

# ho'oulu



*"...to prosper...to inspire..."*

*[The Newsletter of St. John's By-the-Sea]*

DECEMBER 2005 ISSUE

**T**his issue we celebrate  
St. John's 75th birthday  
with a look back at our past, as  
we step toward its future...

75  
*and beyond*

Rev. Liz illustrates to our Sunday School youth that we are  
"lights to the world", instructing them to share their light  
with the world around us.





# news & views



## Letter from the Vicar

[Rev. Liz Beasley]

**H**ow can we best serve God? That has been a theme of this newsletter, through the articles Leo has written and some of the other items that have appeared here. I firmly believe that while God calls each of us to different ministry, that we are each called to serve in some capacity. And I believe that *all* of us are called to worship and to grow in our faith.

To those ends, I mention a few upcoming opportunities, one of service and one of learning. First, the service: On January 29, we will have the Annual Meeting of St. John's By-the-Sea. At that time, we will elect new members to the Bishop's Committee (we need four) and delegates to both the Windward Region and to the Annual Meeting of the Convention of the Diocese. That Convention will be called upon to elect our new bishop from among a slate of candidates. The

new Bishop's Committee will be fashioning a plan for St. John's By-the-Sea in keeping with what God calls us to do and the Strategic Plan of the Diocese. If you feel moved to serve, or just want to know more, please see me or a member of the Bishop's Committee.

Second, the learning opportunity: On Sunday, May 7, **Bishop Chang** will be among us for his annual (and final) visitation with us. On that day, he will confirm those who want to make a mature affirmation of faith, receive those who have been confirmed in another faith and wish to be received into the Episcopal Church (see me for the difference), or who wish to reaffirm their baptismal vows. One person has spoken to me already about confirmation, and I am putting together a program, possibly in conjunction with an adult education program. If you are interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church and our faith, and/or wish to be confirmed or received or reaffirm your baptismal vows, please see me or call me.

In the meantime, I pray that the peace and light of Christ may be with you during this Advent season.

In Christ's love, **Liz+**

## In Search of the 5th Bishop of the Diocese of Hawai'i

[11.13.05, 2pm, St. Clement's]

**E**lections were held at St. Clement's and the counties of Hawai'i, Kauai and Maui to elect members of the Search Committee and the Transition Committee, for the episcopal election in the Diocese of Hawai'i.

The Search Committee's task will be to present three to five nominees to the Standing Committee in August 2006. The Transition Committee will be responsible for the details of the transition, such as helping the newly elected bishop and family, if any, move to and settle in Hawai'i. The two teams will have a chaplain and a consultant. **The Rev. Liz Zivanov, Rector of St. Clement's (Honolulu)** will be the chaplain for both teams; the consultant will be **Betsy Greenman, Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of Olympia**.

**Rev. Zivanov** requested to everyone in the room that all inquiries about the search process should go straight to her alone. "Whenever an institution goes through a search process, rumors fly," she explained.

Electing members were the wardens of each congregation within the county, along with all canonically resident clergy of the county. If either or both wardens were unable to attend the county meeting, a substitute is to be appointed from the Vestry/Bishop's Committee, by the wardens and the rector/vicar. **Rev. Liz Beasley, Jr. Warden Rex Chong and**

**Leo Loyola (for Sr. Warden Phyllis Chang)** were in attendance.

The wardens of the Counties of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui will each elect one lay member to serve on the Search Committee. The wardens of the City and County of Honolulu will elect two lay members to serve on the Search Committee.



The canonically resident clergy of the Counties of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui elected one clergy member to serve on the Search Committee. The canonically resident clergy of the City and County of Honolulu elected two clergy members to serve on the Search Committee.

Elections for the Transition Committee members were done jointly by the wardens and clergy of each county with one person (either lay or clergy) from each of the Counties of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui, and two persons (either lay or clergy) from the City and County of Honolulu.

Neither **Bishop Chang** nor the members of his staff have any responsibility for or involvement in the search process.

The Standing Committee had learned in mid-August of **Bishop Chang's** intention to retire. Since then, they have met with the **Rt. Rev. F. Clayton Matthews, Director of the Office for Pastoral Development for the House of Bishops**. **Bishop Matthews** gave them guidance about the search and election process for the fifth Bishop of Hawai'i. As **President of the Standing Committee Cynthia Salley** spoke, a team of volunteers circulated among the tables handing out a 12-page, purple-covered packet entitled, "A Process for the Search and Election of the 5th Bishop of the Diocese of Hawai'i."







# faces of november

[Sunday School Kids Learn About Being "Lights of the World" Under Ministry's New Godly Play Curriculum]



"AND WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING?"...



Got suggestions or photos to share in the **ho`oulu**? Just see Leo. Mahalo.





## STEPS OF FAITH

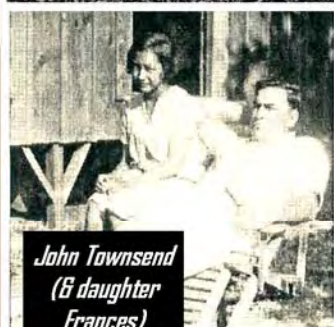
**Part five  
in a series**

**[Re-told by  
Leo Loyola]\*\*\***



***"But remember: If we ask these people to come and help us, we'll have to stick by them."***

John Townsend—the "mayor of Kahalu'u"—to the community upon unanimously voting to ask the Episcopal Diocese to establish a church, back in December 27, 1930. This church will come to known as St. John's By-the-Sea.



**John Townsend  
(& daughter  
Frances)**



**Dr. Mildred Staley**



**T.J. Hollander (& wife, Grace)**

***Members of "The Troika", guiding force in the founding of St. John's***



***St. John's By-the-Sea's first congregation (1931)***

***Charles Ho'okano Jr. (top row, 2nd from left) was posthumously honored with Ho'okano Hall being named after him for years of faithful service to St. John's and the community***

**M**ajor decisions and announcements were made during the November 20 Bishop Committee meeting. St. John's commitment to the Family Promise proposal made last month was approved, subject to Diocesan approval—the vote was made due to questions raised about liability insurance. Planning for the "Celebration of New Ministry" set for January 8 started; volunteers will be soon requested to help out with invitations, food preparation (**Liz** is partial to Chinese food), and decorating Ho'okano Hall. Strategic planning for St. John's will take place on March 11, 2006. This will happen after the election of new BC members at the Annual Meeting and after attendees return from the upcoming Start-Up/Start-Over conference in San Diego. **Penny Chu** will facilitate. An initiative for a Christian Formation for Adults using the video equipment in the Hall was introduced, but not yet voted upon—the idea was an entertaining way to discuss Christ-like themes found in today's movies and applying them to our daily lives. Treasurer **Pat Chu** happily revealed that St. John's budget is no longer operating at a loss. Add the Diocese's search for a new Bishop and St. John's will definitely have a busy year ahead...

**A**s we move ahead towards St. John's 75th birthday and the strategic planning of its future, it seems appropriate to look back upon its humble beginnings to see how we got here. But more importantly to view the past as a bold example and reminder—and possible framework of **St. John's in the 21st century**—to all of us as God's children to continually strive to be better servants of God, His Church and the community around us in today's ever-changing world...

\*\*\*[The re-told history in this chapter is based upon *The Genesis of St. John's By-The-Sea: A Mini History 1931-1997*, written by **Ruth Lucas & Arnold Newalu** (1999). To learn more on St. John's history and its impact on the community, you can find this booklet in the church office. Mahalo to the efforts of the esteemed authors for enabling future generations a written record of our history and helping make this issue's column possible.]

*[Steps of Faith, continued on page 4]*



When Libby McNeill Libby Pineapple closed its cannery on the Waialae Peninsula in 1923, it was because the lands were not suitable for either pineapple or sugar cane. Yet from these supposedly-useless fields, St. John's By-the-Sea sprouted and became Windward O'ahu's first Episcopal Church in 1931.

In a time of a declining Hawaiian population, the thriving Ho'okano 'Ohana, headed by Joseph and Louisa, were populating the region, along with other clans that followed. It was a simple life. The Hawaiians farmed the land for taro, banana, breadfruit and mango. They fished and hunted the coral reefs for *limu* (seaweed), *he'e* (octopus) and *wana* (sea urchin). 'Ama'ama (mullet) abounded. *Ti* leaf and coconut trees flourished. The land was abundant, but a burden to the land company Kahalu'u Land Trust (KLT) trying to sell the land.

During this time, John Townsend (Chiefess Kahlakahoupokapu was his great-grandmother) and his first wife Fanny Kaleikoa were houseguests of Willie Ho'okano Sr. and his wife, Kamiko. Townsend was both a supervisor of road construction for the City & County and a contributing member of his adopted community. He provided road jobs to supplement fishermen's income and helped work the taro patches when the weather was bad for fishing. The Ho'okanos deeded him land for a home he built overlooking the bay. When his first wife died in 1925, Townsend was left with two young daughters Frances Pupua and Violet. Years later, he married Marie Wond (aunt to author Arnold Newalu) and they adopted two of her sibling's children Wanda and John (Skipper). By this time, Townsend was popularly known as "the mayor of Kahalu'u."

Respecting his advice, residents sought Townsend's help in 1927 to organize a baseball team and acquire a playing field. Townsend then negotiated with the current land owner KLT to lease the 1.42-acre parcel of unused land for a dollar per year. The work in clearing and grooming the site was a highlight in the social life of Kahalu'u. The project inspired Townsend to negotiate with Libby McNeill Libby for an abandoned warehouse to serve as a community hall. The building (at no cost) was turned over to the community along with a parcel adjoining the new park for a \$5/month lease.

One Saturday morning, the entire community worked to transport the warehouse piece-by-piece to the new property. They finished by nightfall. The next day, foundations were laid. And the building was reconstructed within two weeks.

This was a joyous time for everyone in the community with much singing and eating and dancing. But Townsend felt that there was something missing. "Something was lacking," he confided to friends. In his heart he realized that what the community needed was religious guidance, but also knew that the Hawaiians were "touchy on that subject". During the last two years, in fact, the community had made several attempts at getting a Christian religious organization started. But it wasn't until community members met Bishop S. Harrington Littell on December 27, 1930, that they would unanimously vote to have an Episcopal church established. They felt that these Episcopalians "seemed to have their feet on the ground." Townsend then told them, "If we ask these people to come and help us, we'll have to stick by them."

Favoring "a presentation of the full glorious Christian gospel and the sacramental grace and life offered in true catholic churches", Townsend saw that embodied by the Protestant Episcopal Church. Because the budding congregation's first meeting fell on the Feast Day of St. John's and because John Townsend was their benefactor, it was decided to call the new church St. John's By-the-Sea.

Its first meeting (January 5, 1931) was quite memorable to everyone. Dozens, many barefoot, gathered on the grass outside the decrepit community hall. The grilled aroma of *pūlehu he'e* over an open fire filled the air. As the Layreader Robert Merry began to speak, it suddenly started to rain. Raindrops pelted the shed's tin roof, drowning out Merry's words. Finally everyone ran to find shelter from the downpour, including Merry. His intended message: *You must keep your eyes on Jesus, or you, like the Apostle Peter will sink under the waves of the world's adversity.*

In 1935, T.J. Hollander, retired from lengthy missionary service in China and the current Diocesan treasurer, assumed leadership of St. John's. It's first lay leader Edgar W. Henshaw and his wife left for a parish in Arizona. Hollander served for two years, and then again from February 1940 to April 1944. According to his son Walter, the Swedish-born Hollander's first ambition was to amass a fortune, instead of following his brothers' footsteps as farmers. But when he attended a religious meeting, he became a changed man and joined an inter-denominational missionary in China instead. He learned Chinese in a little over a year and became a missionary travel agent. He plotted missionaries' travel routes and, whenever necessary, bailed them out of trouble.

During Hollander's first tenure, he was supported by Charles Ho'okano Jr., the mission's dedicated layreader, who never missed a service for more than 20 years. During WWII, Ho'okano was ordered to work at his civilian job on Sundays. Perhaps through Townsend's intervention, he received a reprieve from having to miss services. Fluent in Hawaiian, "Uncle Charlie" often read Scriptures in his native tongue and had much *aloha* for the youngsters in the community. A story goes that he returned from a fishing trip one day and saw the boy's baseball team practicing in the park. Quickly he sold his fish and with the money he received bought each boy a brand-new jersey. Longtime resident Puanani Ryder once recalled Ho'okano taking him to explore the waters of the bay. As they swam through the pristine wonderland of sea creatures and coral, "Uncle Charlie" said to his young friend, "This is your Bible."

In 1937, British army evangelist Captain Arthur Roberts was welcomed by and served at St. John's, as well as serving along the Windward Coast, advising and comforting those unable to attend services. He took it upon himself to enroll at the university to learn Hawaiian so that he could offer a mid-week Bible class to Hawaiian-speaking elders. By 1939, the community hall's leaky roof needed repair and a building fund was started. St. John's first resident priest accepted all donations, big and small. One day he left his car to be repaired and walked to the home of a parishioner who warmly greeted him, saying she wanted to contribute \$20 towards the new chapel in her late mother's name. When Fr. Roberts returned to the garage, he was greeted by a young man. "I'm afraid I'm not very good, but I'd like to give this to the church," the man said and handed Fr. Roberts over 82 cents. Later another young man, looking troubled and nervous, approached Fr. Roberts and asked for prayers. His wife left him and he wanted her back—the man gave him \$3 towards the building fund. Still waiting for his car, Fr. Roberts noticed a pile of bricks on the road that he could use to pave a path to the vicarage. He asked the owner, "How

much for the bricks?" The owner said that they weren't for sale. When Fr. Roberts explained why he needed them, the owner said, "I had intended to give the church a donation, but I'll give you 200 bricks instead if you haul them away."

Ever concerned about the little mission he helped found, now-Senior Warden Townsend moved to acquire property for a new chapel. He, Hollander and Dr. Mildred Staley—the Troika—met to discuss the mission's future. The time was during Hollander's second tenure at St. John's. Hollander devised a highly successful, nationally-run fundraiser to acquire land for a new chapel site with a letter he sent to every Episcopalian church in the US. The response to the mission's plea was so overwhelming that by June 26, 1941, Hollander was able to purchase a chapel site from Bishop Trust Co. for \$2575. Today, that lot is where the parish hall and the parking lot stand. Hollander arranged for another \$2750 to go towards the soon-to-be relocated vicarage site with \$7700 to remain in the building fund.

Dr. Staley was a close friend of Fr. Roberts and his wife. She was the also the eighth child of Hawai'i's first Episcopalian bishop and godchild to Queen Emma, who with King Kamehameha IV (Alexander Liholiho) brought the Episcopal Church to Hawai'i. Retired as director of Molokai Hospital, she led a strenuous medical career that led her to the Balkans during WWI, as well as to India and the South Pacific. She was highly decorated, once awarded the French Croix de Guerre—an award seldom bestowed upon a woman. Dr. Staley was a major contributor to the fund to build the parish hall. But with the advent of WWII, all construction on the island was halted. US Engineers froze all construction and electrical materials for military usage.

The war's intrusion into daily life on the local residents could be felt. But even more so by island churches. Church attendance had dramatically increased and worshipers now included soldiers, sailors and war workers. As a result of O'ahu's general prosperity, collection plates heaped high with contributions and the custom of inviting servicemen to remain after the Sunday church service to eat a free meal was widespread.

By the late 1940s, the state economy shifted away from farming, and the demand for housing increased. With leadership like the members of the Troika, KLT was only too willing to work with the community. Also, for years, St. John's was the only mission church on the Windward side; thus the Episcopal Diocese took special loving care to nurture the gospel there. St. John's considered itself fortunate.

News that WWII ended first reached Kahalu'u residents via a ringing of St. John's church bell. Villagers assembled at the church to rejoice in the news. And Fr. Roberts led a thanksgiving service that evening. Afterwards churchmembers built a huge bonfire symbolizing "a torch of peace and the burning of the evil forces of war." In the aftermath of WWII, O'ahu's economy and culture was forever changed.

Dr. Staley, whose devotion to St. John's never flagged, died in February 1947. In May, John Townsend died of complications due to pneumonia. At 58, he still served as Senior Warden at the time of his death. A great tribute was paid to him by St. John's and military and civic officials at St. Andrews Cathedral. The following year, a stained glass window was installed above the finally-built parish hall's entrance in his honor. Donated by his family, it depicts Christ recruiting the Apostles Peter, James and John from the ranks of fishermen. *How very fitting...*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**12.07.05**

### ***Service of Quiet and Healing***

This month, Rev. Liz will change the regular Healing Services somewhat to also include something called "Order of Worship for the Evening", found in the Prayer Book. It will be a period for a little quiet time and prayer, in the midst of the busyness of the season that our consumer culture fosters. *E Komo Mai.*

**12.14.05**

**12.21.05**

Wednesday,  
6.30 pm

**12.09.05**

through

**12.11.05**

Held at Camp  
Mokuleia,  
North Shore

### ***"CPR" Training for Youth: Senior High Retreat 2005***

Geared towards youth in grades 9-12, it is a retreat for individual spiritual development to become authentic people in Christ and fellowship with other Sr. High youth. Contact Dawn Yadao (341-9642) for details.

**12.17.05**

Saturday,  
Starts at 8 am

### ***Work Day at Church!***

Come make church beautiful for Christmas!

**12.24.05**

Saturday, 9pm

### ***Christmas Eve Service***

**12.24.05**

Sunday

### ***Christmas Day Service***

**12.27.05**

Tuesday,  
6.30 pm

### ***Happy 75th Birthday, St. John's/Feast Day of St. John Evening Service***

The service will honor both our church's patron saint, as well as commemorating our church's 75th birthday. *E Komo Mai.*

**01.08.06**

Sunday, 4 pm

*Come celebrate as  
we make it official!*

### ***Celebration of New Ministry:***

***Installation of the Rev. Liz Beasley as  
St. John's By-the Sea's official Vicar***

Volunteers needed **beforehand** to help out with sending invitations, food preparations and decorating Ho'okano Hall. **See any Bishop Committee Member right away, if interested.** Please *kokua*, in helping make Rev. Liz "official".

**01.29.06**

After Sunday  
Service

### ***Annual Meeting***

Election of four new Bishop Committee members and delegates to both the Windward Region and to the Annual Meeting of the Convention of the Diocese. *That convention will be called upon to elect our new Bishop from a slate of candidates.*

**02.19.06**

through

**02.21.06**

Held at Camp  
Mokuleia,  
Starts Sunday,  
4 pm

### ***February Conference to Plan Youth Ministry in Hawai'i***

The conference will explore and define the needs of our churches regarding youth ministry and the proposed youth ministry resource position, and to bring together all paid and volunteer youth ministers for essential skills training. This is intended for interested clergy and/or congregational representatives and youth ministers, and will be facilitated by a person skilled in youth ministry. See Rev. Liz for details.



### **St. John's Visits Saint John the Divine**

*[Photo Story by: U'i Chong]*

The Padekens experienced New York City as participants at the Native Youth Event, held in early November. The event was geared towards young people meeting and networking with others who are both indigenous peoples and Christians. Besides touring the Statue of Liberty and the United Nations, the group (below) visited the immaculate Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine.





# December/January 2006 Seasons of Christmas/Epiphany Schedule

Date	Day	Event	Vicar	Emcee	Lay Reader	Acolyte	Asst.	Usher	Altar Guild	Flowers	Refreshments
9:30 am Sunday Dec. 25	Christmas Day		Rev. Liz Beasley		Phyllis	Lokela		Kamaehu	Leone and Renee		
9:30 am Sunday Jan. 1	2nd Sunday of Christmas				Penny	Julie		Ryan	Lois and Ruth		
9:30 am Sunday Jan. 8	1st Sunday After Epiphany				Mahi	Ke`alohi		Lokela	Ann and Ke`alohi		
9:30 am Sunday Jan. 15	2nd Sunday After Epiphany	BISHOP COMMITTEE MEETING			Dawn	Chelsae	Ryan	Nalu	Emalia and Lyanne		
9:30 am Sunday Jan. 22	3rd Sunday After Epiphany				Bridgette	Sam		Rex	Leone and Renee		
9:30 am Sunday Jan. 29	4th Sunday After Epiphany			Gene	Leo	`Akahi		`U`i	Lois and Ruth		

**Mahalo** for your steadfast stewardship at St. John's by-the-Sea.

Please *kokua* and call the office (239-7198) or write down any changes on the schedule to ensure its accuracy. **The master schedule in the office will be the primary and official means of communication of when people serve.** The above is subject to change, so please refer to the master schedule to confirm your dates of service.

## ST. JOHN'S NEEDS YOU! Immediately Seeking New Treasurer

St. John's is still looking for a willing, new volunteer Treasurer to replace **Pat Chu**. If you are able to balance a check-book and are good with numbers, please see **Pat** for details. He will provide the necessary training as an assistant, before he steps down from the position late next year.



## kokua line

*Is there an unmet need at St. John's or in the community? Know of someone that should be thanked for their efforts? See Lois about including it here next issue...And now, here's four ways you can kokua (help out.)...*

- (1) Volunteers are needed to help prepare for the January 8th "Celebration of New Ministry" to officially install Rev. Liz as our Vicar. See any Bishop Committee Member for more information.
- (2) Donations of new sources of flowers for the Altar Guild needed. See **Lois**, if you can contribute.
- (3) Donations of food stuffs for key projects needed. See **Lois**, if you are able to help the Kahalu`u community.
- (4) Donations of monetary gifts for the "Transformation Fund", which is geared towards involving children in the community with church activities for youth. See **Lot Lau** or **Pat Chu**, for more information.





**st. john's by-the-sea  
episcopal church**

aloha e komo mai

Celebrating 75 years of Serving Christ, the Church and the Community