallagher offered the homily during one Sunday service. As a member of the Cherokee nation, Bishop Gallagher is the first Native American woman consecrated as a

bishop. She is the Assisting Bishop in the Diocese of North Dakota.

Maori Students from St. John's Theological College in New Zealand stopped by the Children's Outreach Center while in town for the Diocesan Convention.

The National Cathedral Girl Choristers blessed us with their music one Sunday. Grammy Award winner Daniel Ho gave a repeat performance to benefit the Kalihi-Palama Health Center and the St. Elizabeth's Children's Outreach Center.

## **Property**

In order to support the repair and maintenance needs of our aging infrastructure, the St. Elizabeth's Preservation Fund was established last year. Discussions have already begun on some major problems that will need attention in the future, including our antiquated air-conditioning system and leaking roofs.

Through funds received from family memorials, new oak doors have been fabricated to replace the termite-ridden exterior chapel doors. An icon created by Fr. Damian Higgins, *Iesu Kristo o Hawaii Nei*, has been installed near the front of the church in memory of Joscelind Zee.

Through the dedicated labor of many parishioners, the former rectory now has a new coat of paint. The grass is greener and the plants are now flourishing around the church, due to a new irrigation system installed by Jerry Goo, Dale Sato and George Shim.

## **Shared Legacy**

The Vestry has exerted due diligence in safeguarding the legacy left to us by past generations. A call for proposals to manage the parish's investment portfolio was sent out to various financial companies. Proposals received by the Finance Committee were reviewed and a recommendation to transfer investment funds from Bank of Hawaii to Morgan Stanley was approved by the full Vestry. Funds formerly in the Wachovia Account have been placed in short term certificates of deposit.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stuart W. H. Ching  
Senior Warden

# St. E's celebrates Chinese New Year, Jan. 25

## Kung Hee Fat Choy!



Chinese New Year started off with a bang with bubble wrap explosions and Lion Dancers from the Kuo Min Tang Society (thanks to the Chun family)



Bill Eng (right) offers 'food' for the Lion.



Lynette Shim serves up roast pig donated by Raymond Siu of Pah Ke's Restaurant. Yum!



Tom Ishida and Lani Kaaihue feed the Lion.



179 people attended St. Elizabeth's joyous celebration of Chinese New Year. The offertory featured special music and dance thanks to Andrew Ma, violinist and De Xin, Chinese dancer.



Everyone enjoyed the delicious lunch in Shim Hall.

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS



**"There'll always be prayer in schools  
as long as there are tests."**

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
Reprinted with permission of Bill Keane

***A laugh, to be joyous, must flow  
from a joyous heart, for without  
kindness, there can be no true joy.***  
(Thomas Carlyle)

## Attendance January 2009

8:15 am Eucharist average	139
Cantonese language Eucharist	5
Ilokano - First Wednesday	35
Ilokano - First Sunday	29



Imposition of Ashes, Holy Communion  
and Healing Prayers at St. Elizabeth's  
altar

**Wednesday, February 25  
12:00 noon and 6:00 pm.**

## Pidgin and the Bible

*The Psalms: "Songs Fo God"*

The Rev. Canon Frank Chun (a St. Elizabeth son) will be our guest leader for our Lenten Study, Sundays: **March 1, 8 and 15.** Fr. Chun helped translate the New Testament into Pidgin. Some of us may already own Da Jesus Book. His current work is helping translate the Old Testament (Da Befo Jesus Book) into Pidgin.



Come hear the Psalms afresh in Pidgin as Fr. Chun and Mother Jodene explore how to understand the Psalms, read the Psalms, and be spiritually nourished by the Psalms. Presentation will be in church--Time 9:30-10:15. Friends, family and guests are welcome. Please encourage all to come for this ground-breaking presentation by Fr. Chun.

## The Heart - Did you know?

During the average lifetime the heart beats approximately 100,000 times a day. The heart beats about 40 million times a year and almost 3 billion beats in a lifetime. The heart pumps two gallons of blood per minute, over 100 gallons in an hour.

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

*A House of Prayer for all People*

*Return Service Requested*

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
P A I D  
Honolulu, HI  
Permit No. 418