

June/July 2023

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



Pentecost

This year Pentecost Sunday fell on May 28th. It's a major festival of the church that is celebrated fifty days after Easter. On that day with glorious music and the waving of "flaming spirit wands" made by Stephanie Wight, we celebrated Jesus' promised coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and their empowerment to go out into the world to share the good news of Jesus Christ; hence, the reason we sometimes call Pentecost the "birthday" of the church. At every baptism, the sign of the cross is made on the forehead of the baptized and the words said, "You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever." The Holy Spirit is working in, with, amongst, and through us all the time. As the ancient hymn says, "Come, Holy Spirit, our hearts inspire!"



Communion and the Common Cup

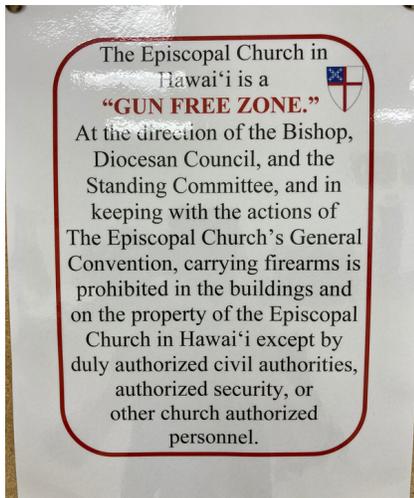
Another post-pandemic step arrived when we returned to the altar rail to receive communion. Communicants are invited to kneel or stand at the altar rail. In the Episcopal tradition, we believe Jesus' real presence is with us in the eating of the bread and the drinking of the wine, Jesus' body and blood as he explained to his disciples at his last supper. For the baptized, this is sustenance in our walk as Jesus' disciples. For



those not yet baptized or who are not receiving for personal or spiritual reasons, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing one's arms over chest). God loves all of us, and we are all welcome at the table.

There are two ways to receive the wine—by drinking from the common cup or by dipping a corner of the bread or wafer in the wine (known as “intinction”) taking great care not to touch the wine with one's fingers. In the Episcopal Church, the normative practice is to consume the bread and then share the wine from a common cup. During COVID, we suspended this practice because so much was unknown about how the virus was transmitted and because our theology teaches us that the sacrament is efficacious in one kind (bread) or both (bread and wine).

Now, however, we realize that it is OK to resume drinking from the common cup. For many of us, though, we were taught as children not to drink from the same cup as someone else. This is good advice generally speaking, but communion is uniquely different—not because Jesus is magically protecting us from germs but because the common cup is a precious metal (silver) and we are consuming wine. The key is the combination of a precious metal and alcohol along with the eucharistic minister who is wiping the lip of the chalice with the purificator (chalice linen). According to the CDC, this makes the risk of spreading germs “so small, it's probably undetectable.” An Episcopalian microbiologist who was concerned about this practice conducted an experiment in 1997 that bore this out. Over a 10-week period she surveyed three control groups— people who attended church and received communion, people who attended church and didn't receive communion, and those who never attended church. She found no discernible difference in illness rates between the groups and this, she said, “even held true for the participants who attended church and received the sacraments every single day during the 10 weeks.” When it comes to communion, especially with a chalice made from a precious metal, the use of wine, and a eucharistic minister wiping the rim with a purificator as is the practice at St. Peter's, the common cup is a safe way to receive the real presence of Jesus.



The Episcopal Diocese is a Gun Free Zone

New to the state of Hawai'i since the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling, N.Y. State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen, concealed weapons can now be carried in the state. The court left it up to each state to decide the "sensitive areas" where weapons would not be allowed. State legislators and City & County council members have been discussing this. Churches, as private entities, are not included in the list of "sensitive areas." Like private businesses, therefore, it is up to the private entity to decide its policy.

Bishop Bob and Diocesan Council have discussed this issue and have adopted a "Gun Free Zone" policy for this diocese. The policy is as follows:

Resolution: Prohibition of Firearms on the Property of The Episcopal Church in Hawai'i

Resolved, that the Bishop, Standing Committee and Diocesan Council directs that the Episcopal Church in Hawai'i is a "Gun Free Zone" and that the carrying of firearms is prohibited in the Cathedral, all Parishes, all Missions, all Preaching Stations, Camp Mokolē'ia, St. Andrew's Schools, and on all property owned and managed by the Episcopal Church in Hawai'i and incorporated Parishes except by duly authorized civil authorities in the exercise of official duties, or church, camp or school authorized security or other personnel; be it further

Resolved, that the Diocesan Support Center be instructed to obtain or produce placards and public notices to be publicly posted instructing the public that firearms are prohibited anywhere in the Episcopal Church in Hawai'i; be it further

Resolved, the clergy-in-charge, Senior/Bishop Wardens and Junior Warden ensure that such placards and public notices be posted at the entrances of all Episcopal Churches in Hawai'i, and that all tenants of the congregations be informed of the policy; be it further

Resolved, that the Director and Board of Camp Mokolē'ia ensure this policy is publicly shared with all employees and guests of the Camp; and be it further

Resolved, that the Head of School and Board of St. Andrew's Schools ensure this policy is publicly shared with all employees and those coming onto the campus.

The above resolution is in keeping with actions already taken by General Conventions of The Episcopal Church:

2000-B007

Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention request members of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America to acknowledge that the violence in our communities is encouraged and enabled by the presence of guns; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention call upon all members of the church to work intentionally in their several committees, legislatures, and institutions toward the removal of handguns and assault weapons from our homes, other residential communities, and vehicles.

2012-D003

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention requests every parish and every diocesan place of work to declare their establishments as Gun Free Zones.

Bishop Bob provided the following explanation regarding the Diocesan “Gun Free Zone” policy:

This resolution is intended for all church, camp and school related buildings on grounds owned by the Episcopal Church in Hawai'i. It is recognized that some congregations have commercial leases with tenants having 24/7 “control” of property for an extended period. In such cases, the “tenant” has control of the requirements for entrance to the property.

On the other hand, there are those who “use” space as short-term tenants or just guests: AA groups or congregations of other denominations. In such situations, these requirements will come immediately in effect for those with no lease and must be included in future leases for those who use space on a limited basis. In any event, the “Gun Free Zone” signage must be posted.

It is acknowledged that the Diocese has no control over space used by a congregation not owned/leased by the Church or subject to diocesan policy. For example, should a congregation worship in rented space or in an individual's yard.

It is also noted that some rural congregations allow licensed hunters on church property to deal with trapped wildlife. This is allowed as “authorized personnel” in such situations.

What do we do if a private citizen with a license to carry gun comes onto the property legally armed – including a parishioner or parent? We must be clear on TECH (The Episcopal Church in Hawai'i) policy. There is no expectation that individuals will be questioned or searched. If a person chooses to disclose that they are armed or a gun seen, then action should be taken. Leaders or authorized personnel of the congregation/camp/school (clergy, wardens, members of the Vestry/Bishop's Committee, appropriate staff or security) can be polite, but firm. If the individual is uncooperative, they can be politely asked to leave the premises. Confrontation should be avoided. If the person fails to leave, the police should be immediately called, and the person trespassed. In such a situation, worship should be delayed in the church until the matter is settled. In other institutions, standard policy should be followed. Please immediately inform the Bishop of any such situations.

This resolution was finalized with the input and engagement of the elected leaders of our Diocese. I appreciated the lively exchanges, questions, and concerns from our elected Diocesan leaders. We realize that we are acting as a religious institution upholding the teaching of our Church and exercising our oversight of God's property entrusted to our care.

The Right Rev. Robert L. Fitzpatrick, Bishop Diocesan
The Episcopal Church in Hawai'i

The Girl Scouts Say Thanks!

On Sunday, April 30th, St. Peter's member Alli Yee and her fellow Girl Scouts, Tamara Lum and Mari Cheng, collected monetary donations for their Senior Girl Scout project--providing sanitary products to the girls' restrooms at St. Andrew's Priory. In thanksgiving for the donations, they had packaged yummy sweet treats for us! This is a follow-up note from the girls:



We want to thank you all for your generous support for our Girl Scouts project, it was a huge success! We were able to buy enough products to supply St. Andrew's Priory for a whole year as well as provide containers to provide supplies in the bathrooms. We even had enough supplies to donate to St. Peter's Church bathrooms as well as La Pietra School for girls. On May 16th we delivered the period products to Saint Andrew's school, and on June 30 we plan to deliver the period products to La Pietra. And it's because of St. Peter's support that we've been able to make this project such a success. In the near future, we plan to stock the St. Peter's bathrooms with the products as well as containers as another thank you for all of your generous support. We truly can't thank you enough!

Sincerely,

Tamara Lum, Mari Cheng, and Alli Yee



St. Peter's High Schooler, Catie Wiecking, in the News!

On April 26th, the Star Advertiser featured a column written by St. Peter's member Catie Wiecking entitled, "SB1543 can bolster faith in democracy." A high school student at 'Iolani School, Catie has an interest in becoming a high school history teacher. In her column, she advocates for greater public involvement in the elections process through a more equitable system of public funding allowing all people to participate in the process and not just those who have access to large sums of money. She points to the corrosive impact money can have when politicians are beholden to large donors. As a student of history and aspiring educator, Catie wants to see a restoration of our country's commitment to democracy. She wrote, "Clean and transparent elections in Hawai'i and throughout America are necessary to restore faith in democracy and address the issues that matter to our future. Here in Hawai'i, Native Hawaiian rights, affordable housing, climate change, health disparities and many more are among the challenges we face." It's wonderful to see the engagement of our youth in living out their baptismal covenant in the world, striving for justice and peace among all people and respecting the dignity of every human being!

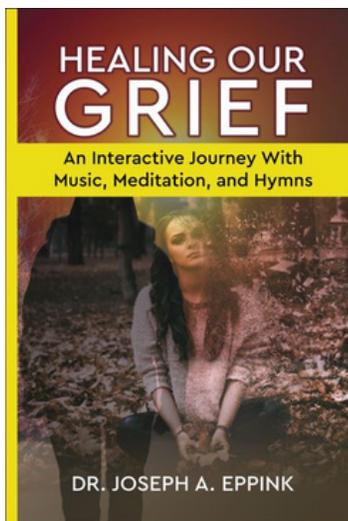
St. Peter's Middle Schooler Lena Kimura in Europe!

From March 13 to March 20, I participated in a school study tour trip. The trip was organized through Education First (EF): a program that works with schools to take students abroad. The program has worked with my school, Kaimuki Middle School, for many years. Examples of destinations past students have been to are: Japan, Italy, and New York. This year however, my classmates and I went to Budapest, Hungary; Vienna, Austria; and Prague, Czech Republic. It was a great opportunity to get closer with my classmates and friends seeing as we were on a trip away from our families. Although we couldn't spend much time in each country due to time constraints, it was a great experience. My favorite part of the trip was seeing the architecture of the cities as they are vastly different from what I'm used to. Throughout the tour we saw cathedrals, churches, castles, and synagogues. The trip was enjoyable, however, I was disappointed that we could not take advantage of Europe's far superior museums. Overall the tour was a great experience and I loved being able to spend that time with my friends.



Healing Our Grief - A new book by Dr. Joseph Eppink!

Joseph has written his second book! This was "birthed" out of his work as a Volunteer Coordinator and Bereavement specialist with hospice. Joseph's book can be ordered on Amazon. Here is Joseph's introduction to the book:



Grief can be overwhelming and painful, but there is hope for healing. In *Healing Our Grief*, you will discover 15 meditations that will help you take another step towards healing. Each meditation begins with a Psalm and is followed by a reflection that includes one from someone in the grief process. This section concludes with a prayer written by Dr. Eppink. Following the meditation there are a variety of options including videos of hymns with both organ and meditative piano, reflections and prayer, guided prayers, guided meditation, a self-reflection surrounding your journey with grief and more. As you go through this journey with these meditations, you will find moments of peace and moments of healing, and ultimately, a sense of hope.

All videos are on Dr. Eppink's website and can be viewed at www.josepheppink.com/healing-our-grief.com. Grief is hard and the journey is so different for everyone. Please feel free to reach out to Dr. Eppink with questions or as you experience the meditations. You are not alone. Be well...be at peace.

Habitat Lunch Bunch

The Habitat Lunch Bunch was busy at work on Friday, June 2nd, making a gourmet lunch for a group of volunteers (This time a "Wahine Build.") building homes in Waimanalo. The menu consisted of chicken burrito bowls and vegan sweet potato burrito bowls. The bowls included cilantro rice, corn and bean salsa, pico de gallo, lettuce, guacamole, chips, and lime. If that sounds delicious, ask the chef, Sheri Yoshida, for the recipe! In addition, Velma Lee make lemon cake for dessert.

Cooks included Sheri Yoshida, Paula and Sophie Choy, and Velma Lee. Audrey Mueh, Myra Kong, and Joanne Shibuya delivered and served the meals in Waimānalo. Thank you to the Habitat Lunch Bunch for their nutritious, fortifying meals for those building affordable homes for those with low income on this island!

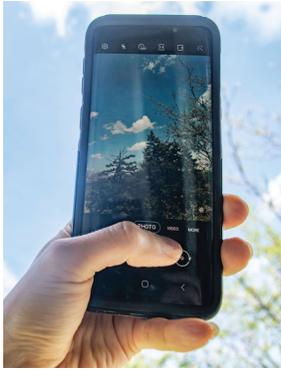


Help Needed to Continue the Ministry of St. Anthony Retreat Center

St. Anthony Retreat Center is a hidden jewel in Kalihi run by the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts (3351 Kalihi Street, Honolulu, HI 96819). With the limitation of services during COVID as well as the termination of a substantial trust that assisted them in the maintenance of the buildings and property, they are facing challenging financial times. As a way to tackle this, they are seeking volunteers to assist with building maintenance and the upkeep of their landscaping, under the supervision of their maintenance crew and housekeeping team. They are also grateful for monetary donations. The Retreat Team members can be reached at 808-845-0065 or by email at sarc3351@gmail.com.

Pledge and Giving Reminder

Thank you for your partnership in making this ministry possible! Your presence in worship whether in person or online, your volunteer service, your financial gifts—all touch lives and make this ministry possible of sharing the love and hope of Jesus Christ in our community and throughout the world possible. During these months of summer traveling and vacations, a friendly reminder to please continue to remember the church. Thank you!



Got an iPhone 8 or newer that you are no longer using? St. Peter's can use it!

We live-stream the worship services using iPhones and an app called Switcher. The iPhones are used only as cameras, so no phone plan or internet access are needed. It's a perfect way to get rid of an old phone! The more phones we have, the more camera angles we can provide to the worship services you experience at home. If you have a iPhone 8 or above you are no longer using, speak with Manny Dayao, Terry Dang, Konstantinos Karampakakis or Pastor Diane.



It's Graduation Time!

Three of our acolytes have graduated from high school this year and one former acolyte has graduated from college! We will recognize them and pray for their next adventures on Sunday, June 11th at the 10am service.



COLLEGE & HIGH SCHOOL

Nicholas Allen graduates from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo with a BS in Computer Science Cum Laude on June 18th. Following graduation, Nicholas will be traveling around Europe, returning in early August to begin a MS in Business Analytics at Cal Poly.

Connor Allen graduated from Punahou School on June 3rd. He will be attending California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo in the fall, majoring in Architectural Engineering. Connor will spend his summer in Hawai'i, working and hanging with friends before college.



HIGH SCHOOL

Twins **Gabriana Wond and Jaime Wond** graduated from Kamehameha Schools Kapālama on May 28th.

Gabi will be attending the University of Hawai'i at Hilo for Aeronautical Science and Tropical Agroecology. Through her high school years, Gabi has been achieving her flight hours to become a licensed pilot.

Jaime will be attending Hawai'i Pacific University and Honolulu Community College. Jaime will be majoring in Business Administration Analytics at HPU and Fire Science at HCC. His goal is to join the Hawai'i Fire Department.

WE ALSO HAVE A NUMBER OF GRANDCHILDREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS WHO ARE GRADUATES THIS YEAR!

Margaret Chun's great grand niece **Abbie Alvaro** is receiving her BS degree in business from the University of Hawai'i. She has plans to study for an MBA at Warner Pacific University in Oregon.

Robert & Karen Savala's step-granddaughter, **Emma 'Iliahi Helena Waters**, graduated from 'Iolani School on June 3rd. This fall she will be attending the D'Amore -McKim School of Business at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. She plans to major in International Business and Finance.

Mike and Gwen Wong's grandson, **Deven Fujimoto**, graduated from Hope Christian High School in Albuquerque, NM. Deven is their oldest grandchild.

Albert and Maureen Wong's grandson, **Mathew Takazawa**, graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor in Industrial Engineering. Fun fact: Mathew was a former band student of Manny Dayao!

Did you know that St. Peter's has a Columbarium?

This is an open-air Columbarium on the *mauka* side of the church that serves as a final resting place of beauty and serenity for parishioners, family members, and other Episcopalians who desire inurnment at a reasonable cost. Contact Susan in the church office for more information.

Diocesan Prison Ministry Opportunity

The Diocesan Prison Ministry under the direction of Kahu Kaleo Patterson is forming a new "Reentry Team." Volunteers are needed to serve as "Reentry Specialists." Reentry Specialists will serve on teams that will be assigned coverage greeting those being released from Hālawā Correctional Facility. Release occurs from 8:30am-9:30am on designated days. The teams will pass out backpacks of basic supplies and other essentials needed for the men to begin reentry into society. All Reentry Specialists will receive two hours of orientation and training prior to their first team assignment. Are you able to help with this important ministry? Speak with Pr. Diane.

Children's Christian Formation

Lots of enthusiasm and planning are occurring this summer for a new program starting in the fall. The Diocese has provided us with an exciting new curriculum for our preschool through 4th graders and a move to the "Blue Room" is underway for versatility of location with the garden space (Didn't know there was a "Blue Room" at the church? Well, just wait until you see it!). We will be looking to pull together a team of adults who will rotate teaching in pairs for this new program. Might you be one of those adults? This is a very rewarding ministry where you are truly needed this fall! Please speak with Pr. Diane, Muffin Hein, or Stephanie Wight.



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



JUNE BIRTHDAYS		JULY BIRTHDAYS	
JUN 05	Bertrand Fong	JUL 02	Lowell Chung
JUN 06	Nani Ho	JUL 03	Keith Lee
JUN 07	Rosa Dayao	JUL 05	Cheryl Fong
JUN 08	Kennedy Thompson		Janet Kim
JUN 09	Kwai Tin Choy	JUL 09	Snow Iwasaki
JUN 10	Barbara Vlachos	JUL 16	Hailee Yamada
JUN 11	Melvin Kau	JUL 23	Caleigh Chun
	Franklin Lum	JUL 24	Jaclyn Greeley
	Bryan Matsumoto	JUL 29	Tara Shibuya Arimoto
JUN 12	Laurie Liu Ong		Cheryl Ann Bochentin
JUN 13	Christy Kwok		Laura Jean Thue
	William Zane	JUL 30	Gail Haruki
JUN 14	Thomas Fargo	JUL 31	Barry James
JUN 17	Lyn Yee		
JUN 21	Konstantinos Karampakakis		
JUN 23	Kris Rodrigues		
JUN 25	Glenn Pang		
	Pauline Young		
JUN 26	Tiare Ono		
	Robert Thue		
JUN 27	Sonja Barba		
JUN 29	Velma Lee		
	Muna Richard		
JUN 30	Doreen Yuen		
	Myrna Chun-Hoon		

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES		JULY ANNIVERSARIES	
JUN 07	David & Ashlyn Thompson	JUL 02	Bob & Muffin Hein Jr.
JUN 13	Chan & Nancy Rowe		Glenn & Jennie Pang
JUN 19	The Rev. Franklin & Norma Chun	JUL 07	Peter & Mimi Wu
	David Camp & Diane Chinn	JUL 08	Manny & Rosa Dayao
JUN 28	Michael Turner & Maile Ho-Turner	JUL 10	Nick & Aimee Wond
JUN 30	Sharleen & Egbert Kwok	JUL 14	Sean & Kristen Connors
		JUL 15	Harley Clark & Sue Jennings
		JUL 18	Haroldwyn & Ken Chang
		JUL 21	Timothy & Pam Yuen
		JUL 30	Keith & Velma Lee