

"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



January
2006

The Right Reverend
Richard S. O. Chang,
Bishop

The Reverend
Jodene S. Hawkins,
Priest-in-Charge

The Reverend Dr.
Gerald G Gifford
Rector Emeritus

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

Lyn Jefferess
Interim Choir Director

Marie Wang
Organist

Katherine Crosier
Parish Administrator
Graphic Design

Stuart Ching
Senior Warden

Harold Ware
Junior Warden

Caren-Jean Esaki
Secretary

Lowell Ing, Treasurer

Sue Yap, Contributor

www.
stelizabeth720.org

From Mother Jodene

Aloha Beloved in Christ,

It is said that Christmas comes but once a year. On the calendar, that is certainly true. However, when love shows up surprisingly new like a rainbow, when generosity spills forth like waterfalls after the rains, when forgiveness blooms like fragrant pakalana, when we see in the trusting eyes of a little child the innocence of Eden, we know that Christmas has come, no matter what the date on the calendar says.

I know that most everyone talks about New Year's resolutions right now, but I cannot help but to still savor the coming of Christmas a week early on December 18th in our Children's Outreach Center. Did you know we have Christmas Elves at St. E's? And that we have friends of St. E's who are Christmas Elves? Yes, we do. Elves shopped for presents, wrapped and ribboned them as pretty as Macy's best, baking, cooking, buying all kinds of goodies for the children of our neighborhood. Even Santa was invited. In our converted garage Christmas came. To the sound of Christmas carols and Santa's bells over seventy-five children came running, riding on bicycles and pushed in strollers from across Kanoa Lane, down King St. Some children came from their family's tent shelter on the beach.

Wide eyes full of wonder, the children stared at brightly-wrapped presents and abundant food and treats that perhaps for the first time in their life wouldn't run out. The slogan 'no child left behind' came true that day. Under the Banyan tree children played with their new toys, had their picture taken with Santa and sang Christmas songs. They got to come back for seconds and thirds and even for bags of goodies to take home. (See pictures in this newsletter.)

Near the end of the party, a boy and girl, obviously very needy, came clutching

their little two year old brother's hand. He was a quiet little guy with stringy hair hanging down all over. He played with his shiny new toy car and nibbled goodies. I asked his sister his name. "Manu," she said. "He's my little brother. He's sick you know." "No, I don't know." "Yes, he has cancer." I caught my breath. Moments later his mom came. "Yes," she said, "Manu has leukemia. Last year he was given a bone marrow transplant. But it failed. Manu's going to have another transplant to save his life as soon as they can find a match." Manu zoomed his Christmas car, then toddled over to sit on Santa's lap.



In the heartbreaking love of that desperately poor mother's words, and in little Manu's trusting innocence, I could not help but feel that if St. Elizabeth's had held this Christmas party *just* for little Manu -- surely the Spirit of the Christ of Christmas and Christmas would have come.

So, yes, make New Year's resolutions. And perhaps add a different kind of resolution. Look for the Spirit of the Christ of Christmas in the everyday moments of *your* life. The Christ of Christmas gave us gifts of love, generosity, forgiveness and trust. With the eyes of a child, we may discover that Christmas does not just come once a year, but where love, generosity, forgiveness and trust are unexpectedly born.

With the love of Christ,

Mother Jodene +

Behold, I am making all things new, says the Lord.

Revelation 21:5



Aaron Loo returns for an Encore

Celebrate on a Sunday morning, Sunday morning in Palama . . .

'Sunday in Palama,' that toe-tapping original song composed by Aaron Loo accompanied by our Ringers and Singers was so big a hit last summer, that we talked Aaron into coming back for an encore on Sunday, January 15th. By popular demand, Aaron once again inspires us with his rendition of 'You'll Never Walk Alone.' Mahalo, Aaron, for coming from Los Angeles to share your gifts of music with St. Elizabeth.

2005 Contribution Statements

are available for pickup on the table in the rear entrance of the church. Please help your church save postage by picking up your statement after the Sunday service.

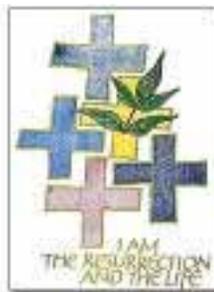
If you should find an error in your statement, please notify Kathy in the church office immediately, so that a corrected statement may be printed.

Please be aware that posting dates may not necessarily correspond to the dates checks were written or put into the church offering plates, but are more likely to be the date that checks were deposited into the bank.

Our sympathies

to the family of Wilfred Tai Chin Wong, who was born into life eternal on December 13, 2005. His family includes wife, Elizabeth Kau Wong, children Dennis Wong and Dorian Horio, and grandchildren Aaron Wong, Kemric Horio and Kressel Horio.

*"Thy saints are crowned with glory great; they see God face to face; they triumph still, they still rejoice in that most happy place."
(From the hymn, Jerusalem, my happy home.)*



Annual Meeting & Vestry Election

January 22, 2006

after the 8:15 am service
Vestry Meeting will be held directly after the annual meeting.

A catered meal will be served.

Committee chairs: Please submit your reports to the office **by Tuesday, January 17, 2006**

to allow for a timely printing and collating of the Annual Report.

New Year's Resolutions

From John Wesley's Rule of Conduct

**Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can
To all the people you can,
As long as you ever can.**

Old English Prayer

Give us, Lord, a bit o'sun
A bit o'work and a bit o'fun,
Give us in all the struggle and
sputter,
Our daily bread and a bit o'butter.
Give us health our keep to make
And a bit to spare for others' sake.
Give us, too, a bit of a song
And a tale and a book to help us
along,
Give us, Lord, a chance to be
Our goodly best, brave, wise, and
free
Our goodly best for ourselves and
others,
Till all people learn to live as
sisters and brothers.

*From the Joyful Noise newsletter
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**Children's Outreach Center
has Neighborhood Christmas Party, Dec. 17**



THANK YOU

**to the many Santa's elves
and volunteers**

who made the
Neighborhood Children's
Christmas party fun for everyone!

Search for our New Bishop of Hawaii

Gracious and loving God, we come to you for guidance and strength as we search for a new bishop for the Diocese of Hawai'i. Help us to discern your desire for your people and to call a shepherd who can guide us in your path. Help us to be open to the movement of your Spirit as we call a bishop who will show us the wonders and excitement of more fully becoming your disciples. Help us to elect a bishop who will walk the difficult roads with us and take us closer to the Kingdom that you desire for us. Keep our search committee committed to one another in their task, give them the strength and perseverance to listen to the people of this diocese and to your guidance, and help them remember to delight in one another even as they move through this most serious of responsibilities. We ask all of this in the name of your Son, our loving Savior and ever-present Shepherd, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Note: Mother Jodene Hawkins and Senior Warden, Stuart W. H. Ching, are serving on the Search Committee for the new Bishop of Hawaii. The prayer above is located on the Diocesan website, www.episcopalhawaii.org, as well as a description of the search process, a survey, and committee meeting minutes.

Church Chuckles

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Rev. Bob Adams, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Bogalusa, LA and his wife, Janice, were talking to an official from FEMA about putting a tarp over the hurrican-damaged roof of the sanctuary.

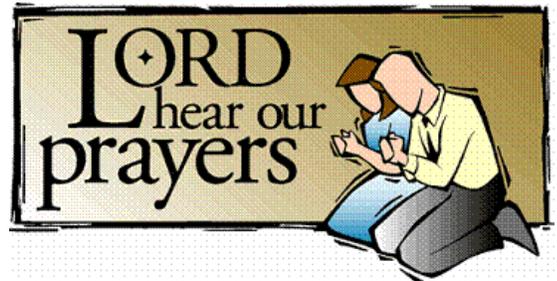
The man from FEMA said he couldn't do that if the church wasn't being used to house relief workers.

"We can tarp it if people aren't sleeping here," he told the couple.

Janice Adams remarked, "Sir, people sleep here every Sunday!"
-Columnist Smily Anders, *Baton Rouge, LA Advocate*

A Sunday School teacher was discussing the commandment, "honor thy father and thy mother," with her eight-year-old children. She asked, "Is there a commandment that tells us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

"Yeah," a boy replied, "Thou shalt not kill."
-Gorge Goldtrap, Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL



Please remember in your prayers
Eunice Hughes, recovering from surgery.

January Birthdays

Lynette Shim	1/1
Nella Kleinschmidt	1/9
Charlotte Jarrett	1/13
Chris Chang	1/14
Soo Kil Park	1/14
Sylvia Rowland	1/14
Sharlene Yap	1/19
Bertha Chong	1/23
Mark Anderson	1/25
Iris Park	1/28



Average Church Attendance December 2005

8:15 am service	99
Christmas Eve	135



Baptized into the Lord's family on January 8, 2006 were **Dexin Lu**, born in Canton, China; worships with our Chinese Language service. Her sponsors were Shirley Lau and Rev. Peter Fan, and **Ryan Kekoa'ekea Morey**, first grandson of Wilfred and Margery Tyau and son of Wilene Tyau Morey and Shannon Morey. Godparents are Wesley Tyau and Roxanne Morey.



The gecko's corner

Did you see the original 'Moloka'i Sweetbread' Mia Starkman checking out baby Jesus at St. Elizabeth's on

her visit on Christmas Eve with her mom and dad from Florida to see grandma and grandpa, Frank and Sue Yap?

Susan Duprey, our choir director, received a fellowship to study for her doctorate in Choral Conducting at the Conservatory of Shenandoah University, as well as to join her husband Bryan who is serving in the Marines in Washington DC.

Have you noticed that there are now 3 generations of the Ing family worshipping with us on Sunday morning, Mrs. Helen Ing, Lowell Ing and Doug Ing?

Wayne Pacupac is now safely back in Hawaii after his tour of duty in Kuwait.

Gordon Mark, master ukulele artist and 13 year old Ross Uehara Tilton, a budding uke artist, inaugurated St. E's new professional sound system on Christmas Eve with Christmas music to the delight of all.

The gifts for our Neighborhood Children's Christmas party came from Mark Anderson's associates at the Department of Human Resource Development, State of Hawaii. The donation of \$400 provided new gifts for over 75 needy children.

Recipe of the Month

PEANUT BUTTER LOGS

From Caroline Ambrosius of Grass Valley, California (Lani Kaaihue's mother)

LOGS

- 2 cups crunchy peanut butter
- 3 cups Cocoa Rice Krispies cereal
- 2-1/2 cups powdered sugar
(use more if your peanut butter is liquid-ey)

TOPPING

- 1 cup chopped peanuts
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 2 Tablespoons shortening



Combine peanut butter and margarine. Stir in sugar. (If sugar is lumpy, sift first or shake into peanut butter mixture through a strainer) Add cereal. Mix well. Easier with hands. Shape level tablespoonfuls of mixture into logs. Roll in peanuts. Place on wax paper or plastic wrap. Melt chocolate chips with shortening, stirring until smooth. Drizzle chocolate topping over each log. Chill. One batch makes about six dozen small logs.

Have you checked our website?

Our very own website, www.stelizabeth720.org, keeps friends and relatives, near and far, up to date with the news from St. Elizabeth's. You are invited to check it often for updates.



New and Returning Members

St. Elizabeth's welcomed our newer members who have joined us over the past year with prayers of welcome and certificates of membership on the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus. Of course, a party with a full brunch served in their honor was served in Shim Hall thanks to our kitchen angels. Mahalo to all who provided a warm welcome. Our newest and returning members are:

Lani Kaaihue
 Jennifer Watanabe
 Nora Kurosu
 Walter Kau
 Faye Tsukumoto
 Sharon Oshiro
 Beatriz and Pedro Timonio
 Concisa Bartoline
 Inaria Repaky
 Yency Helly
 Iustina Weia
 Forget and Santer Kom
 Douglas Ing
 Helen Ing
 Caridad Badua
 Virginia Agoy
 Cayatana Alega
 Rodrigo and Florentia Carlos
 Michael and Ellen Kong
 Lyle and Shirley Nishihara
 Otega White
 Janyra Tanoa
 Terasita Malco
 Maria Miranda

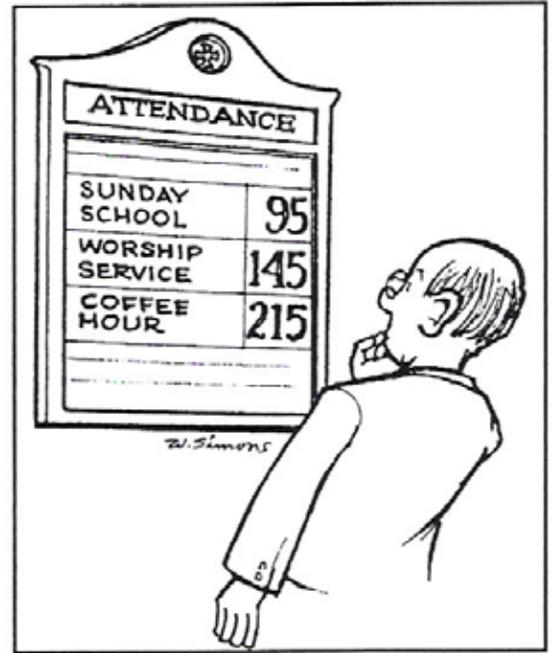
We are truly blessed that God sent you to us. We give thanks to God for your faithful presence here. You have enriched our lives with your unique gifts and talents. We are grateful for the many ways you have given of yourself to help St. Elizabeth's and our surrounding community show forth the love of God. With holy ties, our journeys of faith are now entwined. Our prayer is that the roots of your faith will find nurture and growth at St. Elizabeth's so that 'thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'

Vestry Nominations

Harold Ware
Caren Jean Esaki
Bill Eng
Liesl Eng

Nominee for Junior Warden: Francis Kau
Nominee for Youth Representative: Sarah Kleinschmidt
Nominees for Delegates to Convention:
Stuart Ching
Rowena Blaisdell
Lani Kaaihue
Charlie Kokubun

Additional nominations? Please contact Senior Warden,
Stuart Ching.



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

A House of Prayer for all People

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