



ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



PSALM CLASS BEGINS
WITH DR. EPPINK
Parish Hall
Sunday, August 13
9:00 AM



PR. DIANE AT
DIOCESAN CLERGY MEETINGS
Kaua'i
Sunday PM August 13 -
Wednesday, August 16



VESTRY POTLUCK AND MEETING
Parish Hall
Sunday, August 20
11:30 AM



CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN
FORMATION BEGINS
Sunday, September 10

This July I attended two church conferences along with a visit to see my family. Each place I landed caught me off guard. In Baltimore, the Episcopal church gathering, "It's All About Love," met a short walk from what had been an auction block for human beings—Africans brought to this country against their will and sold as chattel; husbands, wives, and children separated indiscriminately to whoever would pay the most—and near it a house that had hidden Africans like the Jews during the Nazi era. The history of Baltimore is riddled with contradictions—as one priest from Baltimore told us, it is a southern city in a northern state. A few blocks the other direction was the University of Maryland law school with the Thurgood Marshall Law Library. The young man who would grow up to become the Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall was not allowed to attend that law school or to study in that law library, solely because of the color of his skin. It is probably the only law library named after someone who was barred from using it. Episcopal priests and leaders were in the thick of this history of chattel slavery and discrimination, a history that continues to haunt that city and this nation. In recent times, the Diocese of Maryland has been working diligently to name this history in an effort to move toward racial justice, reconciliation, and reparations.



From Baltimore I flew to Wisconsin where I drove my mom across the state to the Northwoods where the family was gathering. As we drove, the sky became hazy and the horizon murky. It was surreal, unlike anything I had experienced growing up in that state. The cause was wildfire smoke from Canada. In June, Wisconsin, along with many northern states, had experienced unprecedented hazardous air quality conditions from smoke and harmful chemicals descending upon it from Canada. That day, once again, wildfires in

Canada were causing unhealthy air quality in Wisconsin. While land and forest management practices enter into this, scientists tell us in no uncertain terms that climate change is causing intensified heat and drought that are multiplying the impact of wildfires.

From there I flew to Phoenix for another church conference. Unless you've completely avoided the news over the past month, you know what I experienced, but hearing about the massive heat wave they are enduring and experiencing it are two different things. Phoenix has been gripped for weeks with temperatures of 110 degrees or higher—a record for any major U.S. city. I am generally quite happy in warm weather, but after this experience I understand that heat kills. It is hard to even breathe when the temperature is that high and that unrelenting. The city was like a ghost town until the evening when there were a few who would finally dare to venture out, but even then into conditions that resembled walking into a very hot oven. Hard to believe, but that same week, there were other places around the globe with temperatures even higher. Global surface temperatures for July were the highest since the interglacial period nearly 125,000 years ago.

With that as the backdrop along with a pandemic that irrevocably changed our church communities, it's not surprising that speakers at both church gatherings were drawn to the Biblical book of Esther and Mordecai's words to his cousin who had become Queen at a time when the very existence of the Jews was threatened. God would deliver the Jews, Mordecai told her, but if she kept her silence (no one knew she was a Jew) surely she and her family would perish. Perhaps God had led her to the position in which she found herself for just such a time as this (*Esther 4:13-14*).

That is a statement of hope and of God's providence. We are living in a time when a reckoning is occurring. We are realizing that we cannot continue to live with disrespect and disconnection from God's created goodness nor from one another. The pandemic showed us how interconnected we are globally. The murder of George Floyd made bare the truth of our nation's unfinished business in how it treats its citizens and action at our borders speaks to how we treat humanity. Climate extremes are making it clear that we can't keep taking and taking, consuming and abusing God's creation without consequences, consequences that are becoming increasingly dire.

We live in a messy world and a reckoning is occurring. It can seem overwhelming. But, peering into the future has always provided opportunity for anxiety. On the flight home, I was reading some of Martin Luther King Jr.'s sermons in the book *Strength to Love*. In his era, the global fear was of the arms race and nuclear annihilation. Remember that? As a kid, I can remember the nuclear attack drills at school when we were instructed to "duck and cover" under our desks—as if that would save us. Today, the capability for nuclear annihilation still exists, but the world has reached a more sober understanding regarding the dangers.

Or how about the ozone hole? Several decades ago, there was a great deal of handwringing about the depletion of the ozone layer over Antarctica—and rightfully so because it posed a growing threat to the very existence of humanity. That crisis, however, led to the discovery that chlorofluorocarbons used in aerosols and cooling devices were

linked to what was happening. The substances were banned, and steadily the ozone hole has been closing.

Nationally, Martin Luther King, Jr, as the leading face and voice for the Civil Rights Movement, brought about significant legal strides in realizing the full rights of African Americans, necessary work that continues to this day and that has expanded to include gender rights. We live in a messy world and always have. Whether it was the era of the last world wars or earlier periods of genocide, plagues, the violence of the crusades, famines, and other hardships—natural and manmade, we live in a messy world.

Jesus' response to that messiness in a recent parable about the weeds amidst the seeds was, essentially, to live with it (Matthew 13:28-30). Go about your life, speaking and living the good news as Jesus taught. Live your best life. Speak up for what matters because you are living at a time such as this—when your voice is needed. Speak up for care of God's creation. Speak up for the respect and dignity of every human being. Speak up for an end to mindless consumption, focusing instead on the awe and wonder of that which God has created. As one conference speaker said, "What a magnificent thing to be alive at a moment that matters so much."

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, pointed out that we know what to expect when we go into a McDonald's. People also need to know what they'll find at an Episcopal Church. They need to know that it is a safe place, a loving place, a place where compassion, dignity, and care are extended to everyone as we have been taught by Jesus, a place where all of creation is valued and treasured.

My hope for the future of the church was inspired by a comment made by The Rev. Charles Graves, a young priest who serves on The Episcopal Church Executive Council. Acknowledging the decline in church attendance and the challenging times in which we live, he said he's seen the doom and gloom statistics, but that this is exactly why he went into the ministry. He professed to be "profoundly optimistic." "We in the church," he said, "are in the best position we have ever been in to be the lighthouse" within society. When the systems of the past no longer work, it is the best time to be the church, to lean forward. While the future is scary because we can't see the "new" that is present within it, our calling is to trust God. This is the claim of the Gospel—not to be fearful of what we may be losing, that which we may need to let go, but to trust in the resurrection and that which God is revealing to us. This ministry, this church is God's, not ours. We are called not to save the church but to let God's Spirit work within us as we lean into the future, into the seeming mess of weeds amidst the seeds, speaking, advocating, and living as best as we can in caring for the proper use of God's creation, respecting the dignity of every human being, and resisting aggression for love—even of our enemies. As the Archdeacon of Atlanta said, "The church's voice needs to be a headlight, not a taillight."

The prophet Isaiah reminded a people crushed by the Babylonians, their very Temple destroyed, the locus of their faith no longer existent, their lives thrust into exile, that though a time of reckoning was indeed occurring, they needn't fear for God was with them. "I am the first and I am the last," the prophet said of God. "Besides me there is no god. Do not fear, or be afraid...There is no other rock; I know not one." (*Isaiah 44:6-8*)

And the Apostle Paul, although he bore hardship and persecution, declared that the suffering of the present time was not worth comparing with the glory that God would reveal (*Romans 8:18-25*). Labor pains are real in this life and must be endured, but the good seed reaches for the light despite the weeds—for the light is there as is the certainty of hope even when the skies are too hazy to reveal much of anything.

The world may be messy, but it's God's world and God is with us. Reach for the light and speak out in love and justice—for creation and all of humanity, for certainly we were born for such a time as this.

Pastor Diane

The Episcopal Youth Event (EYE23) met in Baltimore just prior to The Episcopal Church "It's All About Love" Gathering. Martina "Marmar" Richard represented St. Peter's in the Hawai'i youth delegation.



As the sole participant from St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Martina "Marmar" Richard, who will be a 10th grader this August at McKinley High School, joined the Diocesan youth group that went to the Episcopal Youth Event (EYE23) this July in Baltimore. When asked what three words she would use to describe her experience, Marmar said fun, friendly, and great. One of the traditions of the gathering is for youth to bring items to share from their home state. The Hawai'i delegation passed out shaka pins and shell lei. They were instantly popular when others learned they were from Hawai'i! Martina was surprised at the interest other youth have in this place she calls "home." Martina collected stickers, sunglasses, and all sorts of assorted memorabilia from states like Nebraska, New Jersey, Rhode Island, New York, Ohio, and others.

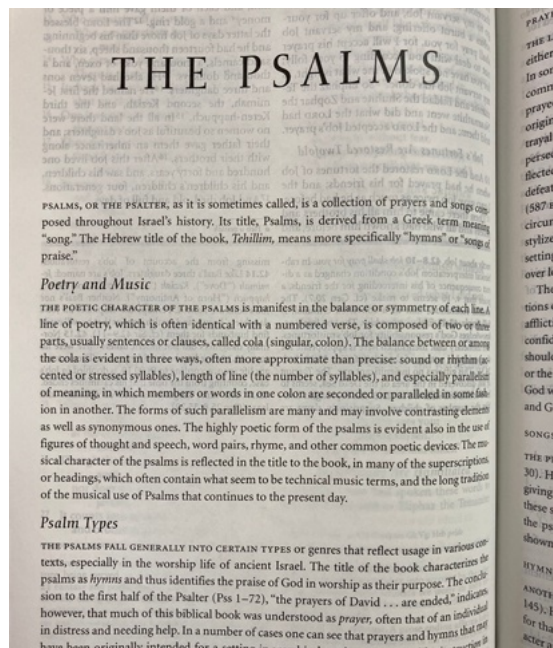
Marmar was surprised at how many youth were at the gathering. She found the worship gatherings particularly awesome. The music the band played was "WOW!" she said—even a Conga line formed! The bullying workshop in which Martina participated made the deepest impression because she could identify with what was being said. Although the presenters talked too long, in Martina's opinion, she said they were good and she learned things. In particular, one speaker moved her to write in her journal, "Love yourself because God made you."

After the gathering, the group went down to Washington, D.C., and they were able to walk around some of the famous buildings like the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington

Monument, and some of the museums. She was particularly excited to see the White House. They were scheduled to do a service project, but one of the members came down with COVID, so the chaperones worked hard to change tickets to get the group home in case others came down with COVID and would need to isolate on the East coast. Thankfully, no one else became ill. While it was a bit shocking to hear that one of their group came down with COVID, Martina was OK with the change in plans because it meant coming home. She loved her travels and the many experiences she had, but it also made her appreciate how much she loves Hawai'i and home.

Thank you, Marmar, for representing St. Peter's on this trip, thank you to the Diocese for covering nearly 3/4ths of the trip cost, and thank you to Sybil Nishioka, Lindy Marzo, and Susan Acacio, the group's chaperones, who made this trip possible for our youth!!!

Discover the Psalms...Our Heart's Song! Sundays, 9am, beginning August 13th with Dr. Joseph Eppink



Have you ever realized how packed with emotion the Psalms are? Have you noticed that there may be patterns to the way they were written? Have you noticed general themes that run rampant throughout? That's the Psalms! And on Sunday morning, we may not catch all the nuances and the magnificent spirituality within!

Join me for this 6-week course that will be like none you've experienced! Yes, we'll look at the Psalms and see their elements. There's a bonus! By the end of the 6-weeks, you will have written your own Psalm using the guidelines, and I will create a video of this Psalm. What a great way to pass on your own spirituality regardless of the emotion you choose to write your Psalm about.

You CAN do this! I'll guide you through the process so you can have a beautiful creation. Remember... I never thought I would be an author! I look forward to working with the group beginning August 13 for six weeks.

Contact the church office or me to reserve your spot. Of course, all are welcome anytime, but I'd love to have enough materials each week. My email is josepheppink@gmail.com or 808.397.8932.



Children's Christian Formation **Sunday mornings, 9am, beginning September 10th**

What could be behind that Blue Door?! An exciting new curriculum and a new environment is coming for our keiki! We are putting together a teaching team for this fall, and we need you—we truly need you! No prior experience is needed, solely a desire to share God's love with our children. Materials and training will be provided in this team approach, and commitment will not be every week. Please give this some prayer and consider joining us as we work together to provide this important ministry of the church—teaching our children about the love of Jesus and how special they are in God's sight! Speak with Muffin Hein, Stephanie Wight, or Pastor Diane for more information.



Ke`elikōlani Middle School - A Revived Ministry Opportunity!



St. Peter's has had a long-standing relationship with the middle school across the street from the church. Now, under the leadership of Muffin Hein, a new group is forming to support both the teachers and the students. Ideas being discussed include two lunches and two breakfasts offered for faculty and administrators during the school year on teacher work days, student tutoring, snacks for students during the STEAM Club led by St. Peter's Muffin Hein, Konstantinos Karampakakis, and Dan Ching, and support of the school's Christmas Bulldog store. There are opportunities to be involved in small and big ways and for those who want to work behind the scenes and those who want to work with the teachers and students, plus we welcome more ideas from the group. Consider becoming a part of this exciting revival of ministry! Speak with Muffin Hein, Velma Lee, Haroldwyn Chang, or Pastor Diane.

Creative Generosity!

Parishioners engage in ministry in daily life in many ways. One of St. Peter's parishioners (anonymous at her request), knowing how critically important dental hygiene is for overall health, was inspired upon receiving her toothbrush and dental floss following a dental cleaning, to partner with her dentist in ordering additional toothbrushes and floss to give to Wallyhouse, the houseless ministry of our sister congregation, St. Elizabeth's Episcopal in Kalihi-Palama. Ordering in bulk, the cost is about a dollar for both a toothbrush and floss, a significant savings from retail purchasing. This is a ministry she has continued at every dental cleaning every since she first had the idea in 2017. In June, she ordered three boxes for a total of about 434 toothbrush/floss sets! What a creatively generous ministry!



Knit Two, Pray Too (K2P2)



St. Peter's knitting ministry is once again in the news! This time globally! The Seamen's Church Institute/Christmas at Sea program has notified the St. Peter's knitting group that a photo of them busily knitting at one of their Saturday gathering will be featured and launched on their Facebook site Monday, August 21st at 11am Eastern time. The Seamen's Church Institute is extending their gratitude to the St. Peter's knitting group for their faithful support of their Christmas at Sea

program. The K2P2 group is honored to be recognized for their work. Do you enjoy knitting or want to learn? All are welcome! The group meets at St. Peter's the second and fourth Saturday morning of every month. Others work from home. Contact Nancy Rowe, rowe@aloha.net, for more information.

News from Kōkua Mau (*Hawaiian for "Continuous Care"*) - www.kokuamau.org

Kōkua Mau is a wonderful resource within our community that has as its mission the improvement of care for those with serious illness and of their loved ones. They are a trusted resource for accurate information on Advance Care Planning including Advance Directives and POLST documents, palliative care (relief from the symptoms and stress of illness), and hospice care (end of life care).

While everyone should fill out an Advance Directives document, there are others who also should have a POLST (Provider Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment). If you are someone who has or should have a POLST, there is now an "upgraded" form that should

be filled out. Please go to www.kokuamau.org/polst.

In addition, **The Conversation Project**, with which Kōkua Mau partners and which offers excellent resources for families to begin conversations regarding end of life care, now has audio versions available of their "Starter Guides." Subjects available on audio include:

- [The Conversation Starter guide](#)
- [How to be a Health Care Proxy \(Agent\)](#)
- [Talking with a Health Care Team](#)
- [How to choose your Health Care Proxy \(Agent\)](#)
- [For Caregivers of People with Alzheimer's or other forms of Dementia](#)

These guides are between 14-19 minutes long, and are a great alternative for individuals who prefer using audio tools. Print and audio guides can be found at www.theconversationproject.org/get-started.

Everyone needs an Advance Directive. Not everyone needs a POLST.

The Advance Directive and POLST (Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatments) are both very important to document your wishes for care. To clarify the strengths and differences, we have created this chart.



The Advance Health Care Directive, commonly known as an Advance Directive, allows you to appoint your Health Care Power of Attorney the person who can speak for you if you cannot speak for yourself in a medical situation. It also allows you to specify your wishes for care at the end of life. There are many versions of the Advance Directive and you can download a free version at kokuamau.org/resources/advance-directives. Everyone 18 years and older needs an Advance Directive.

POLST is a portable medical order that takes effect as soon as it is signed. POLST is intended for people with serious illness and/or the medically frail at any age. It can follow you from home into a medical setting, and after discharge to your home or other setting such as a nursing or care home. POLST is a form that contains medical orders that specify the type of care you would like in the event of a medical emergency. This form can be quickly understood by all healthcare professionals, including first responders and ambulance personnel. Transferable to all healthcare settings, POLST must be signed by a physician or APRN to be valid. More at kokuamau.org/polst

DETAILS	Advance Directive	POLST
Purpose	Express wishes for future end of life care and appoints a health care power of attorney(s)	Portable Medical Order which turns a patient's wishes to action in a medical emergency
Who Needs It?	All Adults 18+ of sound mind	Seriously ill or medically frail at any age
Treatment Focus	In the future if you cannot speak for yourself	Right now – based on your current medical condition
Whom Completes?	Individual (you)	Doctor, Advance Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) or Physician Assistant (PA) & patient or legally authorized representative
Appoints Healthcare Agent?	YES	NO
Guides Emergency Room Decisions?	YES	YES
EMS Honors It?	NO	YES

Key Kōkua Mau materials, including the Advance Directive and POLST, are translated into 10 languages. More at kokuamau.org/languages
Kōkua Mau • P.O. Box 62155 • Honolulu HI 96839 • Ph: (808) 585-9977 • info@kokuamau.org • kokuamau.org

Caring.com

Looking for an overview of resources available for assisted living, memory care, home care, and caregiver support in Hawai'i? Take a look at www.caring.com. This is a national, leading senior care resource for family caregivers seeking information and support for aging parents, spouses, and other loved ones with an extensive section for the state of Hawai'i. They have been featured by AARP, The Administration for Community Living, The National Legal Resource Center, and Forbes.

St. Peter's Financial Outreach

St. Peter's ministry ripples out in ways beyond that which we are able to physically provide through out financial support of community partners. Community partners whom we are supporting in 2023 include The Institute for Human Services (IHS), Family Promise, River of Life Mission, the Hawai'i FoodBank, Honolulu Habitat for Humanity, Hawai'i Meals on Wheels and Lanakila Meals on Wheels, Hope Lodge, Kōkua Mau, and Camp Mokolē'ia.

The month we received a letter of thanksgiving from Connie Mitchell, Executive Director of IHS, along with the following handwritten note:

Hope all is well at St. Peter's! Mahalo for all of your brothers and sisters who stand with us on the front lines of saving those most needful.

Every night on O'ahu, over 4,000 individuals are without a home. Our support assists in ensuring that emergency shelter, a warm meal, health services, and support services are always within reach. In the previous year, over 6,000 individuals received a warm meal, a safe space, medical care, or job training from IHS.

Legacy Gifts

Have you considered St. Peter's in your estate planning? By remembering St. Peter's, you ensure a lasting legacy to God's ministry in and through this church. Some of the planned giving options that you can discuss with your estate planner include: bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, memorial endowment funds, gifts of stock and real estate, donor-directed distribution agreements, charitable remainder trusts, and qualified charitable distributions. Designating gifts for "unrestricted use" is best as that allows the vestry to make decisions regarding best use of the bequest over the decades to come. Thank you for considering a gift that will further St. Peter's ministry for years to come!



2023 Vestry

Senior Warden: Velma Lee

Junior Warden: Dan Ching

Treasurer: Nancy Rowe

Clerk: Karin Kimura

Rector: The Rev. Diane Martinson

Term expires in 2023:

Karin Kimura, Bryan Matsumoto, Barry Wood

Term expires in 2024:

Sue Jennings, Janet Kim, Stephanie Wight

Term expires in 2025:

Paula Choy, Chucky Nakao



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS		SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS	
AUG 01	Caridad Agcaoili	SEPT 02	Arabella "Bella" Nakamoto
AUG 03	Lin Chun	SEPT 04	Wei Mei "Mary" Fo
AUG 06	Maile Ho-Turner	SEPT 06	Ken Kau
AUG 08	Aimee Wond		Pauline Lum
AUG 09	Harley Clark	SEPT 07	Jermel Anderson
	Kyle Saito	SEPT 08	Lily Dayao
AUG 13	The Rev. Franklin Chun		Jaime Yamane
AUG 14	Kevin Kawamoto	SEPT 10	Sim Kau
AUG 15	Sandy Allen	SEPT 12	Jarrett Inn
AUG 16	Bob Hein Jr.		Gail Kuroda
AUG 26	Bruce Yamamoto		Verna Lum
AUG 29	Barton Cox	SEPT 13	Nancy Rowe
	Stanley Hino		Madison Yee
	Keisha Webster	SEPT 15	Monica Wu
AUG 31	Franklin Kau	SEPT 16	Myra Kong
		SEPT 17	Richert Au Hoy
			Myron Chang
		SEPT 19	Joanne Shibuya
		SEPT 20	Dana Pang
		SEPT 23	Maureen Wong
		SEPT 26	Paula Choy
		SEPT 27	Estelle Inn
		SEPT 29	Diane Chinn
			Eunice Wong

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES		SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES	
AUG 09	Roland Tam & Kathleen Dos Santos-Tam	SEPT 03	Barton & Beth Cox
AUG 11	Ray & Tiare Ono	SEPT 07	Taka & Karin Kimura
AUG 12	Robert & Stephanie Wight	SEPT 09	Joseph & Kathleen Chang
AUG 14	Kenneth & Estelle Inn		Bryan & Tricia Matsumoto
AUG 16	Lynda & Stanley Hino	SEPT 17	Joseph Eppink & Ralph Panelli
AUG 18	Jason & Rose Baroza	SEPT 25	Thomas & Sarah Fargo
			Robert & Laura Jean Thue