

December 2022

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Beacon of Hope...A Call to Serve!

ADVENT JAZZ VESPERS
December 1, 8, 15, 22
6:00 PM

SOUL FOOD MINISTRY
PARISH HALL KITCHEN
Wednesday, December 7
6:00 PM

KNIT TWO, PRAY TOO (K2P2)
SON/SUN ROOM
Saturday, December 10
9:30 AM

VESTRY MEETING
ZOOM
Wednesday, December 14
6:00 PM

JAZZ VESPERS & CHRISTMAS POTLUCK
Thursday, December 29
6:00 PM



*'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'*
Matthew 1:23

Advent has arrived! Unlike the shopping countdown before Christmas, these four weeks in the church year are a time of expectant waiting, of hoping and praying. We are reminded that we are not only making our way to a remembrance of Jesus' birth on this earth, but that Jesus continues to come to us now, in our everyday lives, even as we look ahead with hopeful anticipation to that day when God's reign of joy and victory will be made complete over all the forces of evil. Amidst the frenzy of secular Christmas preparations, the church invites us to reflect upon the deeper meaning of this season.

Advent calendar:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/04/Advent-2022-Calendar-English.pdf>

Advent devotions:

<https://d365.org/>
<https://adventword.org/en/home/>
<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/1000daysoflove/advent/>



Advent Services

Sundays: November 27, December 4, 11, 18

Advent Jazz Vespers: December 1, 8, 15, 22



Christmas Eve Worship

Christmas Story at the Cathedral
with St. Andrew's, St. Paul's, and St. Peter's
Saturday, Dec. 24 - 5:30 PM Worship

Candlelight Service at St. Peter's
Saturday, Dec. 24 - 8:00 PM Worship

Christmas Day Festive Worship

NOTE: One service time only
Sunday, Dec. 25 - **9:30 AM** Worship

Christmas Jazz Vespers

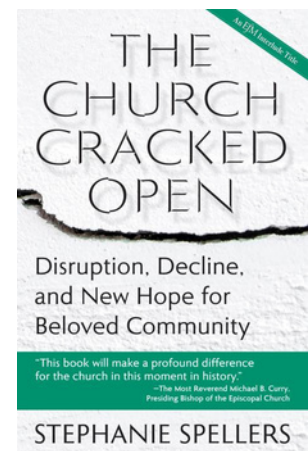
Thursday, Dec. 29 - 6:00 PM Worship
Followed by a Potluck in the Garden Under the Lights

New Year's Day Worship

NOTE: One service time only
Sunday, Jan. 1 - **9:30 AM** Worship

Senior Warden Corner: Velma Lee

The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers serves as Canon to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and spearheads Episcopal efforts around evangelism, reconciliation, and creation care. In 2021, she published a book titled, *The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline and New Hope for Beloved Community*. About her book, she wrote, "Be warned, this book attempts to share hard stories and challenging questions with tenderness and hope. I'm sure I've failed at times, but I trust nothing separates us from God's amazing grace, even when we've been utterly, irrevocably cracked open." She continued on to say that her fervent prayer through her book was that we would "become less anxious about how you and your community are cracking open, and more curious about how God might remake you as a true community of love."



For the past several months, the Vestry read a chapter each month from this book. Each vestry meeting via zoom began with a devotion and discussion of each chapter, followed by thought-provoking questions. Sometimes we discussed the questions in small

groups and on other occasions, we had whole group discussions. One vestry member commented that the book was enlightening in providing her with a different perspective of her faith in the Episcopal Church. For those of us who haven't attended any conferences or workshops on the mainland sponsored by the Episcopal Church, we learned a lot about what it means to be an Episcopalian on the mainland.

The Rev. Canon Spellers wrote this book at the beginning of the pandemic, so her thoughts are very current and relevant to what we are experiencing now as a church. In reflecting upon the book, one vestry member commented that "despite the ugliness of racism we went through, there are people that seized the opportunity to bring awareness and make changes. It seems like we need to be "cracked open" in order to make things better. Although it's comfortable to live in the status quo, in order to make things better, we need change. Doesn't have to be a monumental change or complete 180 but maybe baby steps." Another, in thinking about passion and vision emerging from the cracks, pointed to the way Jazz Vespers evolved and now the program Muffin Hein is offering at Ke'elikōlani Middle School. We can look to the cracks as opportunities providing new opportunities for our church. Please feel free to ask any member of the Vestry for their opinion of the book. If you wish to read it, please ask Pastor Diane for a copy or any member of the Vestry to borrow their copy.

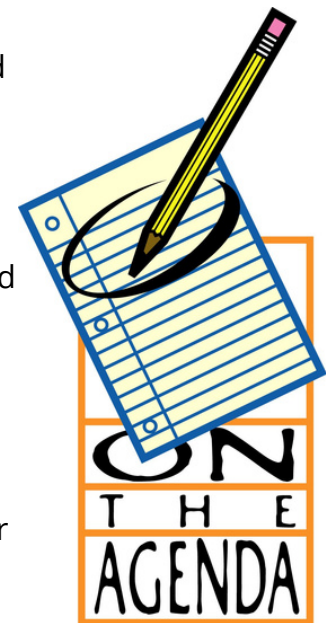
Is God calling you to leadership in the church? St. Peter's Annual Meeting is the last Sunday of January. At that meeting, we will be electing a new Jr. Warden, three new Vestry members (Vestry members serve for three year terms), and five Diocesan Convention delegates along with five alternates.

Junior Warden - The Jr. Warden oversees care of the property. You do not need to be a handy person, but rather someone who is good at oversight and coordinating care and repairs of the buildings. The Jr. Warden also serves as a member of the Executive Committee which provides counsel and direction between Vestry meetings.

Vestry Members - There are twelve members on St. Peter's Vestry who rotate on every three years. Vestry members provide vision and direction to the congregation in following its mission, ensuring effective organization and planning, and in managing the church's resources and finances. Since the pandemic, Vestry meetings have been held over Zoom.

Diocesan Convention Delegates - Diocesan Convention is on a Saturday at the end of October, although the congregation votes for the delegates in January. The Diocese allows five delegates from St. Peter's, and the St. Peter's by-laws require an alternate for each delegate. General Convention is when the business of the Diocese takes place and is an opportunity to gain broader awareness of the work of the Diocese.

Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to one of the positions above. Speak with Pastor Diane or any of our Vestry members about these possibilities.





Have you sent in your pledge for 2023? Your pledge is greatly appreciated and necessary in guiding the Vestry in its budget preparation for 2023. A pledge is your anticipated monetary commitment to the ministry of this church in the coming year. It is a recognition of God's blessings in your life and your participation in blessing others by being part of God's work in this world. If you have already sent in your pledge, thank you! If you did not receive a stewardship letter and pledge card in the mail, you can pick one

up at the doors of the church on Sunday, in the church office, or by clicking on these links:

2023 Stewardship Letter:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ba193sryf0unbwg/Stewardship%20Letter.pdf?dl=0>

2023 Pledge Card:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/twnka2c7hytndup/Pledge%20Card.pdf?dl=0>

Appreciation Holiday Warmth for Ke'elikōlani Middle School Faculty and Staff!

Sunday, December 4, in the Parish Hall during coffee hour between the services, Muffin Hein is leading the congregation in making sixty chai tea appreciation gifts for the faculty and staff of our middle school across the street from St. Peter's, Ke'elikōlani Middle School, formerly Central Middle School.

Over the years, St. Peter's has partnered with KMS in a variety of ways—morning breakfast for students, assistance with after school tutoring and the Power Scholars summer program, support for projects like the Christmas Bulldog store, school assemblies, and high school registration. This academic year, every Thursday, Muffin Hein, Konstantinos Karampakakis, and Dan Ching work with students in an afterschool STEM program teaching physics and buoyancy principles while building underwater robots.

With the challenges of the pandemic over the past few years, we are particularly happy to be able to show support for the hardworking faculty and staff with this small gift before Christmas. Then after the holidays, on January 3rd, we will provide a fried rice luncheon for faculty and staff as they prepare to welcome back the students after the holidays. Want to be part of this fun project in showing our appreciation? Contact Muffin Hein, Velma Lee, or Willis Yap.





Look who returned for a visit—Dianne Beveridge! Dianne and Pete, active participants of the St. Peter's choir, moved to Vancouver, Canada, before the pandemic hit. It's been four years since Dianne has been able to return. Dianne was here on a business trip and jumped right in to help with the college care box packing! Pete is in a care home now and is unable to travel. It was wonderful to see Dianne and our prayers are with Pete.

Alternative and Fair Trade Gift Giving

Trying to figure out what to get someone for Christmas who has everything they need? Or for a child that will teach them that Christmas is about more than receiving presents? Consider a goat or a flock of chickens, fruit trees or mosquito nets! Check out the gift catalogs of Episcopal Relief & Development and Heifer International at the links below:



Episcopal Relief & Development "Gifts for Life" catalog -

<https://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts>

Heifer International "Gift Catalog" -

<https://www.heifer.org/gift-catalog/index.html>

If you are looking for a gift to put under that Christmas tree, check out SERRV or the Shop@Heifer which is permanently closing the end of this year. Both offer uniquely crafted, global gifts (e.g. ornaments, global foods, kitchen & home, jewelry, fashion) where profits go directly to the artisans.

SERRV - <https://www.serrv.org>

Shop@Heifer - <https://www.heifer.org/visit-heifer/shop.html>

Ordering from Amazon? Go to St. Peter's website, www.stpetershonolulu.org, and click on Amazon Smile. This takes you to the portal through which Amazon will donate a percentage of every sale to St. Peter's!

Landline phones available for those with hearing loss!

Did you know that the Relay Hawaii Equipment Program (RHEP) provides phones to people with hearing loss? If you are a Hawai'i resident with a hearing loss of 40 decibels (dB) or greater as certified by a doctor or audiologist report, you may be eligible for a "CapTel" phone. An existing landline is needed to which the phone is attached. For those who do not qualify, the phone can be purchased at a reduced rate of \$75.00. The service is overseen by the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC) - State of Hawai'i. Information can be found at: <https://hawaiicaptel.com/how-to-get-captel/>





2022 Vestry
Senior Warden: Velma Lee
Junior Warden: Terry Dang
Treasurer: Nancy Rowe
Clerk: Karin Kimura
Rector: The Rev. Diane Martinson

Term expires in 2022:
Rose Baroza, Beth Cox, Gail Haruki
Term expires in 2023:
Karin Kimura, Bryan Matsumoto, Barry
Wood
Term expires in 2024:
Sue Jennings, Janet Kim, Stephanie
Wight



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

DEC 03 Philip Yuen
DEC 04 Sara Yap
DEC 08 Ale Kaneshiro
DEC 09 Joshua Baldovi
DEC 11 Sela Kimura
DEC 12 Philip Chun
Rae Gorman
Kevin Ho
Austin Thompson
DEC 15 Karin Kimura
DEC 16 Rebecca Ching
DEC 17 Dan Ching
Rachel Naai
Amy Ono
DEC 19 Lindsey Kawai Ono
DEC 23 Margaret Chun
DEC 24 Maiesha Stovall
DEC 25 Edmund Wong
DEC 27 Darryl Lum
DEC 28 Michael Crandall
DEC 29 Peter Wu
DEC 30 Sarah Fargo
Eathan "Kekoa" Turner
Tyler Dos Santos-Tam