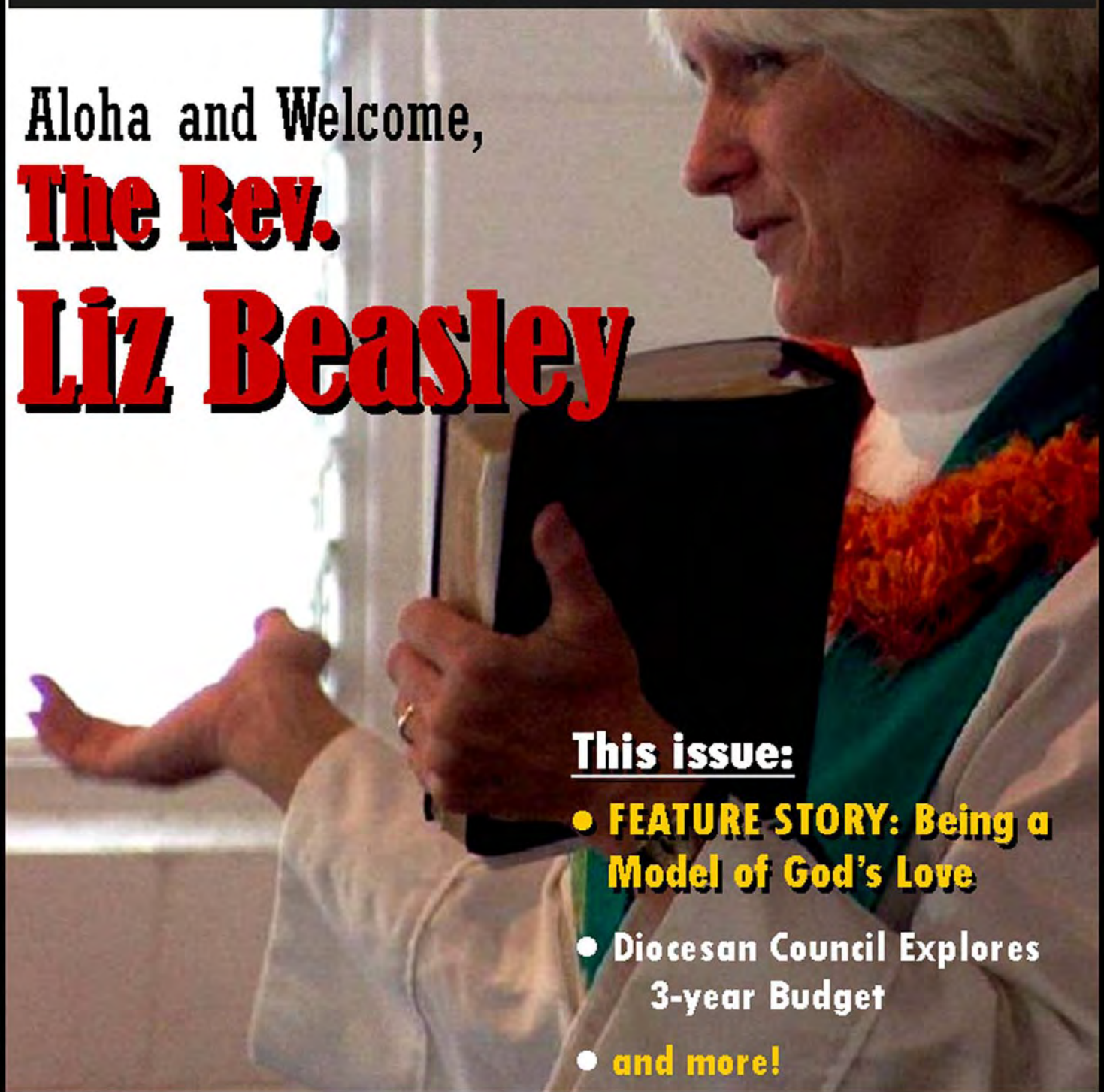
ho`oulu

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

(The Newsletter of St. John's By-the-Sea)

AUGUST 2005 ISSUE



Aloha and Welcome,

The Rev. Liz Beasley

This issue:

- **FEATURE STORY: Being a Model of God's Love**
- **Diocesan Council Explores 3-year Budget**
- **and more!**

news & views

Letter from the Vicar

[Rev. Liz Beasley]

Aloha kakou! With great pleasure, I write my first column in the *Ho`oulu*. I am keeping this short so that my words don't take up too much space. But just let me say I am delighted to be here among you.

A word about office hours: I am trying out the schedule of being at St. John's all day on Wednesday and on Friday and Saturday mornings. Some weeks may be different than that because of meetings I have to attend, whether for St. John's or for my position as Communications Officer for the Diocese. I also may be called away from the office to visit with people. If at any time I am needed and am not in the office, please call me.

My cell number is 351-5765, and home is 237-8451. Monday is my day off, so please call on Monday only for emergencies. But please do call, and on other days call any time.

One last thing: Any ideas for what to call this column? I'm looking for suggestions.

Ke Aloha o ke Akua,
Liz+

NOTICE:

Starting with this issue, please refer to the schedule in the office as the primary and official means of communication. This way we can ensure that everyone is on the same page as to who is to serve when. Any changes that need to be made can simply be marked on the calendar or you can contact the office at 239-7198. **If you have served before, please refer to the calendar to see when you serve next.** *Mahalo.*

A View of Diocesan Council

[Lot Lau]

"I am a member of Diocesan Council for a term of three years, and am halfway through the first year, so I will be able to bring updates of Diocesan Council activity and action for awhile...I do hope that readers at St. John's may be "inspired to be what God intended," by bringing news of, and showing examples of, service that others are planning and accomplishing.":

Diocesan Council has begun to construct the 2006 Budget by asking each of its departments to submit a first draft of their request. The draft is scheduled for first review in July. St. John's submitted its request for support on time, and the amount is in the first budget draft. For details about what was requested, ask St. John's lay leaders on the Bishop's Committee. **To provide relief to congregations from what seems like a constant budget struggle, Diocesan Council is investigating the feasibility of a three-year budget cycle.**

Diocesan Council has funds to support emergencies and unanticipated needs and provide "seed money" for new opportunities that may present to congregations, for which they don't have funds. Applications to submit requests are in the process of being formed, but if needs and opportunities arise at St. John's, we need not wait to make requests.

The Office of the Bishop is considering adoption of employment policies that congregations are welcome to review and consider in creating their own. The Bishop has asked Diocesan Council to review these draft policies, and I will bring them to the attention of the Bishop's Committee.

"To provide relief to congregations from what seems like a constant budget struggle, Diocesan Council is investigating the feasibility of a three-year budget cycle."

Lot Lau
Diocesan Council member At-Large 2007
Congregational Transformation and Evangelism

[A View of Diocesan Council, continued on page 4]

faces of july

Gene & Emalia honor their 50th wedding anniversary with public prayer. Other July anniversaries include Rex & Renee Chong (24th) (smaller photo, far left) and Mahi Beimes (34th) (above, with shades on)

Harris clan with honorary member

Recent Waipahu High grad Ku`uipo plans on going to LCC to major in Physical Therapy.

Everyone's "blue"... but still smiling

Mahalo to Cliff for this group photo of the choir

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

mālamapono

Caring for Christ's church and the community

[Feature Story]

A SPARK OF CHANGE was in the July morning air. The pews filled with an unexpectedly large number of visitors. All eyes and ears were on the white-robed woman as she spoke at the podium. Hers was a simple message: God's task for us is to "sow indiscriminately" His love with others—even if it "might be a long shot". It was a timely and inspiring sermon to faithful regulars, hoping she would help bring change to St. John's by-the-Sea. In only her second week as vicar, **Rev. Liz Beasley** was already winning the hearts of the audience.

For three years, **Liz** was the interim rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in Kapa`a, Kauai. When asked about the challenges she faces in helping revitalize St. John's, she smiled, unfazed. Yet she spoke with the humble confidence that comes from experience.

DEALING WITH A DEMORALIZED CHURCH

All Saints faced three unique challenges. Its church building sat in the middle of a five-acre lot. Though other buildings on the lot were used extensively by the community, many didn't realize that all of that property was *actually* part of the church. Second, the congregation was aging. While proud of the longevity of its members who've been so important throughout its history, All Saints also knew that younger people were necessary to continue to its growth. Though these issues could be certainly rectified, its biggest challenge was a harder nut to crack.

"(The congregation was) demoralized," **Liz** explained, "having had a bad relationship with its previous rector, embarrassed by his behavior." In his wake, membership became hesitant to invite others to church. During this time, **Liz** and her husband **Kirk Beasley** came onboard for an expected two years. Two became three, as they worked alongside All Saints to turn things around. **The result of everyone's efforts: All Saints' leadership shifted to a younger generation, a Sunday school class for toddlers was added and the church was revitalized. A new rector was called, and the church today continues to grow.**

ON FOOTBALL & CHURCH LEADERSHIP

"I watch sports because I like to watch how coaches get a response from and inspire their players," **Liz** says. ***And what one coach especially inspires her?*** It is **Coach Bill Cowher** of the Pittsburgh Steelers. As a role model for **Liz** (she has several—some of a more theological persuasion, of course) she sees him as one who "cares for his players and encourages them to do their best."

THE KEY TO POSITIVE CHANGE

In reality, it took **Liz** and All Saints about six months before any positive change could be seen.

And what led to such dramatic change? Looking back, Liz said that the key to bringing positive change to a church is to "love the people (around you) and to show respect to worship. To bring joy to worship." When asked about her leadership style, she replied, "My style is collaborative and gentle. You don't get anywhere unless everyone acts as one (going) in the same direction." She sees herself as a leader that is both "in front and behind" those she leads. Speaking with Liz, one gets the impression that she is truly listening to every word you say. Her insight into how to win people's hearts: "to personally be a model of God's love to others and to teach by speaking about my own life."

Being a model of God's Love

Part one in a series | *[Written by Leo Loyola]*

Like her peers, she was "called by God" to enter the ministry. **She specifically became an Episcopal priest because she recognized that "the Eucharist was so important in (my) spiritual life." She added, "I like people and see it as a privilege to help people grow."**

[Being a Model of God's Love, continued on page 4]

Upcoming Events

1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 6:30pm	Healing Ministry Service (Anointing and prayer service/no Eucharist)
8/14 Following Sunday Service	**Worship Committee Meeting (Including Rev. Liz Beasley and all Altar Guild, Worship Leaders, Emcees, Acolytes, Music Director)** Group discussion to get on the same page with each other.
9/10 9am to 2pm	**"Do We Trust God Enough?"** Stewardship Workshop will be held at St. George's. Contact: Mary Schulz (826-6747) or Nancy Rowe (847-2339)
9/14 Starts 8am	**Work Day at St. John's!** Bring your grubby clothes and get ready to clean up our church property. Starts from 8 'til we're done.

Auntie Lois'

kokua line

Mahalo to **Lois Murphy** for suggesting a section to "thank those who are stepping up to the plate" to *kokua*. This will also be a place to point out the needs of individuals, the church and the local community. **If you see a need on this list that you and others can help out with, please contact Lois to find out how.** And as **Auntie Lois** says, "if I forget to include a name, no get *nuhu*."

Mahalo to...the Baileys for their "contributions with lunch, in the kitchen, with coffee, the luau and other things" that we never always saw but benefited from. ("**The Baileys** now live off-island.")

...to Renee and **Ke`alohi** for volunteering to become part of the Altar Guild ("Phew!")

...to Marcus Rosehill for "the fish in the pupu line"

...to Caitlyn (sp?) and **Tensie** for helping out with the luau.

Please kokua...

Donations of new sources of flowers for the Altar Guild.

Donations of food stuffs for key projects. ("The Kahalu`u community is always in need for food for the needy.")

*[Is there an unmet need at St. John's or the community? Know of someone that should be recognized here? Please see **Lois** about including it in our next issue.]*

[A View of Diocesan Council, cont'd from page 1]

The 2004 Annual Convention urged Diocesan Council by resolution to ask congregations to create their own strategic plans that align with the diocesan strategic plan presented at the Convention. A training conference was held in April this year, and there are members of the diocese trained and willing to help congregations with their process. **It is my feeling that congregations who do not have a plan or do not show they are moving toward a plan will have a more difficult time justifying any resource request they make in the future.**

[Being a Model of God's Love, cont'd from page 3]

BOB FITZPATRICK AND THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

St. John's first introduction to **Liz** was a couple of months ago, during a search committee meeting to find a new vicar. **Bob Fitzpatrick** facilitated the meeting where he helped the Bishop Committee members define the ideal spiritual leader for St. John's. **The gift of hindsight and responsibility over the future of the church guided the group to better recognize what St. John's truly was and where it needed to grow.**

By the end of the evening, **Bob** surprised the group, announcing that he knew of someone that matched very closely to the group's answers. And that the candidate herself was looking for an Oah'u church to grow with as its leader. Arrangements were then made for a casual meeting between **Liz** and the search committee to be held a few weeks later.

Though cautious, the search committee was quite impressed by **Liz**. In fact, St. John's got a package deal out of it: the team of **Liz** and her entrepreneur-husband **Kirk Beasley**. Seeing them together, one easily got the impression that they balanced each other really well. **And what can St. John's look forward to with this duo? "Enthusiasm, commitment and prayer," Liz said. One thing that the Beasleys also feel strongly about is introducing a Christian healing ministry for the sick through anointing and prayer. Liz** said that she would like to see this practiced either "on Sundays where church members could receive the anointing of healing, a healing service done during the week or a having a healing team go to people's homes." (See the **Upcoming Events** column on this page for scheduled healing services.)

SUNDAY, July 10, noon: ST. JOHN'S BY-THE-SEA

It is her second week as our new vicar and the growth of St. John's is already on her mind. When questioned about growing St. John's in a world of New Hopes, she revealed that she's already thinking about how to build it into a "healthy church". In part, it will take the "cohesion of the different departments" of St. John's. But even with this big goal, she confessed that such organizational plans are something to be dealt with in the near future "as a congregation". For now, her role is to simply reach out to people and to listen.

"Will you be having your 'Lunch with Liz' again?" I asked, referring to the program she initiated at All Saints to get to know its members individually. And she grinned back as if I said the obvious.

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

Rev. Liz Beasley, Vicar

Sunday Morning Services
9:30am

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

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