

"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 2008

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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From Mother Jodene

Aloha Beloved in Christ Jesus,

One of the things I enjoy in any newspaper is the comic strip page. It seems like a good thing to start the day- both with prayers and with chuckles. Calvin and Hobbs is one of my favorites.



A while ago a cartoon pictured Calvin and Hobbs waking up and finding that during the night the whole neighborhood was covered in fresh white snow. Their familiar neighborhood had become a winter wonderland. Calvin looks at Hobbs and says, "Wow! Look at that—it's like having a big white fresh sheet of paper to color on." When we were children, from time to time perhaps our teacher or parents gave us a big fresh white sheet of paper for us to color. How well I remember the joy and excitement of that fresh white paper, especially if there were brand new crayons to go with it.

We are at the beginning of a New Year. I think that a New Year is a lot like having a big white fresh sheet of paper to color on. What's been done in 2007 has been done. What hasn't been done in 2007 hasn't been done. But, by the grace of God we are alive. We are still here on this fragile earth, our island home. And we have a whole new, fresh, wonderful life ahead of us to color on. Now how good does that get when we really think about it?

New is what the image of fresh white paper comes to my mind as we enter the beginning of a New Year. While we sometimes stand at the threshold of a New Year feeling on top of the world or on top of our game, at other times we

feel bored or numbed by struggling in the middle of one of life's muddles. Other times we can feel as weary and shopworn as Christmas wrapping paper marked 75% off. But, before us does lie the **New**. God promises God's people something new over and over in the Bible. God does something incredibly new in sending Jesus, the Son, to dwell among us. It seems that making things new is one of God's favorite specialties.

In the Bible God promises us many new things. We are promised new hearts, new spirits, a new covenant, a new heaven and a new earth, and new songs to sing. Talk about a fresh clean page in front of us! If there is one of God's promises that can give us hope and keep us going through thick and thin it is "Behold, I make **all** things **new**." Hold that thought and God's promise as we walk this New Year of ministry together. It's like the bright colored crayons that go with that fresh sheet of paper.

Mother Jodene +



EPIPHANY

Jingle Bells, Ho, Ho, Ho, and Merry Christmas!



New Year's Prayer

"For the New Year, I would wish to have strength enough to battle with difficulties and overcome them; love enough to move me to be useful and helpful to others; faith enough to make real the things of God; and hope enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future."
--Goethe



Walter Kau and Marie Wang on the organ, Ajaon Chen directing our Bell Ringers (Sarah Bush, Liesl Eng, Laura Iwami, Kit Hawkins, Arleen Young and Larry Young) Lynette Shim and Juanita Lee with their heartfelt hula, Roger Koopman on the trumpet made for a spectacular evening of inspirational Christmas music and worship. Our midnight buffet topped off a joyful Christmas Eve.

Santa did come to Town

at our Children's Outreach Center

Mahalo to the generosity of so many, especially Santa aka The Reverend Bob Waldon who made Christmas possible for over 125 children in St. Elizabeth's Outreach Center. From Mayor Wrights, from Palama streets and lanes the children came, with hesitancy and disbelief written on their faces. Around a real Christmas tree, beautifully wrapped presents, one for every girl and boy, brought surprise and joy to children who may not otherwise have had a Christmas. The children pulled on Santa's beard—and it didn't come off! Children and their families had plates of turkey, mashed potatoes, noodles, fruit and haupia, and sweet treats for good measure. Surely it was perhaps their best or only Christmas feast.



On behalf of the Children we thank everyone for their donations of money, time and energies to make it all happen. With Santa's Elves and Santa's helpers, with the discounts given to St. Elizabeth's shopping elves by Price Busters, Christmas was not bleak, but resonated with happier notes of joy for each child. As Tiny Tim said in a Christmas Carol, "God bless you each and everyone."

Christmas Eve Décor and Music Dazzles and Delights

Gecko Reports



Did you see **Jimmy and Lani Kealoha's** grandson **Laiana** interviewed on national television at the Sugar Bowl. The camera person apparently had never seen a conch shell before, nor had any idea about its use and Laiana was asked what it was. That camera person needs to come to Hawaii, soon!

Stuart Ching was seen on TV also. The Discovery Channel interviewed him about I'olani Palace. As usual, he did a stellar job of presentation.

Charlie Kokubun flew to Hilo to spend holiday time with his Big Island family.

Nancy Shim Au's sister, Amy, from Maui visited and worshipped with us over the holidays.

Mother Jodene and Kit held a reunion with all their children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters and Jodene's mother in Seattle after Christmas.

Max and Mia Starkman from Florida, grandchildren of **Frank and Sue Yap** had fun this Christmas in Honolulu with their cousin Ethan. Sisters **Caroline** Yap Anderson and **Sharlene** Yap Starkman, had goofy sister fun, hamming it up and glamming it up--just in case mom and dad didn't remember the good old days.

Nora Kurosu and her **RagDolls2Love** team of Pali Sr's had a Christmas celebration luncheon to honor the support of our troops who help get our little ambassadors of Love to Iraq and Afghanistan. The event was featured in the Windward edition of *Midweek*.

Sue Yap, her work and **St. Elizabeth's RagDoll2Love ministry** was featured in an article in *Midweek*. You may view these articles at http://www.midweek.com/content/columns/goodneighbors_article/sue_yap/.

May and Ruby Chock joined their family here at Christmas. **May Chock** graced us with a beautiful floral table arrangement in the entry of church. Now we know why May's designs are prize winning on the mainland.

Peter Chiu and family have been on the go including St. E's in their winter wonderland stays. Peter and family will be off to Munich to get a taste of snow after the sun in Hawaii.

Mahalo to the **Chun Ohana** for their creativity in making our church gloriously beautiful for Christmas.

St. E's College Club gathered on Epiphany, the first Sunday in January for worship, food and fellowship in Shim Hall. We welcomed home **Ed Fitzpatrick**, Macalester College, MN, **Sarah Kleinschmidt**, University of Montana, Missoula, **Doug Chiu**, New York University, **Roxanna Siu**, Simmons College, Boston and **Rachel Siu**, Mid-Pacific College.

Elizabeth Lentz, daughter of Preston and Mary Ann Lentz, came from chilly Chicago to visit at Christmas.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Besides the Bible, did God write any other books?"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
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Words of Wisdom

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, 'I used everything You gave me.'"

Erma Bombeck

Ekolu Mea Nui

The Three Greatest Things
Faith, Hope and Love



St. Elizabeth's love and hope goes out to the Kealoha and Wong families as they grieve the passing of **Jalyne Lilinoe Kealoha Wong** on New Year's Eve 2007. May the angels surround her and lead her into glory everlasting. Amen.



January Birthdays

Lynette Shim	01/01
Nella Kleinschmidt	01/09
Charlotte Jarrett	01/13
Annie Chock	01/13
Soo Kil Park	01/14
Troy Esaki	01/14
Sylvia Rowland	01/14
Shaianne Sunagawa	01/18
Melba Meyshine	01/20
Bertha Chong	01/23
Iris Park	01/28
Florence Tyau	01/29
Wah Chan Ching	01/30



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Incredible opportunity

at St. Elizabeth's

Saturday, March 1 from 9am to 3pm
*Making an Important Project
a Super Success*

Have you ever wondered how to make a special or important project a super success--either in your workplace, our church or for your own family's event? Haver you ever asked a question like, "It sounds like a great idea, but I don't know where to start?"



Then come to St. Elizabeth's Church for a workshop sponsored by the Weinberg Foundation on Saturday, March 1st from 9 to 3. Lunch will be provided. Members of St. E's who have taken this workshop and found it extraordinarily valuable are Rowena and Bill Blaisdell, Lowell Ing, Lani Kaaihue, and Mother Jodene. Don't miss out on this one time opportunity to learn how to develop a successful project plan. You will be glad you did! Please see Stuart Ching, Mother Jodene or call the office to reserve your space.



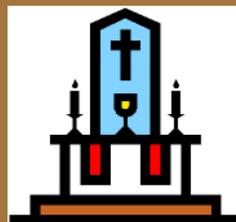
Words to Start the New Year

Another fresh year is here...

Another year to live!

To banish worry, doubt and fear,
To love and laugh and give.
This bright New Year is given me
To live each day with zest...
To daily serve God and give God
My highest and my best.
I have the opportunity
Once more to right some wrongs,
To pray for peace, to plant a tree,
And sing more joyful songs!

William Arthur Ward



Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 20

Worship and Rector's Report
8:15 am service

Annual Meeting, 9:30 am
Refreshments following in
Shim Hall



The Wind Huffed and Puffed

But it Didn't Blow our House Down

The venerable juniper tree fell the opposite direction of the church. While it made a lot of work and a big mess, helping hands came to the rescue: Jerry Goo, George Shim and Dale Sato put a power saw to work and Nella and David Kleinschmidt loaded up close to ton of debris for recycling 'green' at the dump. Just think of how long we would have waited for help after that storm and how much we would have paid without our generous volunteers. Mahalo!!



Dale Sato, George Shim, and Jerry Goo cut up the fallen tree into smaller pieces.

The termites' home no more!



Humor Pew

There was a gentleman in the hospital. He was covered with bandages from head to toe.

The nurse said to him, "What do you do for a living?"

He said, "Well, I used to be a window washer."

She asked, "When did you give it up?"

The window washer replied, "Halfway down."

Mark was only 5' 8" tall when he left for college in the fall. He worked through the Christmas Holidays and didn't return home again until the February break.

When he got off the plane, his mom was stunned at how much taller he looked. Measuring him at home, she discovered he now stood at 5'11". Mark was as surprised as I. "Couldn't you tell by your clothes that you'd grown?" she asked him.

"Since I've been doing my own laundry," he replied, "I just figured everything had shrunk."

December 2007 Attendance

8:15 am service average	107
Chinese language service	4
Christmas services	212



**Wednesday, February 6
12 noon and 7 pm**

Imposition of Ashes,
Holy Communion and
Healing Prayers



Chinese New Year and Friendship Sunday

Sunday, February 3

This is a special Sunday to invite a family member
or friend to join us.

Worship 8: 15 am
Potluck and surprises to follow in Shim Hall
at 9:30 am

Come one, Come all for the festivities



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720 N. King Street
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A House of Prayer for all People

Return Service Requested

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"If Heaven had a web cam, we could see
what it looks like."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
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