



iews & views



Letter from the Vicar

[Rev. Liz Beasley]

here's a lot coming up at St. John's By-the-Sea: a new Sunday school program, a Stewardship program of giving bread to our members, a Thanksgiving service, a celebration of new ministry. Read about them elsewhere in this issue.

But there is a lot happening in the larger body of our Diocese as well. I have just returned from the Annual Meeting of our Diocese, where **Bishop Chang** announced that he plans to retire early in 2007. Excerpts from his address also appear in this issue. His retirement may well affect St. John's By-the-Sea in ways that we cannot now foresee, because we are a mission congregation, which means the **Bishop** is officially the "Rector."

The Standing Committee of the Diocese has asked that we pray a particular prayer in our services throughout the search process for a new bishop. May we all keep **Bishop Chang** and his family, the Search Committee, and the Diocese of Hawai'i in our prayers during this transition time.

In Christ's love,

Liz+

A Prayer for the Search for a Bishop

Gracious and loving God, we come to you for guidance and strength as we search for a new bishop for the Diocese of Hawai'i. Help us to discern your desire for your people and to call a shepherd who can guide us in your path. Help us to be open to

the movement of your Spirit as we call a bishop who will show us the wonders and excitement of more fully becoming your disciples. Help us to elect a bishop who will walk the difficult roads with us and take us closer to the Kingdom that you desire for us. Keep our search committee committed to one another in their task, give them the strength and perseverance to listen to the people of this diocese and to your guidance, and help them remember to delight in one another even as they move through this most serious of responsibilities. We ask all of this in the name of your Son, our loving Savior and everpresent Shepherd, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*



A Gift of Bread

his year for our Stewardship commitment program, we will have a gift of homemade bread for every family in our church. For this program we need "bakers" and "callers." The bakers will make several loaves of bread — the number of loaves will depend on how many bakers we have. The bread can be made using a bread machine. The recipe can be anything at all — so long as it is not store bought.

On Sunday, November 20, all bakers will bring their loaves to church. During the service, we will bless the bread and bless and commission both the bakers and the callers. That afternoon, the callers will deliver the bread to the homes of individuals and families in the church. Callers can pick which families they visit. Deliveries should be completed that Sunday afternoon, if possible.

Callers will give a loaf of bread to each family and will ask them to remember that all that is healthful and nourishing in their lives is a gift from God. A sheet with pledge guidelines and suggestions for deciding on the amount that is right for the family and a commitment card will come with the bread. Callers are not expected to ask for money. They will just be delivering the bread as a gift from St. John's. Each person or family is asked to fill out and bring or mail the card to church on Sunday, December 4.

For those interested, there will be training on Sunday, November 13, after church.

WANTED:

Immediately Seeking New Treasurer for St. John's



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



iews & views



Excerpts from the Address to the 37th Annual Meeting of the Convention of the Diocese of Hawai`i—October 28, 2005

[Bishop Richard S.O. Chang]

n preparation for this Annual Meeting, I reread the proceedings from the 36th Annual Meeting of the Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i, and reviewed reports from commissions and congregations. It is evident that numerous members of the Convention made their decisions regarding the Strategic Plan for our Diocese without full appreciation of the risks, challenges, and opportunities it embodied. They acted as I did when I got into the car with total strangers without thinking of the consequences of my action. With adoption of the Strategic Plan, the transformation of the Diocese of Hawai'i was begun. The Diocese has begun that move from the onramp of maintenance onto the highway for mission. With adoption of our Strategic Plan, we said that we were ready as a Diocese to move forward with a new commitment to mission. We were ready to risk for the mission of the Church. The journey has begun.

But we have only just begun. There is the risk that this 37th Annual Meeting will be reluctant to continue the initiatives begun last year. There is the risk that we will fall into regressive behavior and try to return to maintenance. We may not want to face new challenges. We may want to return to our comfortable pews. But that is not possible.

This Diocese cannot turn back. We have a purpose in life: We are followers of Jesus Christ. We are a people with a mission. Moving forward as the Spiritfilled people of God is challenging and risky. It is made possible because of the love of God in Jesus Christ for each of us. We are not now and never will be separated from that embracing powerful love of God in Christ Jesus. God working in us and our communities will sustain us as we walk our path of faithful discipleship. Ours is the faith of the apostles and martyrs. Ours is a community rooted in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Ours is a life redeemed by a loving God. And so, there is only moving forward. We are not the same church or diocese that gathered a year ago - we are certainly not the fearracked, angry, and resentful Diocese I first addressed nine years ago. We have been transformed by the power of the Spirit of God. We can now live into the mission to which we have been called by our baptism. The power of Pentecost in each of our lives enables us to become a church united in mission and rejoicing in God's blessings of diversity...

...But the transformation for mission has not been without difficulty and obstacles. For the majority of our Diocese, our Strategic Plan is still an unknown. Regrettably, there are those among us this afternoon who have never read our Strategic Plan, or even know how to get a copy. Many congregations and

Diocesan Commissions have not used the four goals of our Plan in developing, implementing, and evaluating their vision and ministry.

Many are unaware of the real impact of the actions taken by the 36th Annual Meeting last year. We embarked upon a new pathway of mission as a Diocese, and too many have remained in the dark and "clueless." For a few, the Strategic Plan has provoked the old responses of fear, anger, and resentment — but only for a few. For this I have grieved and have had to ask myself the question, "Where is our faith in Jesus Christ?" Then I am reminded of others who have boldly embraced mission. I am reminded of the new programs and ministries of our congregations. I am reminded of emerging partnerships for ministry. And I thank God — the journey on the road of mission has begun.

The Report of the Compensation Review Commission to this Annual Meeting is...a bold attempt to look at our new reality. The reports of the several Task Forces created by resolution at the 36th Annual Meeting are more clear examples of the opportunities and risks before us as we strive forward in a spirit of mission. Transformation of systems is never easy. It is painful for everyone: those who resist the transformation and those who advocate it. During the time we spend together at this Annual Meeting, let us fully engage the issues of mission with a spirit of generosity and respect, and not scapegoat those who differ from us. Focus on the issues with the spirit of mission. It is God's mission that we do. Mission serves others. Mission that is self-serving is maintenance!

...Like it or not, the actions taken by the 36th Annual Meeting began the transformation of our Diocese. The people of God in the Diocese of Hawai'i have been called to become a new Church — a Spirit-filled church dedicated to a mission of reconciliation with God and with each other.

Your Diocesan Council has caught the spirit of mission and transformation, as evidenced by their development of the 2006 Budget and their presentations at the pre-Convention budget meetings, by their proposal that we embark upon a three-year budget process, and by their willingness to be leaders committed to mission.

The re-visioning of familiar programs, such as Christian Formation, Summer Camp, and young adult ministry, has been undertaken with this new understanding of mission and ministry shaped by the faith of their community and the goals of our Strategic Plan. The work of the Commission on Ministry in the implementation of the ministry canons within this Diocese has reminded us that ministry is for all the baptized, not to the few who are ordained and their closest friends!

...I conclude my address to this 37th Annual Meeting of the Convention of the Diocese of Hawai`i with the challenge to the Diocese to step into your future with renewed boldness and an eager faith in Jesus Christ. Such a challenge demands that we must each evaluate our role in the mission of the Diocese and our calling now that we have committed to the risks of the journey.

Therefore, after much prayer, I call for the election of the next Bishop Diocesan for the Diocese of Hawai`i, and that the Diocese begin the election process. It is my intention to retire sometime after my 65th birthday (November 30, 2006). I have informed the Standing Committee of my intention to call for an episcopal election...

Let me make it very clear that I will not resign my jurisdiction of the Diocese of Hawai`i as the Fourth Bishop of Hawai`i until the Fifth Bishop of Hawai`i has been elected and consecrated...I intend for our Diocese to have an orderly transition between episcopates. Ecclesiastical authority will be passed directly from me to my successor, not to or through the Standing Committee. You may not realize it, but God willing, I will be the first Bishop of Hawai`i to resign for the purpose of retirement, or in the words of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, "for reasons of advanced age." ...

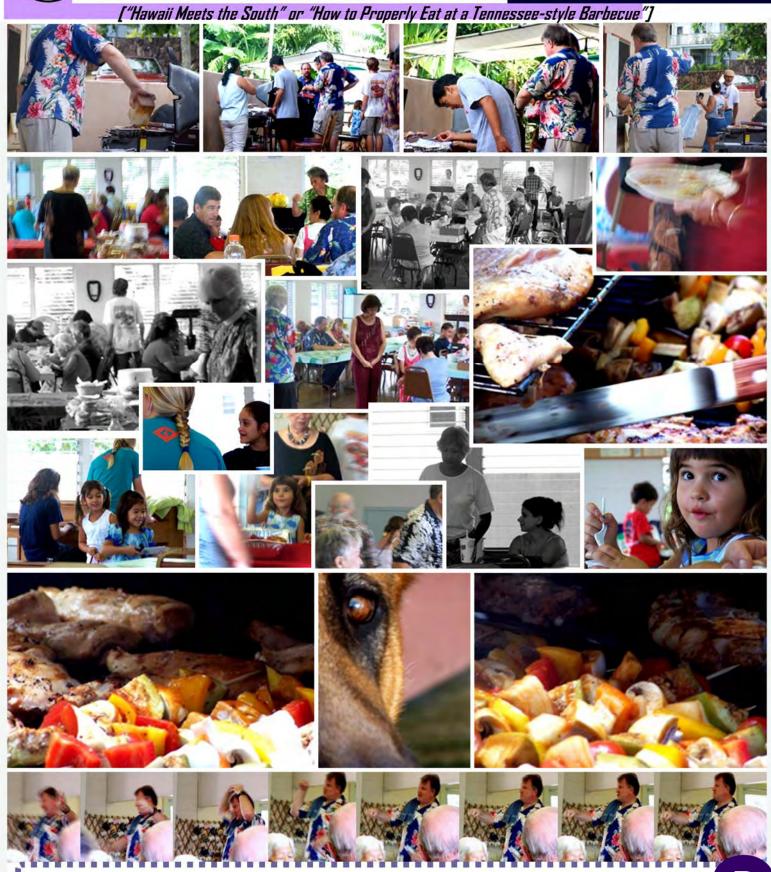
It was not an easy decision for me. Ordained ministry has been my life for the last 39 years. Let me assure each of you that this decision was not made lightly. My decision was reached after prayerful discernment and many hours of reflection with my prayer partner in the House of Bishops.

Next year, 2006, will mark the tenth year of my episcopate and the fortieth anniversary of my ordination. I believe that I have served the Church faithfully for these years. I believe that I leave the Diocese of Hawai'i in a healthier place than when I began my Episcopal ministry in 1996. I believe that the time is right for the Diocese to move into your future with new Episcopal leadership. More importantly, I believe that the time is right for me and my family.

Dee and I have not as yet made any definite plans for our retirement. We still have much time with you, so don't you listen for the "quacks" of a lame duck. Together we have much to do as the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i as we live into our Baptismal Covenant and continue the implementation of the Diocesan Strategic Plan. We are not done. As one who believes in the communion of saints, our work of sharing Christ's love and praising the living God will never be done. That is the mission to which God has called each of us in this place called Hawai'i. That is the mission which you have graciously shared with me.

...Thank you for honoring me and allowing me to be among you as your bishop. God bless you all.





Got suggestions or photos to share in the 🗓 Oulu? Just see Leo. Mahalo.



Caring for Christ's church and the community

[Feature Story]



What Does God Want of Me?

Part four [Written by in a series | Leo Loyola]

I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel Flis pleasure. [1924 Olympic 400m gold medalist/Scottish Christian missionary Eric Lidell who ran for the glory of God in the 1981 true-life, Academy award-winning movie Chariots of Fire]

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of bim to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." [Luke ID:1-2]

OVE CHRIST, LOVE THE BODY OF CHRIST, LOVE THE WORLD FOR WHOM CHRIST DIED." These words were embroidered on huge cloth banners hung in a Salt Lake church

I attended years ago. And in a simple way, these words define who we are as Christians and our purpose in this world. For centuries, one of the biggest philosophical questions that people ask is "what is the meaning of life?" While some may view life as a series of random Godless events, the Christian view is that life has a God-filled purpose. Discovering that purpose in life is what Christians and non-Christians struggle with during their lifetime. For Christians, this pondering is distilled into the question "What does God call me to do?...What does God want of me?"

Lay or ordained, Christians who discover their purpose have what is called a ministry. Paraphrasing a quote from Canon Rev. Bob Fitzpatrick from part three of this series, a ministry is essentially "how you live... how you share (with others) what you got from God." While our faith is based on a belief in God and what Christ has done for us, what we do with our lives is what truly matters to God and to others. This is basically what having a ministry is about.

Individually, we have certain talents and gifts; as Christians, using them is a personal calling to both serve God and to live our lives in a self-fulfilling manner. Collectively as a church and as citizens of the world, the purpose of our individual gifts to serve other's needs and thus serve God. As the apostle Paul said in Romans 12:

> "... (Think) of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If

a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully." [Romans 12:3-8]

NUTURING OUR CHILDREN'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH

One such ministry that is close to St. John's heart is in fostering the spiritual growth of its youth. It was once described by someone that St. John's was not just our church but our "grandchildren's church", as well. His view of church was future-focused in that what we teach our children now-by words and by deeds-will be passed onto their children. It is a view commonly shared by all, and put into practice by those whose personal ministries involve our keiki.



REVITALIZING SUNDAY SCHOOL THROUGH GODLY PLAY

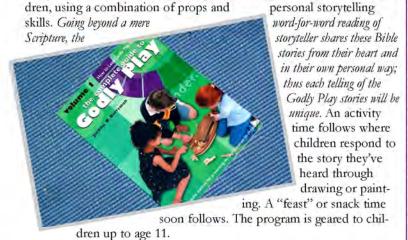
The October 16 Bishop's Committee meeting was over, and I sat down with Rev. Liz Beasley and Christian Formation Chair 'U'i Chong to ask them about steps that were taking

[What Does God Want of Me?, continued on page 5]

place to revitalize our Sunday School program. On November 13, a new curriculum based upon Jerome Berryman's *Godly Play* approach will be introduced.

"(Godly Play)," **Liz** explained, "is based upon the Montessori method. (It is) a program that recognizes that children have (an innate) sense of the sacred. The program nurtures (this spirituality)." '**U**'i added that the approach will bring "consistency and structure" to the current ministry, building upon the loving spirit of its teachers. (To kick-start the revitalized Sunday School, **Liz** will be the storyteller during the first part of the November 13 service. **David Gierlach** will lead this part of the Sunday service and **Liz** will return to perform the Eucharist.)

Essentially the *Godly Play* approach—which is currently being used by many Christian churches—involves the two key roles of storyteller and doorperson. When parents bring their child to Ho'okano Hall, they are greeted by the doorperson who welcomes and quietly escorts the child to a circle of children around the storyteller. The doorperson aids in creating a warm loving environment conducive for the child to learn. By introducing the child to the circle the *Godly Play* community builds until every child arrives. The storyteller presents Scripture stories to the chil-



With the new program, **Liz** also sees this as an opportunity for St. John's to reach out to parents of young children who are not only seeking for a church to grow with, but also a place where their child's spirituality can be fostered. She sees the program as an excellent method for children to "learn liturgy, hear how it applies to our lives (from a child's perspective) and have a greater sense of what worship is all about."

SERVING GOD ON THE ALTAR: ACOLYTES AND YOUTH SUNDAY

Another way St. John's helps in guiding the growth of our children is by giving positions of responsibility during the worship service as an acolyte. The Acolyte Ministry is one of the oldest in the Church, dating to its earliest years, and is open to interested youth. During every worship service, a rotation of young acolytes are responsible for attending to the candles on the altar, carrying the cross in procession, serving the elements to the Celebrant at the Eucharist and serving the clergy and staff in whatever way may be required. These responsibilities, in turn, instill in the youth the sacredness of serving God on the altar.

More recently St. John's is aiming to make youth-led services a quarterly event. Organized by 'U'i, each of the youth took different responsibilities during the first portion of the service as either a Layreader, Emcee, Acolyte or doing the sermon. If the Youth Sunday service on October 23 is any indication, it clearly demonstrated the growing maturity of St. John's youth and the respect they have for the worship service. While sticking closely to the structure of a normal worship service, the service also reflected their youthful spirit. Amazed by how well the youth were doing, I felt compelled to congratulate 'U'i for a job well done. To that

she humbly said, "It's not me. It's them." And she directed her attention back to the service, silently making sure things went smoothly.

BUILDING CITIZENS OF THE WORLD: BEYOND ST. JOHN'S DOORS

Besides its own programs and activities, St. John's works alongside its sister Episcopalian churches in guiding the growth of our *keiki*. One such intra-church program is called New Beginnings. This year, St. John's sponsored four of our youth—'Akahi, Ryan, Pili and Tyson—to attend the weekend-long event at Camp Mokuleia from October 7 through 9. Geared towards those in grades seven through nine, it is designed to address issues and concerns of today's youth and to help participants grow in their love of themselves, others, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jump forward to October 23's youth service, and New Beginnings adult sponsor **Dawn Yadao** introduced the youths to share what they learned from the experience. One by one, the four publicly thanked the congregation for their support and prayers. They shared about their initial awkwardness in meeting other kids that gradually became new friends and other lessons they've personally learned. To top it off, they entertained everyone with a camp song they learned while at New Beginnings—a song they could not help but giggle while performing it. From the cheery expressions on their faces, it looked as if this won't be the last time they'll attend the camp.

For St. John's older Christian youth who are of Hawaiian ancestry, a similar event will be held in New York City. Taking place from November 18 through 20, a couple of our youth will attend the Native Youth & Young Adult Event (NYYE) with **Tori Tualatamalelagi** as their adult sponsor. (As of this writing, the finalized list of who's attending was yet confirmed.) There, they will share with other youths about life experiences and lessons learned as indigenous people and Christians in today's America. They will also learn about opportunities offered by the Episcopal Diocese. During the event, they will also tour such iconic landmarks as the Statue of Liberty and the United Nations as well as the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. The hope for this event is for participating youth to be proud of their heritage and strong in their faith as Christians.

EXPLORING WHAT GOD WANTS OF ME

Of course these are but a few examples of ministries within St. John's. Personal ministries such as these stem from a personal love and devotion for those they serve and a compulsion to meet an unfilled need or to solve a problem. What is your personal ministry?

If you are reading this, wondering about your place in this world, perhaps this is something to strongly consider. What is my God-given talent? What personally drives and compels me? Do I have a love and talent for music or the arts? Am I excellent in business matters? Do I have a great rapport with children or adults? How can I use what I love to do already to serve God and others?

Consider these questions as a sign leading us to what God is compelling us to do with our lives. Consider them as St. John's works steadily towards becoming a healthier church of individuals with different gifts, working towards the common goal of serving God. Consider these questions as a wake-up call to the ministry you can best serve. Consider Jesus Christ himself, as he lived his earthly life glorifying God 24/7 in everything he did.

[In future chapters, I will explore different types of ministries of which St. John's is currently involved. Perhaps it is a ministry that you yourself considered involving yourself with. Or perhaps this column will help you think about ministries that St. John's is not involved in yet—a ministry that you yourself see a strong compulsion to see accomplished. When you read these next few chapters, ask yourself: "What does God want of me, and what can I personally do to accomplish that?"]



Heeding The Call to Hawaii's "Houseless" [10.23.05—Ha`akana Hall]

"We do so little, but what an impact it has on people's lives," **John Heidel** of Family Promise explained of his organization's mission to provide transitional housing to what he terms the "houseless"—largely, families that are working but without shelter due to circumstances beyond their control. Speaking before churchmembers (see above photo), **Heidel** appealed to St. John's to become part of a planned network of 13 inter-faith churches on the Windward side of O'ahu. Their plan is to provide housing services that currently "only exist in Honolulu".

Under their proposal, St. John's will provide living quarters for one week, four times a year, while Family Promise bears all other necessary expenses. According to **Heidel**, families participating under the program are required to actively take the necessary steps to get out of their current situation, with the assurance that daily necessities like food and shelter will be provided. Families are also screened for substance abuse before they are even permitted to participate in the program, **Heidel** assured the gathering. Admittedly he does understand that the program is a "band-aid" in the long run. But with an estimated 14-16,000 in Hawai'i that are "houseless"—a major cause for this is skyrocketing house prices—"(Family Promise) helps," **Heidel** says of the program.

Family Promise hopes that if St. John's does make that commitment, the program can be implemented as early as January 2006.

For more information on Family Promise and how *you* can help, please see **Rev. Liz** or a member of the Bishop's Committee.

Congratulations to Jim Thomas, St. John's By-the-Sea's 2005 Kupuna Award recipient



Jim Thomas (above, with lei), seated with Cliff Barraclough. Cliff, Penny Chu, Mahi Beimes, Phyllis Chang and Rev. Liz (photo below) were in attendance to watch Jim receive the well-deserved reward at the annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) luncheon at St. Andrew's Cathedral on October 22, 2005.



Mahalo to ...

...Leone Leong for the gift of the beautiful *koa* offering plates for St. John's worship services.

...All those who helped cook and serve during the Tennessee-style BBQ, especially **Kaipo** and **Kapono Lucas**, who manned the grill. And *mahalo* to all for eating, too!

UPCOMING EVEN+S

11.03.05 Sunday During 1st half of Sunday Service at Ho`okano Hall

Rev. Liz Kick-starts St. John's New Sunday School Program

Rev. Liz Beasley kicks off the new Godly Play curriculum as the first day's storyteller. Sunday School teachers and parents of children ages 3-11 are encouraged to attend.

11.13.05

Sunday Starts following Sunday Service

Bread of Life Training for All Volunteer Bakers and Callers

Volunteers taking part in this year's Stewardship Commitment Program as a "baker" or "caller" are to attend. See Liz for further details.

11.20.05

Sunday

Bread of Life Program

As part of this year's Stewardship Program, volunteer bakers are to bring home-baked loaves to Sunday Service to be blessed. Volunteer "callers" are to deliver these loaves and commitment cards to assigned families. Bakers and callers will be instructed on their responsibilities during training to be held on November 13.

11.24.05

Thursday 9:30am

Thanksgiving Service

12.04.05

Sunday

Commitment Cards Due

As a follow-up to the Bread of Life Program in November, commitment cards of pledges are due today.

12.09.05 through

12.11.05

Held at Camp Mokuleia. North Shore

"CPR" Training for Youth: Senior High Retreat 2005

The theme this year cleverly stands for "Christ Powered Revival". Geared towards youth in grades 9-12, it is a retreat for individual spiritual development and fellowship with other Sr. High youth. The focus is on becoming authentic followers of Jesus and bringing God's revival to the world. See Dawn Yadao for details on this event.

12.27.05

Happy 75th Birthday, St. John's By-the-Sea!

01.08.06

Sunday Starts 4:30pm "Celebration of New Ministry" Come celebrate as St. John's holds its official ceremony to install Rev. Liz Beasley as its new vicar! Stay tuned for more details. ARE YOU READY TO SET YOUR HEART ON FIRE? BECOME A PART OF GOD'S REVOLUTION & REVIVAL . . . BECOME GOD'S DIFFERENCE FOR THE WORLD

IT BEGINS WITH THE NEW BREATH AND LIFE GOD OFFERS US IN JESUS CHRIST.

CHRIST POWERED REVIVAL

C.P.R. TRAINING:



BECOMING AUTHENTIC FOLLOWERS OF JESUS BRINGING GOD'S REVIVAL TO THE WORLD

SENIOR HIGH RETREAT 2005

Camp Mokule`ia, O`ahu December 9-11, 2005 Grades 9-12 Information & Forms at www.episcopalhawaii.org

COME AND SEE... THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING BETTER FOR US AND THE WORLD!

image, "REVIVAL Heart" @ 2003 "Meat and Potatoes Ministries", all rights reserved.

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.)...

- ⇒St. John's Bishop Committee is urgently looking for a new volunteer Treasurer to take over for current Treasurer Pat Chu. If you feel comfortable with numbers and basic accounting, please see Pat for training.
- ⇒ Interested in helping out with St. John's Worship Services by becoming a Layreader, Acolyte, Choir Member or Usher? Please see Rev. Liz Beasley (or Jan Rensel for the Choir) for more information on how you can kokua.
- ⇒Donations of new sources of flowers for the Altar Guild needed. See Lois, if you can contribute.
- Donations of food stuffs for key projects needed. See Lois, if you are able to help the Kahalu'u community.
- ⇒ Monetary donations 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.





Interested in

sharing your

talents to serve

God and others?

If you've answered take pictures?

'yes', then please join the volunteer staff of the

OU

Please contact Leo for details on how you can help make a difference in other's lives...

Contact Leo at 203-4359 (cell) or e-mail MC L@hotmail.com for information.



Giving™ is highly intended to be administered with an open heart. It is not recommended if expecting immediate returns for your efforts. Benefits may include: peace of mind, better relations with others, reduced selfabsorption and/or actually helping others out. Side effects may include: possible repetition, an acute sense of joy, and/or doing God's will. Please consult your heart first before usage.



Giving™... Christian-tested. God-approved.



Sunday Morning Services 9:30am

Thanksgiving Service 11.24.05, Thursday 9:30am

Healing Ministry Services (Anointing and prayer service) 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30pm