

ho'oulu

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



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

February 2006 issue



it's official!

[Rev. Liz Beasley installed as Vicar of St. John's By-the-Sea]

01.08.06 St. John's By-the-Sea, Kahalu'u

Before a crowd of churchgoers and her peers, the Rev. Liz Beasley was officially installed as Vicar of St. John's By-the-Sea by the Bishop Richard S.O. Chang. In her sermon, Liz explained that "this celebration is one way of living out this (Christian) life by serving together and committing ourselves to one another and to Christ in the ministry of this one church."

Her sermon focused on how we at St. John's all have a unique role that God has given us to play in our lifetime. At the same time, we are also all part of a whole, that "none of us can do it by ourselves". "We're all in this together to do the work and ministry of Christ," she urged. "In the waters of baptism, God has given to each one of us the gift of the Holy Spirit, so that we might do His work."

And what is "His work", and how do we as individuals and as Christians play a part in it? "There is a big harvest out there," Liz expounded, referring to the world around us. "It needs Christ, and we as a church are called to bring Christ to it...this aching world needs the peace and compassion of Christ. This world that confuses right from wrong and believes that truth is what we say it is needs the guidance of Christ."

One can't help but recognize Liz's fondness for symbolism. In fact, it is no coincidence that January 8—the start of a new year—was chosen for the date of the Installation—the start of a new spiritual leader for St. John's. The date also falls on both the start of St. John's 75th anniversary, as well as co-founder John Townsend's birthday.

Townsend helped bring great flavor to the community through his commitments to neighborhood outreach and bringing Christianity to the early 20th century Windward region. In Liz's own quiet way, her call to action seemed to summon Townsend's spirit. In a sense it was a nod to those who came before us, recognizing the responsibility to not forget our past. But at the same time, she recognized that because of who we are, we have the responsibility to take a stand with Christ in this new day and age.

"As you and I commit ourselves to going forward together in ministry, let us commit ourselves first of all to Christ," Liz summarized. "Let us commit each day to giving ourselves as a living sacrifice to Him. To allow Him to renew and transform us. So that we might do his ministry together and take his life and his work as laborers into his harvest."

Aloha `oe,
"jb"!

01.29.06 St. John's By-the-Sea,
Kahalu'u

PHOTO BY CLIFF BARRACLOUGH



With his soulful rendering of the hymn "How Great Thou Art", sung in both Hawaiian and English, John Bryan moved churchgoers to tears with his final performance. Better known to us as "JB", the Choir Director and local celebrity will leave for a one-year sabbatical to Japan. While in the city of Osaka, he will perform at Universal Studios. Besides providing musical leadership to St. John's, he was well-known for playing major roles in such local theater productions as *Jesus Christ Superstar* in which he played the role of "Judas". Before leaving for Japan, JB played a guest role on the ABC hit TV series "Lost", as a Nigerian warlord in a flashback scene. Regular substitute Jennifer Perry will take over JB's position.

We will all miss you, JB. Come home to us soon!



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY
THE CHU FAMILY

The Chu Family
present Naheha Chu
to be baptized in
Christ before a
riveted audience.

01.08.06
1st baptismal
of the year @
st. john's



Aloha e komo mai
Come join us for
local music, food & fun at

**St. John's By-the-Sea's
2006 Annual
Fundraiser Luau**

Saturday, May 6
He'eia State Park
Tickets: \$20/adult
(children free with adult)
Seating starts @ 4pm and 6pm

Now that the holiday hustle is over it is now time to think about our annual fund raising luau. The date is set for Saturday May 6th, 2006. The location will be the same as last year at He'eia State Park. We will plan to have two seatings, the first at 4 pm and the second at 6 pm. *This will be a busy weekend for us as the Bishop's annual visit to St. John's By-the-Sea is scheduled for the next day, May 7th.*

As usual, this luau cannot be a success without the cooperation and hard work from as many able bodies as possible. To give you a head start on thinking about where you might want to help, here are the committees: Set-up, break down, decorations, food service line, kitchen, take-out window, ticket sales and publicity.

If you are interested in either heading one of the above committees or want to lend a helping hand, please let me know. I can be reached by either email lsimeona@honolulu.gov (the first letter is a lower case "L") or telephone 239-4355.

Last year was a great success and with everyone's help we can have a successful 2006 luau.

it's luau time again
geniesimeona



Family Promise Update

01.15.06



Bishop Committee representative David Gierlach and Malama Committee chair Tori Tualatamalelagi will be co-coordinators on the upcoming Family Promise community project. Both are currently receiving training with other participating Windward churches. While final approval from the Diocese on insurance issues is pending, St. John's is moving forward with its commitment to provide overnight accommodations and meals for three to five homeless families, up to 15 people for one week on a rotating quarterly schedule.

St. John's start date will be May 14. This would give us ample time to prepare a month in advance and to avoid the busyness of the next few months. During this time, he also felt that now was a good time to get a "collection of bedding taken care of now." He also suggested that we ask now for volunteers to provide nightly supervision to the families and/or food preparation. About 45 volunteers are required for this project.

For Family Promise's part, the non-profit will provide transportation and twin sized beds for up to fifteen people. St. John's will provide meals and clean hand towels and bedding such as blankets and linen. While St. John's has shower facilities, Family Promise is not requiring us to provide the service.

Family Promise of Hawaii's mission is to mobilize the community to help low income families achieve and sustain their independence. Families stay at a host congregation during the evening and overnight. In the morning families are transported to the day center. At the day center families get ready for their daily activities, which may include caring for young children or going out to school or work, or to look for job or housing.

POVERTY IN AMERICA

[Source: Family Promise website, www.nihp.org]

facts

•Over 12 percent of the U. S. population lives in poverty—that's one in six children...

•Families with children are the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population in the US—40%...

•Thirty-six million people, including 14 million children, experience hunger...

•About 41 million people do not have health insurance...

•A minimum-wage worker would have to work more than 67 hours a week just to keep a family of four above the poverty line of \$18,104 per year for the average family of four...

...Yet 80 percent of guest families found permanent or transitional housing through Family Promise in 2004. More than 130,000 guests have been assisted by Family Promise programs.

Please *kokua*... Volunteer your time and talents to help strengthen lives...Ask

Liz, David or Tori on how you can make a difference...

With Rev. Liz Beasley officially on-board as Vicar, the Bishop's Committee is moving full-steam ahead with plotting the direction of St. John's

for at least the next three years. For the last few months, the BC has been gradually putting in pieces to the puzzle of aligning the growth goals of St. John's with the overall goals of conversion, transformation and evangelism set by the Diocese.

Liz emphasized in the meeting that the Diocese would not accept the goals the BC sets, *if they are not aligned with the goals of the diocesan Strategic Plan or if they are unrealistic*. Liz added that the strength of working on the three-year strategic plan would "save (St. John's) from focusing on monies yearly."

Here is the current schedule of events related to St. John's strategic planning:

date	event
02.11.06	Strategic Planning Training @ St. George's, 9am-3pm
(This is one of two days that St. John's is required to attend. Attendance by as many members of St. John's is encouraged. Members can register and attend either this date or 02.25 meeting)	Because St. John's will be subsidized by the Diocese, the Diocese is requiring that representation from St. John's attend this meeting. Emphasis is on how churches are to create the three-year budget.
02.18.06 thru 02.24.06	Start Up/Start Over Conference in San Diego, CA.
BC Members attending this conference include: ⇒ Rev. Liz Beasley ⇒ Sr. Warden Phyllis Chang ⇒ BC Members Leo Loyola and Tori Tualatamalelagi	According to their website, "START UP! START OVER! is for people who believe that church is about the transformation of people's lives. (The conference) provides practical, goal oriented congregational development and growth training." It is designed for: ⇒ thriving congregations ready for their next step; ⇒ congregations that have hit a growth plateau seeking new energy; ⇒ congregations in decline needing a new direction; and ⇒ those planting a new church
Ideas from this conference are to be shared with St. John's and possibly implemented into Strategic Plan for the church.	
03.04.06	Strategic Planning Session @ Pat & Penny Chu's house
Plan for this to be an all-day event. Coffee at 9 am. Meeting will start at 9:30 am. Expected to end around 3 pm. Everyone is invited to attend—and encouraged.	This event will be the actual hammering out of the details of St. John's strategic plan. The three-year budget and St. John's strategic goals are to be plotted. Goals set are to be in alignment with mandate set by the Diocese.

Along with the election of new Bishop Committee members and delegates (see results on page four), there were several highlights during our Annual Meeting:

Liz called her first Annual Meeting since coming on-board seven months ago, she briefly reviewed several new ventures that are currently being implemented. Examples include Friday morning Bible studies and prayers, Wednesday evening healing services and her "Lunch with Liz" program where she spends time individually with churchgoers getting to know one another. At the same time, she is learning the traditions of St. John's such as our quarterly Hawaiian services, our mix of English and Hawaiian-language singing and the annual luau. She commended everyone for taking a step forward in improving how things are.

One key project that will hopefully become part of St. John's tradition is as host congregation with Family Promise (see page two.) Overwhelmingly, response to the program was "this is what churches should be doing".

Announcing the efforts the Bishop Committee will be taking with regards to St. John's strategic planning, Liz sees these steps as a "look ahead to the future." Her hopes, according to her report are for a "vital and growing Sunday School, adult education, new signage, (and) increased visibility."

Before announcing his retirement from his duties as Treasurer later this year, Pat Chu happily announced that St. John's is "for the first time since being Treasurer" profitable. This is largely because St. John's moved from having to support a full-time vicar to a part-time one (Liz works part-time as Communications Officer at the Diocese and is Editor of the *Hawaii Church Chronicle*.) "We made it through 2005 with all the bills paid and a positive amount in the checking and savings accounts," Pat reported. "Our 2006 budget should provide us with a similar result" Last year's biggest project was the refurbishing of the vicarage for just under \$10,000; this year's is expected to be renovations to be done with Ho'okano Hall, including replacing of the lights and water-damaged ceiling tiles. When the meeting started to turn into everyone listing what needed to be done, BC Member Penny Chu kept the meeting on-track by proposing that the BC itemize what needs to be repaired and prioritize them at a later date.

Outgoing Stewardship Committee Chair Mahi Beimes announced that pledges made so far is \$67,627—a decrease, compared to \$72, 818 last year.

[Annual Meeting in Review, Continued on Page 4]

Offsetting this decrease was, of course, Liz's employment as a part-time vicar. The previous year's pledge drive was in comparison a desperate push to make ends meet, supporting a full-time vicar. Despite the drop in pledges, Mahi countered that the "Bread of Life" stewardship program was highly successful—and a substantial improvement with last year's numbers. For example, the average pledge for 2006 is \$1691, compared to \$1500 last year. Taking into consideration the state and nation's economy with increased gasoline prices and exorbitant real property taxes, Mahi was encouraged by St. John's huge generosity.

She concluded her report praising Liz as "a part-time vicar who operates as if she were full-time, burning the candle at both ends." It was a sentiment that everyone proudly agreed.

Family Promise was a major highlight of the Malama Committee report with St. John's being heavily involved in the planning process at the moment. Co-coordinator David Gierlach explained how involved the project will be, requiring approximately 45 people involved in such activities as food preparation, gathering of supplies, supervision of the families, etc. One month before our May 14 start date on the project, Family Promise will provide necessary training to those involved. *Six weeks before that*, David and Malama Chair Tori Tualatamalelagi will be asking for groups of volunteers to help out for every day of the assigned week. "Basically we need people who can cook, to spend the night and to provide supplies," David said.

In addition, Tori noted that the committee would be getting back to providing monthly lunches for Habitat for Humanity-Windward work sites in Waimanalo, starting March 5. The brief break was due to the processing of applications from approval for the non-profit's clients with construction work resuming in March.

Another need by the Committee included more storage space for art supplies and for existing paper supplies for our kitchen in Ho'okano Hall. She noted that the Hall is experiencing a rodent problem, resulting in supplies needing to be stored in the Church office.

Lastly she brought up the issue on the kiln on our property. Being

Mahalo to all!

On behalf of everyone at St. John's, the *Ho'oulu* would like to send out a big *mahalo* to the following volunteers for stepping up to the plate...

New Altar Guild Members:

Jan Rensel, Cheryl Holland and Lois Fogelstrom

New Layreader: Jack Ward

Newly-elected Bishop Committee Members:

Genie Simeona (Jr. Warden), Sandy Padeken, Butch Chang, Bill Fay and Lolana Fenstermacher

Outgoing Bishop Committee Members:

Rex Chong (Jr. Warden), Mahi Beimes, Jeanne Porter, Bridgette Iseri and David Gierlach

Newly-elected Delegates/Alternates to the 38th Annual Episcopal Convention (2006):

Mahi, Lot Lau, Jim Thomas and Leo Loyola

(Alternates: Val Besenbruch, Phyllis Chang, Vicki Fay, Sandy)

Newly-elected Windward Regional Representatives:

Phyllis, Dick Halverson, Tori Tualatamalelagi and Leo

And finally, I would also like to thank those who contributed to helping fill this issue with wonderful pictures and other contributions. With my computer dying on me and losing everything that I was working on, I had to start again from scratch. I am truly grateful to the very timely help provided—Leo

informed that properly installing the kiln would require thousands of dollars, she is working on alternate plans on what to do with the kiln.

For the Christian Formation Report, Liz informed those in attendance that the Godly Play program might be replaced with another curriculum. She also proposed to start up Adult Education programs including Confirmation classes.



01.08.06

bishop chang performs the eucharist during "celebration of new ministry" ceremony.

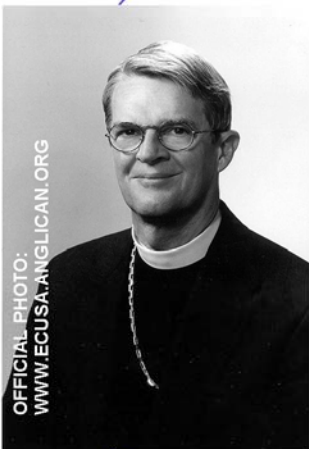
Newly-installed Vicar Rev. Liz Beasley watches as Bishop Richard S.O. Chang blesses the bread and wine.

March 2006 Season of Lent Schedule

Date	Day	Event	Vicar	Emcee	Lay Reader	Acolyte	Asst.	Usher	Altar Guild
10:30 am Wednesday March 1	Ash Wednesday	Morning Service	Rev. Liz Beasley						
6:30 pm Wednesday March 1	Ash Wednesday	Evening Service							
9:30 am Sunday March 5	1st Sunday of Lent				Jack Ward	Sam		Rex	Ann, Ke`alohi and Jan Rensel
9:30 am Sunday March 12	2nd Sunday of Lent			Gene	Leo	`Akahi		`U'i	Emalia, Lyanne and Cheryl Holland
9:30 am Sunday March 19	3rd Sunday of Lent	Bishop Committee Meeting			Phyllis	Lokela		Kamaehu	Leone, Renee and Lois Fogelstrom
9:30 am Sunday March 26	4th Sunday of Lent	Hawaiian Sunday Service	Rev. Liz and Fr. Charlie Hopkins		Penny	Julie		Ryan	Lois M. 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.



Presiding Bishop: Good Friday Offering

In his annual Epiphany letter to all congregations, Presiding Bishop Frank T. Griswold has asked that Episcopalians continue to pray for their brothers and sisters in the Holy Land and to support the Good Friday Offering as an opportunity to demonstrate solidarity with Anglicans and all Christians in that troubled region of the world. For the past 84 years the Episcopal Church has taken up a Good Friday Offering to be sent to the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, symbolizing unity with and passionate concern for those who witness to Christ throughout that region. For more information on the Good Friday Offering, or to download the form to order offering materials, go to

Youth/Young Adult Pilgrimage to England and Scotland

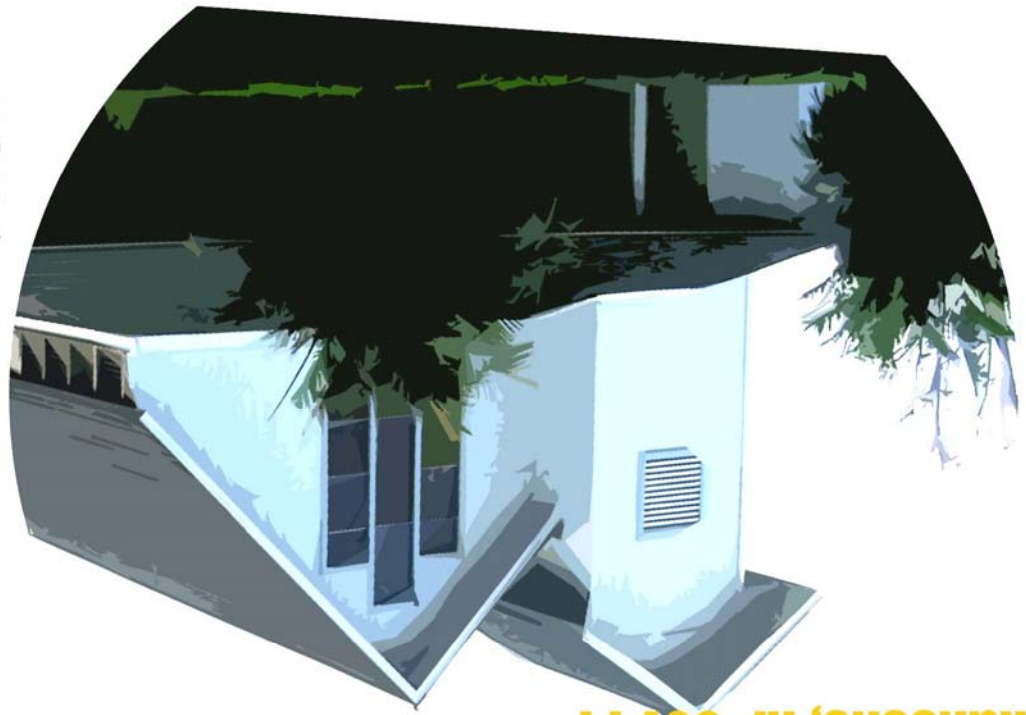
St. Andrew's Cathedral is planning a pilgrimage to England and Scotland primarily for youth and young adults, although some more senior adults are attending as well. The trip will travel to and stay in Canterbury (right) and Salisbury Cathedrals, and will visit other holy places such as St. Paul's Cathedral in London and Coventry Cathedral. The pilgrimage will then conclude on the Isle of Iona, the site of an ancient monastery and current Christian community off the west coast of Scotland. Dates have not yet been finalized, but will probably be 10-14 days in mid-June 2006. To prepare for the pilgrimage, pilgrims will participate in a number of preparations of mind, body, and spirit — individually and as a group. The pilgrimage is available to diocesan young people and their sponsors. For more info, please contact Jenny Wallace at (808) 524-2822 x220 or jennywallace@hawaii.rr.com.



Invitation to consider "A Place Apart"

On February 9 at 4:30 p.m. in the Von Holt Room of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jenny Wallace will host a conversation for anyone who is interested in how we, as a Diocese, can foster occasions for spiritual encounter such as retreats, pilgrimages, and camps. This first meeting is for brainstorming and sharing of ideas. There is no budget for airfares, but the group will attempt a phone conference link for those from Neighbor Islands who would like to participate. Please contact Jenny Wallace at 808-524-2822 x220 or jennywallace@hawaii.rr.com if you would like to be a part of this discussion.

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aloha e komo mai

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

sunday morning services, 9:30am

ash wednesday services

march 1, 10am & 6:30pm

healing ministry eve services

1st & 3rd wednesdays, 6:30pm

morning bible study/prayers

fridays, 9:15am