

"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

## September 2009

The Right Reverend  
Robert L. Fitzpatrick  
V Bishop of Hawaii

The Reverend  
David J. Gierlach  
Rector-Elect

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

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



## From Father David

*I cannot  
tell you how  
excited I am*



to join you on October 11, 2009 as your Rector. The journey on our way to the Kingdom of God is full of adventure, excitement, sheer terror and joy; all wrapped up together! We live in a time of expectation: the glory of God surrounds us, but still is yet to come. We are participants in the creation of a new heaven and a new earth, yet it is God who will bring both to fulfillment. My hope is that our commitment, as individuals and as a community, to living within and for God's Kingdom, will continue to blossom and grow.

I will be part-time from October 16 through December 31. I will be at the church Wednesdays and Sundays during that time, and during all the Holy Days of the Christmas season. Starting January 1, 2010, I will be your full-time Rector. Will I visit the sick? Yes! Will I care for our members and those close to them? Yes! Will we continue to feed the hungry? Yes! Will we continue the programs Mother Jodene has so lovingly nurtured? Yes! Will we expand existing efforts in our community? Yes indeed! In fact, if you have ideas, desires, wishes and hopes for our community, please share them. If you wish to read, serve, teach, sing, play, entertain, cook, paint or anything else, please say so! Every one of us has a gift to share.

Building the kingdom of God requires, and needs, and demands the involvement of the priesthood of ALL BELIEVERS. A

Rector may lead, but it is the people who build and create, with the guidance and love of our gracious God. Together, the new life that has come to St. Elizabeth's through the grace of the Holy Spirit, your efforts and those of Mother Jodene will, with the blessing of God, spread like the mustard tree and expand like the yeast that rises. May our good Lord bless and keep you, one and all. I will see you soon!

My cell phone is **554-8281**. Please feel free to call it anytime you like!

peace,

david+



## The Door of This House

O God,  
make the door of  
this house wide  
enough  
to receive all who  
need human love  
and fellowship;

narrow enough to shut out all envy,  
pride and strife.

Make its threshold smooth enough  
to be  
no stumbling block to children,  
nor to straying feet,  
but rugged and strong enough  
to turn back the tempter's power.  
God make the door of this house the  
gateway  
to thine eternal kingdom.

*Bishop Thomas Ken, 1637-1711*

## ***Bible verse of the month***

"Behold, I have set before you an open door." Revelation 3:8



## Gecko Reports

Po Po and Gung Gung Yap came back from visiting their three grandchildren, Max, Mia and Mason in Florida. We don't know who has more fun, the grandparents or the grandkids!

Sue Yap is the Dean of the Sunday School.

Doug Ing's art won an award and he was featured in Sunday, August 09, 2009 *Honolulu Advertiser* article with a picture of his winning creative design.

Off to college: **Leyna Esaki** says aloha to family and friends as she makes her new beginning at Chapman. Did you know that Leyna is a very talented 'Iolani theater actress?

Speaking of 'Iolani, **James Fitzpatrick** soon completes his internship at 'Iolani Palace where he served under the supervision of **Stuart Ching**.

St. E's welcomed Ajaon's (our Choral and Bell conductor) two sisters and her nieces and nephews who came for a visit from Taiwan.

**Tim Chong Young's** family visited from Connecticut while Arleen and Larry Young enjoyed a relaxing vacation on the mainland. Larry's sister, Lucylle, her husband Brian, and Larry's other sister, Pamela, visited from California.

Teenage harpist, **Melody Lindsay**, is one of three Davidson Fellow laureates in an award worth \$50,000. described in a feature article in the *Honolulu Advertiser* on August 9, 2009. Melody has played the harp for St. E's Christmas party and Christmas eve service. Melody will be attending Princeton University and studying chemical engineering and astralphysics.

Off to Scotland, was **Mark Anderson**. Was he searching for the Holy Grail of Golf at St. Andrew's? **Charlie Kokubun** and **Francis Kau**, need to find out if he learned any of the true golf secrets.

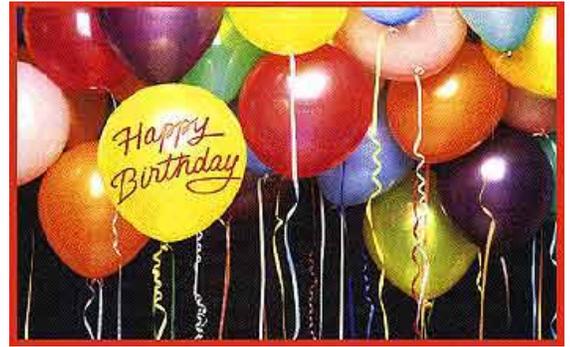
Office helpers while Kathy was away were much appreciated this summer. **Anaseini Lino**, **Charlie Kokubun**, **Patsy Ching**, and **Roy Chee**.

**Curtis Ching**, son of **Patsy Ching**, his wife Leonora and daughter Hana were welcomed 'home' from Singapore this summer for their vacation. Patsy loves having Hana home for special grandma/granddaughter time.

Germany was the destination for the **Venerable Patricia Reynolds** and **Donald Reynolds**, dear friends of St.E's music and outreach ministries.

**Rachel Siu**, daughter of **Raymond** and **Suzanne Siu**, chef and owner of Pah Ke's Restuarant in Kaneohe a and sister of **Roxana** has been accepted at UC Davis. Congratulations, Rachel, and go with God's blessings.

A cool and beautiful Alaskan cruise with extended family was **Lani Kaaihue** and husband **Greg Ambrosius'** destination this summer. Too bad they couldn't drop a line for fishing from the decks!



## Happy Birthday

Rosemary Lau  
Colby Pacupac  
Harrison Jong  
Stephen Rowland  
Stayden Yee  
Carl Crosier  
Gretchen Jong  
Helen Ing  
Mathson Meyshine  
Alyssa Rodrigues

Kellen Ho  
Francis Nakata  
Bill Eng  
Esby Meyshine  
Stuart Ching  
Wai Wah Yee  
Samuel Lum  
Matthew DeCosta  
Polly Gifford

God's blessings on those with  
September birthdays!

## Bulletin Bloopers

Don't let worry kill you--  
let the church help.

Potluck Supper.  
Prayer and medication to follow.

*Doubts are the ants in the pants  
of faith. They keep it alive and  
moving.*

by Frederick Buchner from  
*Wishful Thinking*, Harper & Row, 1992

## Chinese Proverbs

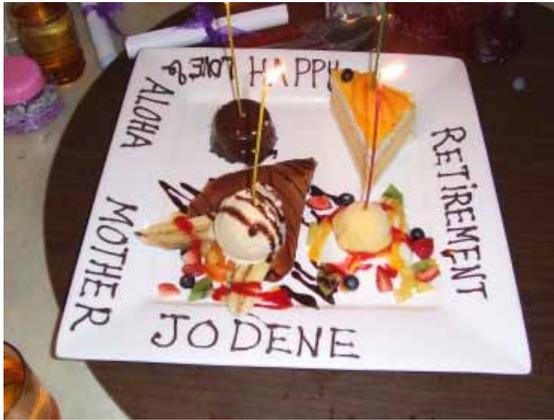
Do not be afraid of going slowly, be  
afraid of standing still.

If you want happiness for a lifetime,  
help the next generation.

The fire you kindle for your enemy  
often burns yourself more than him.

Peter Marshall, Chaplain to the U.S.  
Senate prayed: "Help us to do our very  
best this day and be content with today's  
troubles so that we shall not borrow the  
troubles of tomorrow. Save us from the  
sin of worrying, lest stomach ulcers be  
the badge of our lack of faith."

# Happy Retirement, Mother Jodene!



Raymond Siu of Pah Ke's Restaurant created this delicious dessert plate at the Lady Quan Yin Luncheon in July, honoring Mother Jodene.



The Last MJB - Mother Jodene and the Boys luncheon, held at Pah Ke's Restaurant on August 20th.

## From Mother Jodene

One of the recent books I read is *The Girls from Ames* (Iowa).

It was written by a man (interesting how that came about). Jeffrey Zaslow, the author was the co-writer of *The Last Lecture*, a recent best seller. In *The Girls from Ames* he writes briefly about what research reveals about friendship and then of the results of research specifically about women's friendships.

Scientific studies report that having a close group of friends helps people sleep better, improves immune systems, boosts self-esteem, staves off dementia and increases longevity.

A fourteen year research project at Flinders University in Australia monitored 1500 women as they 'aged.' What did they find? Close friendships (even more than close family relationships) help

prolong women's lives. Though many of the women in the study had significant relationships with children and other family members, those relationships alone did not improve longevity. The women with the most friends lived longer than those with the least number of friends by 22%.

Gerontologists report that longtime friends tend to be more understanding and empathy for health issues than family members. And then friends seem to say to each other something that moves the ailments to a more positive mode, perhaps saying--"OK, let's forget about the aches and pains we are feeling today and go do something fun."

Jesus called his disciples 'friends.' Friends and friendship is what we have with Him and within the Christian family. In our baptism we were adopted into a family of friends.

So, improve your health and well-being and join your friends at church. Talk story. Eat together. Share hopes and dreams and even the aches and heartaches. That's what friends are for. Jesus said, "I no longer call you servants, I call you friends. Love one another, as I have loved you."

*Mother Jodene*



The Scouts came to help with the set up and preparations.

*many  
hands  
make light  
work!*



Getting ready for the big luau on August 29th.

# A Grand Luau Celebration!



Mary Ann Lim and Her Hawaiian Serenaders provided music at the luau. She is part of Lani Kealoha's ohana.



Mother Jodene greets Elizabeth Wong.

Thanks to Kathy Crosier, Tom Ishida, Charles Kokubun and Doug Ing for sharing these pictures.



Visiting from the mainland were Mother Jodene's daughter, Jennifer (left) and sister Michelle (right).



Under the big tent, people enjoyed Hawaiian music and food, and most of all, fellowship.



Senior Warden Arleen Young looks over Kit Hawkins antique MG.



Members of the Polynesian Club of Castle High School do a Tahitian dance.



Bedecked with lei, Mother Jodene is celebrated for her many gifts to St. Elizabeth's.



Francis Tominaga and Nancy-Shim Au



St. Elizabeth's Children sang several songs .



Lots of yummy Hawaiian food for the large crowd.

**more pictures can be  
found on the website:  
[stelizabeth720.org](http://stelizabeth720.org)**



Children's Outreach Center students perform the Haka with Fr. Saimone.



Bishop Fitzpatrick and wife Bea arrive for the festivities.



Kit Hawkins and Walter Kau

## Wisdom Words

Feeding the hungry is a greater work than raising the dead.

*St. John Chrysostom*

If there is anything that keeps the mind open to angel visits, and repels evil, it is pure human love.

*N. P. Willis*

# Mother Jodene's Aloha Service



L-R Father Fan, Father Saimone, Mother Jodene and Mother Imelda celebrate Holy Communion.



Mother Jodene's last sermon.



Baptized were Jeferrson Noket and Camereen Noket, children of Mary Jane Noket. Godparents are Floriana Thomas and Kazner Alexander.



# Humor Pew

It was a hot Saturday morning. The doors and windows were all open in the church to bring in a bit of air.

The worshippers gathered for the funeral service could also hear the auctioneer's voice from the next building, almost as clearly as they could hear their own minister.

The service came to an end. "Lord, may thy servant depart in peace," said the minister.

Through the window came the words, "going once, going twice, gone!"

# Jesus loves me, this I know

Karl Barth, a noted theologian of the 20th century wrote 26 volumes of doctrine and the theology of Christ. Yet when he was interviewed and asked what was most central to his understanding of faith his answer was "Everything I have written can be summed up in three words, "Jesus loves me!" So sing it! Say it! Trust it. Jesus loves YOU!



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# Prayer

written by Kalfred Yee

Eternal and heavenly God,  
When we are sure of what is possible,  
and what is impossible,  
then show us the thin margin  
that divides one from another.

So help us to reach a few of our  
impossibilities.

That means living our visions and  
finishing its worthiness.

Help us to endure the insecurity of being  
an impossibility and respecting the poor,  
sick and the homeless.

By believing that patience, endurance,  
grace and love, that will show us the way  
to meet our impossibilities.

So when life is a puzzle,  
and we know not what to do,  
lead us back to the simplicities  
that dignify life.

Let us make laughter that rings true,  
honesty with straight talk,  
and gracious love that seeks no rewards.

# Help us save \$\$\$

*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!*

# Prayer for an Open Mind

O Lord,  
help me not to  
despise  
or oppose  
what I do not  
understand.

William Penn  
1644-1718



# Rest eternal

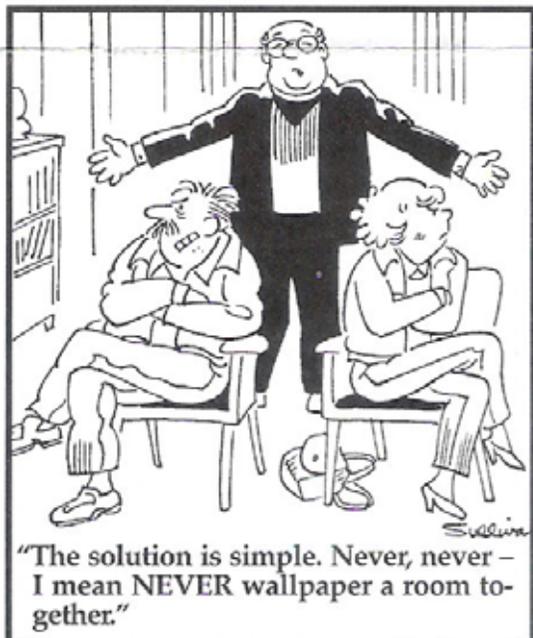
Born to eternal life was **Brenna Sue Lum-Oka**, on August 2, 2009.

**Florence Tyau**, mother of the late Wilfrid Tyau and Audrey Tam, on Aug. 31, 2009.

*I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.*

# Attendance August 2009

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 8:15 am Eucharist average                 | 133 |
| August 30 (Mother Jodene's Aloha Service) | 182 |
| Cantonese language Eucharist              | 5   |
| Ilokano - First Wednesday                 | 87  |
| Ilokano - First Sunday                    | 61  |

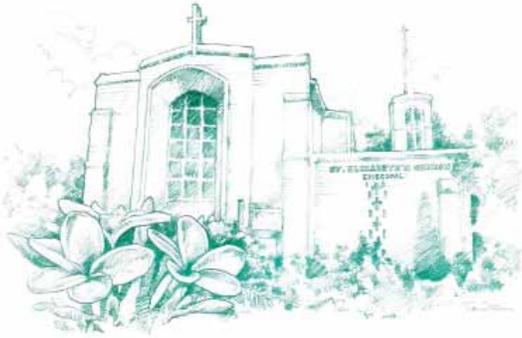


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**St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church**  
720 N. King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96817

*A House of Prayer for all People*

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## Day by Day

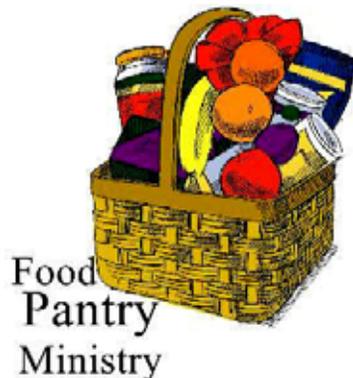
Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits and blessings which you have given me.

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)*

***Your generosity is greatly appreciated in donating the following items needed for our food pantry:***  
*Spam, Vienna sausage, canned pork and beans, tuna, ramen, corned beef hash and rice. We are also grateful for your donations to this cause. It costs over \$100 per week in food to stock our pantry. Please help those in need by making checks payable to **St. Elizabeth's Pastoral Fund.***



**She  
teaches  
my child**

The Lord has a special place  
For those who teach little children.

She arrives early;  
She leaves late.  
The children love her;  
The parents think she's great!

She cares for the children  
And tells them of Jesus' love.  
She instills in their hearts a desire  
To know of our Father above.

She teaches them the Bible;  
She teaches them to pray;  
Sometimes she just teaches them  
to be still.  
She is dedicated to serving the Lord  
in this way,  
And we praise her  
for being in his will.

The Lord has a special place  
For those who teach little children.