

January 2023

# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



DAY OF EPIPHANY

Friday, January 6

PUTTING AWAY OF THE DECORATIONS

SANCTUARY

9:30 AM



SOUL FOOD MINISTRY

PARISH HALL KITCHEN

Wednesday, January 11

6:15 PM



KNIT TWO, PRAY TOO (K2P2)

SON/SUN ROOM

Saturdays, January 14 and 28

9:30 AM



30TH QUEEN LILI'UOKALANI

HO'OKU'IKAHAI INTERFAITH SERVICE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1020 S. BERETANIA

Tuesday, January 17

6:30 PM



VESTRY MEETING

ZOOM

Wednesday, January 18

6:00 PM



Q&A AND ZOOM TEST FOR

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 22

SANCTUARY

9:00 AM



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

SANCTUARY and ZOOM

Sunday, January 29

8:45 AM

## A Blessed New Year to All!

Simeon had waited a lifetime to see the promised Messiah. When Joseph and Mary brought their child to the Temple, Simeon was also there, led by the Holy Spirit. When he saw the baby Jesus, he immediately knew that God's promise had come true—this child was the Messiah. Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying, *'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'* (Luke 2:29-32)

As we enter 2023, let us watch, listen, and trust in the signs of God's presence and promise in our lives.

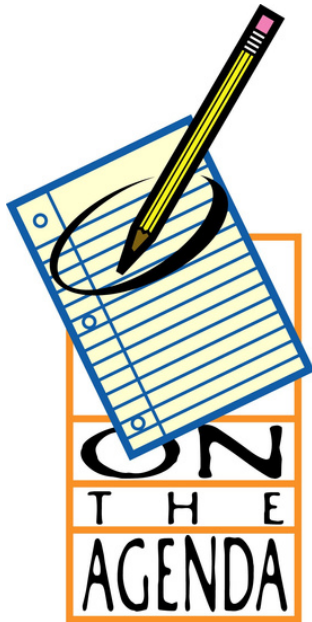
## Annual Meeting of the Parish

**Sunday, January 29, 8:45 AM in person in the Sanctuary and by Zoom**

The Parish of St. Peter's Episcopal Church meets once a year to review the year past, look ahead to the coming year, and to conduct any necessary business. This year we will be voting for three new Vestry members, a new Junior Warden, and ten delegates for Diocesan Convention which takes place the end of October. In the Episcopal Church, budget work is conducted and approved by the Vestry. That work will be completed at the January Vestry meeting on January 18th. The approved budget for 2023 will be included in the Annual Report and presented at the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

This year we will once again hold a "hybrid" meeting with both "in person" participation in the sanctuary as well as a Zoom option for those at home. The Sunday prior, January 22nd, will be an opportunity to look at the 2022 Annual Report, check your Zoom connection, and ask any questions.

Besides the need to have a quorum, the Annual Meeting is a great time to connect as a community across our multiple service times. Please mark your calendar!



**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 Junior 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 near 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.

**Thank you to All who have made a 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 the world through this church. People give in many different ways—weekly, monthly, quarterly, all at once upfront or at the end of the year; by check, electronically, or by distribution from a fund. Your pledge card is where you can indicate the frequency, means, and amount you plan to give in 2023.



The Budget Committee reviews the total amounts, plans a budget, and has a roadmap for spending in the year to come. Thank you for your generosity and participation in the

ministry of this church! If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail or it has gotten displaced, you can pick one up at the doors of the church, call the church office, or click on the following link:

2023 Pledge Card:

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



### Senior Warden Corner - Velma Lee Highlights of December Vestry Meeting 2022

- Shelves were bought and installed in the Aloha Room storage room for the Altar Guild.
- The Parish Hall and kitchen floors will be stripped and waxed on January 5-6, 2023.
- The three toilet areas in the office will undergo repairs and upgrading thanks to an anonymous donor.
- The church is doing well in terms of income making the anticipated deficit from loss of Watabe rental income for 2022 less than expected. We have received all the distributions from portfolio investments for 2022. The budget committee is working diligently on the budget for 2023.
- Beginning on Sunday, January 15, 2023, there will be coffee hour after the 7:30 service every Sunday. Beth Cox volunteered to take care of starting the pot of coffee, and Robert Wight will help with setting up the cookies.
- The decision was made to return the passing of offering bowls through the pews. Pastor Diane will write an introduction about this practice for the bulletin.

*And a note from Velma in her capacity as the Altar Guild Chair:*

Many thanks to the "Lord's Angels" who helped to decorate the church, starting from December 16 through December 23 on various days and in various capacities: Terry Dang, Oriel Agcaoili, Keith Lee, Pastor Diane, Rae Gorman, Sim Kau, Haroldwyn Chang, Myrna Chun-Hoon, Cheryl Saito, Margaret Chun, Jennie Pang, Ann Ho, Cheryl Bochentin, Janet Kim, Jan Yap, Glenn Pang, Barry Woods, Edmund Choy, and Lynda Hino. People commented on the beauty of the church during this Christmas season!

### Celebrating Christmas "Under the Lights" in the Church Garden!

Muffin Hein, Velma Lee and a host of helpers transformed the church garden into a holiday wonderland for our Christmas party "Under the Lights." The evening began with Christmas Jazz Vespers followed by a surprise musical duet by Manny Dayao and daughter, Jasmine Dayao, entitled "This is My Wish".



Manny and Jasmine also presented their Christmas offering at Sunday morning worship on January 1st.

Following peaceful and festive worship in the sanctuary, we headed to the garden where lights were strung, tables were decorated, and food was in abundance. It was fun to see familiar faces as well as new and a delightful time was had by all. Such a delightful time, in fact, that dreaming was already underway for another "Under the Lights" potluck in February around Valentine's Day! If you are interested in being part of the planning, let us know!



### Fried Rice Rules!

Uncle Willis Yap's famous fried rice that was made for years on Wednesday mornings for students at Central Middle School made a reappearance recently for the faculty and staff work day at the turn of the new year at Ke'elikōlani Middle School (formerly Central Middle) on January 3, 2023. Willis and Frank Lum prepared a test batch in December but weren't quite satisfied.



On Tuesday, the 3rd, they hit the ball out of the ballpark getting the rice just the way they like it! Velma Lee, Muffin Hein, and Haroldwyn Chang all provided additional food and set up. Thank you all!



### Knit Two, Pray, Too - K2P2

St. Peter's K2P2 knitting ministry has been touching the hearts of many. Recently, several stacks of lap robes made by the K2P2 group were given to Hope Lodge just mauka of the church, where people from off-island can stay free of charge while receiving cancer treatment. Tara wrote the following:



*To the Ladies who Crochet,  
I am currently at the Hope Lodge in Honolulu. My mother is here to have breast cancer surgery tomorrow and I am her daughter and caretaker here. As we were checking in, I couldn't help but notice the beautifully crocheted blankets on a table with other items in the common area. I asked the receptionist if I could purchase one, and she told me they are free and donated by the ladies at your church who make them. My mother and I took one for her time here and the hospital. I just wanted to say, especially after reading the list of all the other people who receive your beautifully made items, that I think it is so lovely and thoughtful that you do*

*this. As a cancer survivor myself, I know full well how it's the little things that make a difference during a difficult time. Thank you for adding a little brightness and kindness to the people here. You are truly making a difference and should be recognized for that. Sincerely, Tara*

### 30th Worship Service Anniversary of Queen Lili'uokalani Ho'oku'ikahi - Reconciliation

**January 17, 2023 - 6:30pm**

**First United Methodist Church**

**1020 S. Beretania, Honolulu**

For thirty years the interfaith community has gathered on January 17th to pray and remember the day of the Hawaiian overthrow. In 2014, the Hawai'i Senate passed a resolution recognizing January 17 of every year as Ho'oku'ikahi Day, or Reconciliation Day, in honor and remembrance of the justice, reconciliation, and nonviolence of Queen Lili'uokalani. This year's interfaith service will be at First United Methodist Church on Beretania. In addition to interfaith leaders, Kahu Kaleo Patterson and Kahu Haaheo Guanson of The Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i are providing leadership and the Hālau Wa'a Episcopal Church is providing special music.

## New and Returning Folks within the St. Peter's Community!

With more than one service and the addition of online worshipers as well, we are featuring some of our newer and returning folks this month so you can get to know them. If you've been around St. Peter's awhile, take the opportunity to seek these newer folks out and get to know them. What a blessing to have them within the community!



### Meredith Burns

Meredith Burns is a plant enthusiast who spends her working hours as a labor lawyer with the Federal Government trying to do as much good as possible. She loves Pastor Diane's insightful and inspiring sermons and the friendly St. Peter's community. She is most grateful for her loving family, including her step-sister Beth Cox who told her about St. Peter's.

### Gabe & Mikayla Cross

Originally from Florida and California, we moved to Hawai'i in the winter of 2020 and have truly fallen in love with living on Oahu. We both work as military physical therapists, Mikayla at Tripler, and Gabe at Kāne'ohe Bay. In our spare time, we enjoy hiking, open water swimming and hanging out at the beach. We have been so grateful for the welcoming atmosphere and friendly community at St. Peter's.



### Peter & Leila Diamond

Peter and Leila Diamond are long term residents of O'ahu...Both my wife Leila and myself were world travelers when we met on O'ahu about thirty years ago. We were



married at Saint Andrews Cathedral a few years after our serendipitous meeting, and we have a son who is currently a senior at UH Mānoa. I am a semi-retired Orthopedic Surgeon formerly on staff at The Queens Medical Center, and Leila is a fully retired former owner of a successful boutique advertising agency. Leila has been very active in civic organizations over the years and currently is an active volunteer and Guild Member at Child and Family Services...She is a black belt in Tae Kwon

Do and an experienced Ikebana Japanese flower artist who has earned her flower name and exhibits at the Honolulu Museum of Art monthly. She is also an award winning photographer who has displayed her work at several O'ahu and Neighbor Island galleries, and has a Chinatown themed exhibition at the Downtown Art Center opening in January. I have had a series of many obsessive hobbies over the years and currently am focused on paddling ocean racing kayaks, scuba diving, and wildlife photography both terrestrial and underwater. Leila summarizes my activities by saying that my hobby is buying hobby equipment, which is only minimally an overstatement...We were drawn to Saint Peter's on the advice of a friend, and were sold on the move after hearing several of Pastor Diane's wonderful sermons and being so warmly welcomed by members of the congregation on our first visit. We are looking forward to getting to know the congregation better, and continuing to enjoy the enriching music offered at St.Peter's.

### Reid Kagemoto and Kris Rodrigues

Reid is a Marketing Specialist. He does graphic design, photography and videography. He loves spending time with his son, Ryden, playing board games, and shooting baskets. His hobbies are woodworking and watching Hallmark movies. Kris is an alumna of St. Andrews Priory. She has been a secretary in the University of Hawai'i System for over 20 years and is also a part-time tutor. She enjoys sewing and reading mysteries.



### Sara and Josh To and family

The To family is happy to be back temporarily in Hawai'i and at St. Peter's, a church that has been a part of Sara's family since its inception by her great grandfather, Yap See



Young; five generations of Yaps have been a part of the church! Recent transplants from Menlo Park, CA, the Tos divide their Sundays between St. Peter's, First Presbyterian Church, and chasing their four children. They love St. Peter's, the community, and having Sunday School after service (the teachers are great and the parents get their cups filled too). They appreciate the pastoral team, genuine fellowship, and also seeing their longtime family and friends at this church. They are so

grateful for the ministry groups and hope to meet you and catch up with you soon.

Sara, Josh, Ava (8), Nainoa (6), Milo (4) and Aya (2) To

### **Did you know that the “Shopping Cart Good Samaritan” is descended from one of the original founding families of St. Peter’s Church?**

That’s right! Josh Baldovi is the son of Valerie Baldovi and a part of the Yap ‘Ohana. If you watch the local TV news, you may have seen Josh. Beginning in August 2021, Josh began noticing that there were an increasing number of abandoned shopping carts in his Kāne’ohe neighborhood, so much so that he couldn’t even walk down his sidewalk without bumping into them. He decided to do something about it and began returning the carts to their rightful owners. Today he is still at it. He drives his truck around Kāne’ohe every day and estimates that he walks more than two miles every day.



He has returned over 500 abandoned shopping carts and when they are “trashed” he cleans and disinfects them. Not only is this an incredible service to the neighborhood, but with shopping carts costing \$150 to \$250, it is a significant savings for the businesses he has assisted—all volunteer work out of the goodness of his heart. He has also taken loads of junk to the dump. Way to go, Josh! You truly bring to life what it means to be a Good Samaritan within our community!

### **College Care Packages**

In December, the church collected and sent care packages to our college students. We were able to see many of our eight college students over the holidays and some even jumped in and assisted in roles they had before they left for college, e.g. Ashlyn Kim serving as Eucharistic Minister and Crucifer and Jenna Matsumoto serving as Acolyte and Lector. Other college students wrote notes. Here are a few:

**From Nick Allen:** Thank you so much for the thoughtful package, it really means a lot. I hope you and everyone at St. Peter's had a great Thanksgiving and will have a wonderful holiday season! I will definitely be stopping by when I get back to Hawaii with my family. Best wishes, Nick

**From Liliana Wond:** Aloha Pastor Diane, I wanted to say thank you! I just got the gifts that you and the church sent, thank you so much I really appreciate you all. :’D I really needed the burst of energy and aloha so I’m very thankful for all of you! And again I’m really grateful for the gifts and aloha you all sent.

**From Christy Kwok:** When I opened the box I was so touched with the thought of how much I’m cared for and loved back home; I nearly cried! After I opened the package I said a small prayer out to you, my family, and those involved because I realized how many people in my life wish me the best and wanted you all to feel my gratitude. I am so thankful for everyone at the church and all the people involved to make this happen. The



hassle it takes to send a box all the way to me in Canada is certainly frustrating and the fact that you all still wanted to send a package my way means so much to me!...Thank you again for the care package, and please do extend my thanks to everyone!!

### Food Donations for Food Insecure UH Students

The University of Hawai'i has begun a "Food Vault" (FVH) to address the increased food insecurity of their students. In partnership with the Cathedral, we will have an ongoing collection of non-perishable, unopened, unexpired food for FVH (similar to our ongoing collection of toiletries for Wallyhouse). Watch for the sales and drop off your donations on Sundays or in the church office during the week. Once a month the collected food items will be taken to the Cathedral for pick-up by FVH. Especially popular with the students are the following:

Canned meats (spam, chicken, tuna, salmon, corned beef, vienna sausage), canned beans (garbanzo, black, kidney, pork and beans, refried beans), canned vegetables/fruit, canned meals (stew, spaghetti, chili, chowder), canned soups and broth, packaged pasta (esp. spinach, wheat, etc.), tomato and meat sauces, 2-5 lb. bags of rice, cup noodles/instant noodles/saimin/ramen, Mac N Cheese (ready to make), peanut butter, jam/jelly/honey, dried beans/lentils, mini boxes of cereal, granola, oatmeal, nuts.

### Christmas 2022



### Renovated Office Bathrooms!

Thanks to the gracious generosity of parishioners who noticed that our three office bathrooms needed some help, we now have new flooring rather than cracking tiles, elevated toilets, new vanities installed by professionals and fresh paint applied by Terry and Oriel. Take a look at the before and after photos and then come try out the bathrooms!

**Before:**



**After:**



#### 2023 Vestry

**Senior Warden: Velma Lee**

**Junior Warden: Terry Dang**

**Treasurer: Nancy Rowe**

**Clerk: Karin Kimura**

**Rector: The Rev. Diane Martinson**

**Term expired 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**



#### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

JAN 03 Tricia Mastumoto

JAN 06 Ashlyn Kim

JAN 08 Jason Baroza

JAN 09 Sheri Yoshida

Jackie Oda

Colin Leong

JAN 10 Kristen Connors

Ricky Dang

Lois Gray

Paul Yuen

JAN 11 Susan Dang

Reid Kagemoto

JAN 16 Sophie Choy

Chucky Nakoa

JAN 17 Robert Wight

JAN 18 Catherine Wiecking

JAN 22 Kyle Chang

JAN 25 Mischa Kawamoto

Liliana Wond

Janice Yap

JAN 30 Cedric Ching

#### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

JAN 09 Colin & Pamela Leong