

ho'oulu

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



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

May-June 2006 issue



"Be a Shepherd"

Bishop Chang's Final Challenge to St. John's



05.07.06, Sunday Morning Service

"Why do you carry that big stick?" Bishop Richard Chang smiled, pointing to his Bishop's Crosier leaning against the wall. He was reminiscing on the question of a curious young child. He replied with the wink of the

eye, "It's to take care of the clergy. The hooked end pulls them when they get too rambunctious and the other end is to poke them when they are too slow."

As St. John's welcomed the Bishop for his last official visit, he spoke about what comforts us as people. The first image of comfort that most people have is that of Jesus holding a helpless lamb in their arms, he said. *And why is this image so comforting yet powerful at the same time?* He continued: "The image of Jesus the Good Shepherd is that of protection, support, comfort and affirmation...(it is) of one that watches out for us, provides us a sense of security so that we can live...We trust in that image...we are strengthened and feel compassion from it."

He paused.

"Let me turn that image around," he continued. "Can *you* be that shep-

herd?" His words were like a gentle nudge. "Can you be a shepherd for this congregation, for your community, for your family and for those with whom you have some kind of relationship. Can you be the comforting one? Can *you* be the one who provides protection, caring, support and affirmation? Who are the shepherds for the homeless of our community? Who are the shepherds for those who are without a voice? Who are the shepherd for those who need after school tutoring? *Is it you? Is it I?*"

And before he stepped away from the pulpit, he proclaimed "We *can* be the good shepherd". And with that, Bishop Chang quietly challenged St. John's to not only live with Jesus in our hearts and minds, but to strive to live more like Him in our everyday lives. We are challenged to be the comforting strength to those around us.

How can you be as the Good Shepherd?

Ko kakou Hokukula `a `ula (Our Sacred Guiding Star)

We are a communion of saints who worship Christ and serve others.

We embrace the Hawaiian values of:

Aloha—We love and respect God and one another.

Mana—We respect the Spirit of God within each of us and all things.

Malama—We are good stewards of God's Creation.

Pono—We are righteous and just in all our undertakings.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, 'Rejoice.'"—Philippians 4:4



Lokela Alexander Minami, Confirmed May 7, 2006

07.16.06—St. John's Office

At our meeting on July 16, the Bishop's Committee decided to call a congregational meeting for Sunday, July 30, to be held after the church service. We want the congregation's input on a decision we were discussing, because the decision affects and involves all of us.

Recently we submitted a three-year plan and budget to the Commission on Congregational Health and Growth of the Diocese. This is the Commission that recommends funding levels for "mission" congregations to the Diocesan Council. We requested \$20,000 for 2007 and \$15,000 for each of 2008 and 2009. However, St. John's By-the-Sea made a commitment in

2003 to be "self-sufficient" (in other words, not to ask for diocesan funding) in five years — by 2008.

The Bishop's Committee heard last week that the Commission is strongly considering recommending that St. John's By-the-Sea not receive any subsidy from the Diocese beginning in 2008, because of the pledge we made. One Commission member suggested that we send representatives to the Commission's meeting on August 5 to make a case for continuing some funding. However, as the Bishop's Committee talked about this, there was some strong sentiment expressed that we not do this — that instead we make a concerted effort to be true to our pledge by being free of diocesan funding by 2008. I firmly believe this is possible — but it will take some work and commitment from us all.

Kids and Parents: Climb Aboard Noah's Ark!

Well, we hope not — I hope we don't have that much rain, or even what we had last March. "Noah's Ark" in this case means the first unit of a new Sunday school program at St. John's By-the-Sea.

In working on St. John's three-year goals this past spring, the Bishop's Committee decided that one very important goal is to enhance our ministry to children and youth, beginning with offering a regular Sunday school program. After reviewing several possible curricula, we chose a curriculum called "PowerXPRESS" based on something called "rotational learning." In this model, the Sunday school focuses on one story or one theme for several weeks. Each Sunday, the children will approach the story from a different perspective: from art, computers, cooking, games, music, science, storytelling, or video.

The theory behind rotational learning is that we all learn in different ways. For example, some people prefer reading, some music or art; some learn best alone, some better in the company of others. By approaching a Bible story or reli-

gious theme in different ways, children learn better.

Another advantage to this method is that adults who have skills in these particular areas can be involved in the Sunday school, maybe leading one week in the area of their skill without having to be a regular Sunday school teacher every week. That means if you are gifted in music, you can help out the Sunday school on the week they are approaching the story through music. You get to use your gifts, the children get to learn from you, and everyone has fun and experiences God working among us.

Mahalo nui loa to coordinator Vicki Fay and to all of you who have offered to help.

We were originally planning to start this program during the summer. But it is better to start when we're truly ready and to do it well than to start sooner because we feel we should. So the scheduled beginning date is Sunday, August 27.

Baptisms/Confirmations from Jan 1 ~ May 31, 2006

Baptisms:

Nanea Alicia Dixson Chu, January 8, 2006

Kyle Keoki Garcia, April 16, 2006

Kylie Kanoelaniho `oluikalaue Garcia, April 16, 2006

Isalei Josie Mahina Lemau, April 30, 2006

Jolie Hilinai Lemau, April 30, 2006

Confirmations:

Lokela Alexander Minami, Confirmed May 7, 2006

I've read the curriculum for this unit on Noah's Ark. Frankly, it looks both like a lot of fun and also like it will teach some vital lessons about faith and God. It gives a number of creative ways to tell the story of Noah and uses activities that are engaging to young people. We hope that the church as a whole can share in some of these activities.

So, if you have a child or children for Sunday school, mark August 27 as the start date. If you have skills in one of those areas I named above, let me or Vicki know. If you are willing to help by donating supplies, we'll publish a "wish list" once we figure out what we need. And for all of us: Please keep the Sunday school and our children in your prayers.

Strategic Planning Update for St. John's

06.04.06—Day of Pentecost—St. John's Office

Before today's Bishop's Committee meeting, a subcommittee—consisting of Phyllis Chang, Pat and Penny Chu, Lot Lau, and Rev. Liz Beasley—met to complete the goals and action plan to submit for St. John's three-year strategic plan and budget. Sunday's meeting was for the Bishop's Committee to endorse these efforts. In addition, each of the six goals is aligned with at least one of the strategic goals set by the Diocese. With minor changes, the goals and action plan summarized in the next two pages was unanimously accepted by each of the Committee Liaisons present at the meeting and approved by the Bishop's Committee.

The aforementioned subcommittee will further refine the goals and action plan and present it to the Diocese.

Goal 1: To offer a lay Eucharistic ministry for people homebound by ailments and frailties. *[Conversion]*

Bishop's Committee Liaison: Bill Fay

Objectives	By what date
Identify individuals who are called to such a ministry.	8/31/2006
Arrange for training	12/31/2006
Ensure that those who will be Eucharistic Visitors (EV) have already received training in preventing sexual misconduct, or attend the training on September 23 at St. Timothy's.	9/23/2006
Identify individuals who are in need of such a ministry.	12/31/2006
Ensure that EVs have proper Communion kits.	12/31/2006
Begin ministry	1/2007



Auntie Lois teaches a couple of young girls how to hula at our annual luau.

Goal 2: To offer ministry to children and youth within and outside the church that provides Sunday school, that enriches experience with and knowledge of God's gifts to our world and exemplifies Hawaiian values, that deepens faith, and that expands the roles of children in St. John's worship and ministries. *[Conversion/Transformation/Evangelism]*

Objectives	By what date
Canvass resources of teachers and children	Current
Investigate different curriculum options	05/02/2006
Arrange for summer curriculum	05/14/2006
Recruit and train teachers	Current
Do trial segment of chosen curriculum	7/16–8/27 or 09/03/2006
Create take-home conversation starters related to the curriculum for parents and children	7-8/2006
Provide ways for children to participate in worship service, or for their input to be visible (examples: they currently take the offering; they could make Communion bread)	10/2006

Goal 3: To establish and support a hospitality ministry considerate of how visitors are welcomed and new members are incorporated. [Transformation]

Bishop's Committee Liaison: Dick Halverson

Objectives	By what date
Identify those individuals who are "naturally" welcoming and evangelistic	7/2006
Investigate training for ushers and welcomers	9/30/2006
Arrange recruitment and training of ushers	11/30/2006
Hold block party in Laenani Park	8/26/2006
Improve signage outside the church	8/31/2006 (sign is on order)
Create a plan to spruce up the buildings and grounds so that they are more inviting and aesthetically pleasing	10/31/2006
Investigate membership module of Logos software (currently used to maintain finances)	6/30/2006
Update mailing list	6/30/2006
Recruit individual to maintain mailing list on a regular basis, including adding guests to it so the receive the <i>Ho'oulu</i> (newsletter)	8/31/2006

Goal 4: To nurture a ministry of outreach that will involve a majority of our congregation and allow us to share our experience with and knowledge of God's gifts. [Evangelism]

Bishop's Committee Liaison: Tori-Lee Tualatamalelagi

Objectives	By what date
Continued participation in Family Promise	Current. Hosted families from 05/14-21/2006. Host again, 7/30-8/6/2006
Create evaluation form for participants in Family Promise so that we will know where and how we can improve.	7/15/2006

Goal 5: To establish a music ministry inclusive of the current choir that uses local vocal and instrumental talent and is exciting and nourishing to the spirit. [Transformation]

Bishop's Committee Liaisons: Sandy Padeken, Leo Loyola

Objectives	By what date
Investigate different music options, including selections from Wonder, Love, and Praise and other subscription services)	9/1/2006
Attend demonstration of keyboard that provides music options and is compatible with multimedia equipment in Ho'okano Hall	9/1/2006
Create a plan for incorporating new music into the services	12/31/2006

Goal 6: To create a worship service that meets the needs of our members and is faithful to our Vision. [Evangelism]

Bishop's Committee Liaisons: Sandy Padeken, Leo Loyola

Objectives	By what date
Hold 2 youth services per year	12/2007
Hold Blessing of the Animals service in Hall on afternoon of October 1	10/2006
Arrange for sign advertising the Animal Blessing service to post outside church to attract neighborhood	10/2006
Design worship service for Blessing of the Animals that utilizes the multimedia equipment and suitable music	10/2006

how to have a luau in

3 SIMPLE STEPS

A 3-page behind-the-scenes look at the hard work and unity it takes to put on our annual *luau* fundraiser at He'eia State Park.



1.

PREPARE ENOUGH FOOD
FOR 100s OF PEOPLE...



2.

ENLIST THE HELP OF FAMILY, FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND CHURCH MEMBERS...



3.

HAVE FUN!...SIMPLE, ISN'T IT?
(MAHALO TO THOSE THAT HELPED OUT
AND TO THOSE THAT ATTENDED...)