

# ho'oulu



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

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

SEPTEMBER 2005 ISSUE

Revitalizing St. John's begins with  
refocusing the "central act of church"

bringing  
**changes**  
to  
**worship**  
**services** <sup>4</sup>

**4** ways how you can help  
St. John's **&** the community <sup>6</sup>

**also**

Diocesan Council Recommends \$25K Support <sup>1</sup>

St. John's Goes **Abroad** <sup>5</sup>

Sept./October 2005 Calendar <sup>6</sup>

Upcoming Events <sup>6</sup>





# news & views



## Letter from the Vicar

*[Rev. Liz Beasley]*

I love coming to work. The Vicar's office is comfortable and breezy, and I enjoy sitting there and working. It's also always a pleasant surprise when people from the church stop in and we can talk story for a bit.

But there's one other thing that makes coming to work something I enjoy: in my office, I'm so close to where we worship, and no matter which way I come in, I have to walk through the church in order to get into my office. It means I always have to stop and acknowledge Christ before I start my work. As I look up at the cross above the altar, and bow, I am reminded that I have been charged to work in his Name.

I've realized in my two months at St. John's that I have never served a congregation where the office was so close to the church. Usually I have had to cross a lawn or a driveway, or at least walk down a hallway, to reach the church from my office. I've discovered that having the two so close together makes my work and my prayer more intertwined. That's how they are supposed to be anyway: prayer is the primary and most basic work of a priest, I believe, but it is easy to forget that and let them become separate. But at St. John's, I can easily move back and forth between church and office, both physically and visually, and it helps me to move back and forth between work and prayer also. It's a blessing I have truly come to appreciate.

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

## Mahalo!

A big *mahalo* goes to **Lloyd, Rex and Pat** for helping repair the drainage system at Ho'okano Hall.  
*Now no more flooding and waterfalls when it rains!*

And also a big *mahalo* to everyone for their support for and contributions to the *Ho'oulu*. This is truly becoming something that everyone is involved with in ways big and small. And an exciting sign that good things are coming for St. John's, as well!



## A View of Diocesan Council

*[Lot Lau]*

At the August 16 Diocesan Council meeting, a budget for 2006 balanced between income and expenses was approved for presentation to the diocese during Area Budget Meetings prior to the Annual Convention. St. John's by-the-Sea is recommended to receive \$25,000 support in 2006. Diocesan Council is still assuming that St. John's will be financially independent beginning 2008. The Windward Oahu pre-convention Area Budget meeting is scheduled Sunday August 28 1 p.m. at St. Christopher's Church in Kailua.

A resolution composed by the Resource Development (aka "Finance") Department to adopt a three year budget process will be introduced at the annual convention.

(This item is repeated from the July report.) Diocesan Council has funds to support emergencies and unanticipated needs and provide "seed money" for new opportunities that may come to congregations. Applications forms are in the process of being done, but if needs and opportunities arise at St. John's, we don't have to wait for the forms.

A home bequeathed to the Diocese has been sold, and the pro-

ceeds will be used for a fund to help congregations pay for building projects that unexpectedly arise (e.g. conversions of cesspools to septic systems or connection to sewer lines.) Diocesan Council is in the process of considering the policy guidelines to use the funds. The current intent is to allow grants or low interest loans from the fund.

**"St. John's by-the-Sea is recommended to receive \$25,000 support in 2006. Diocesan Council is still assuming that St. John's will be financially independent beginning 2008."**

**Lot Lau**  
**Diocesan Councilmember At-Large 2007**  
**Congregational Transformation**  
**and Evangelism**

The 2004 Annual Convention adopted a Strategic Plan for the Diocese. To help congregations and commissions create their own plans to align with the Diocesan Strategic Plan, a training conference was held in April this year. There now are people trained to help congregations with their process.







# faces of august



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]*

## church revival

Part two  
in a series [Written by  
Leo Loyola]

**St. John's takes its first steps towards revitalization**

*"(The key to bringing positive change to a church is to) love the people (around you) and to show respect for worship. To bring joy to worship." — The Rev. Liz Beasley, August 2005 Ho`oulu*

In part one, we've explored Liz Beasley's experience with working alongside All Saints towards revitalizing the church. At the time of its writing, I've only

a loving 'ohana while still having many individual personalities and opinions, what can this common goal be? Even more important, how can St. John's become a healthier church?

In the short time she's been vicar, Liz hardly speaks about growth. When she does, it is more a desire than a focus. Rather the example she is making as a vicar is to re-emphasize the worship of God as "the central act of the church". After the meeting, she revealed that "worshipping God" is the ba-

hinted at her thoughts on how St. John's by-the-Sea can be revitalized. One month later, nearly all members of the Worship Committee—Liz, the Altar Guild, Layreaders, Emcees, Acolytes, Ushers and the Choir—met for an important meeting. That sunny August 14 morning, St. John's took its first major step as a congregation towards bringing positive change to St. John's, starting with the worship service itself. As with any church, growth is often seen as a reflection of how well

upon in discussion. By noon, the meeting—which started off with Liz and the rest of St. John's sharing each others' worship-related customs—ended with everyone coming into agreement in several new practices for the worship service. By noon, everyone seemed pleased in the openness and the direction of the meeting. It definitely pleased Auntie Lois, as she stood up and roused the group to a round of applause!

a church is doing. Pews filled with newcomers and financial stability of this. While desirable and important to a church's strength, Liz has had a different take on the subject from the start. Hers is an emphasis on building St. John's into a healthier church. She says that a large part of that involves working with one another towards a common goal: "you can't get anywhere unless everyone acts as one (going) in the same direction." But with a church that is

*[Church Revival, continued on page 4]*



## Adopted Changes to Worship Service

**The re-focused role of the “Emcee”.** While not part of the Episcopal canon, the role of Emcee at St. John’s came into being some 20 years ago. When **Fr. Charlie Hopkins** was retiring, it was a way of sharing responsibilities in the worship service while the church moved into a new phase of its life. As of the August 14 meeting—except for Hawaiian Sunday—the position’s regular duties are to be shared with **Liz** and a Layreader licensed to serve the chalice. For those Sundays where the Layreader is unlicensed, the Emcee will assume the responsibility of chalice-bearer until the Layreader is licensed. On the outset it may seem like the Emcee position is being decommissioned. *But, in fact, the Emcee will have a larger responsibility in the future, if they so choose.* Once licensed by the Bishop, the Emcee’s role will be to act as a “worship leader” to lead regularly scheduled services such as morning prayer or to assist in special services such as funerals.

**Supplying church bulletins in the pews for newcomers and visitors.** For years, regular members of St. John’s are accustomed to frequently switching from the *Book of Common Prayer* and the two hymnals. But for newcomers and visitors, it may be a hindrance in truly enjoying the service. While it is customary at some other churches, the gathering agreed upon introducing spiral-bound booklets of the whole service for people to easily follow along.

**Moving the “sermon hymn” from being sung between the Gospel reading and sermon to between the Nicene Creed and the Prayers of the People.** Traditionally St. John’s has sung a hymn after the Gospel reading. However **Liz** suggested that the placement of that hymn be changed. She asserted that the Gospel reading is the main focus of the Liturgy of the Word (the first part of the service), while the sermon is commentary. “Having a moment of silence emphasizes the importance of the message and gives the congregation a moment to reflect upon what was said (in the Gospel)”, she reflected.

**Introducing blessings into church liturgy.** Sharing something from his tenure at St. Mary’s, **David Gierlach** suggested having blessings for birthdays and anniversaries become a part of our current liturgy. A recent example of this was done for **Gene and Emalia Naipo’s** fiftieth anniversary last month. The group readily accepted the suggestion.

### Unresolved/Work-in-Progress Topics

Several other related topics were brought up, but were left either unresolved or as a work-in-progress:

**Scheduling of Worship Team members.** Streamlining the schedule into one with a regular rotation was introduced. The purpose of streamlining the schedule is to emphasize having a master schedule for everyone to follow in the office and make scheduling less of a burden. While the issue hasn’t been completely resolved, **Liz** says that another meeting will be held to work out a more regular schedule. In the meantime there will be a trial period of having a regular rotation schedule posted in the office, which is open to members to review and change.

**Christmas Services.** Currently they are held in the early evening of Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day morning. It was suggested that the Christmas Eve service be a midnight Mass, to enable churchgoers to enjoy Christmas dinners in the early evening. Yet the current early evening time enables the largest number of regular members to actively participate in the service. This issue will be further discussed at a later date.

**Youth Services.** Currently **U’i Chong** is in charge of youth-led Sunday services. **The next Youth Service will be held on October 23.** **Jan Rensel** has been assisting her with youth-oriented Christian music that people of all ages would enjoy. **Liz** and **U’i** are working out the details. (Parents and youth are encouraged to talk with them about including their child in the October service.)



[St. John's by-the-Sea Goes]

# around the world



Summer has come and gone. And we welcome back our fellow church members from their summer travels abroad.

*Mabalo to **Peter** and the **Besenbruch Family** and **Jan Rensel** for sharing a few of their trip photos with us.*

**Peter** says about his photo, "Here is an image of the "Old Church," (12th century) taken from the steeple of the "New Church" (13th century) in Delft, Holland. It's not your usual Gothic cathedral, in that they never got around to making the Old Church properly cross shaped."

***Picture top right:** Jan Rensel (left) and husband Alan Howard (right) with Rotuman friend Mere Taito from Suva, Fiji, at a meeting of Pacific Islands scholars at the University of Provence in Marseille, France. **Picture bottom right:** Jan with her Jesuit friend Fr. Tom Splain (SJ) in Lucca, Italy, belting out a little duet by the statue of Puccini.*



# September/October 2005 Season of Pentecost Schedule

Date	Day	Event	Vicar	Emcee	Lay Reader	Acolyte	Asst.	Usher	Altar Guild	Flowers	Refreshments
9:30 am Sunday Sept. 25	19th Sunday of Pentecost		Rev. Liz Beasley	Gene	Leo	`Akahi		`U`i	Emalia and Lyanne		
9:30 am Sunday Oct. 2	20th Sunday of Pentecost				Phyllis	Lokela		Kamaehu	Leone and Renee		
9:30 am Sunday Oct. 9	21st Sunday of Pentecost				Penny	Julie		Ryan	Lois and Ruth		
9:30 am Sunday Oct. 16	22nd Sunday of Pentecost	BISHOP COMMITTEE MEETING			Mahi	Ke`alohi		Lokela	Ann and Ke`alohi		
9:30 am Sunday Oct. 23	23rd Sunday of Pentecost	YOUTH SERVICE		Dawn	TBA	TBA		Nalu	Emalia and Lyanne		
9:30 am Sunday Oct. 30	24th Sunday of Pentecost				Bridgette	Sam		Rex	Leone and Renee		

**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.

## Upcoming Events

9/10

Saturday  
9am to 2pm

**"Do We Trust God Enough?"**

Stewardship Conference will be held at St. George's, featuring Canon Bob Fitzpatrick and the Stewardship Committee. Contacts: Mary Schulz (826-6747) or Nancy Rowe (847-2339)

9/11

Sunday  
Starts at 12

**Potluck Picnic of all Kahalu`u churches**

Held at Kahalu`u Valley (at the top of Waihe`e Road) after church. Hiking to waterfalls available (one easy, one hard), and golf carts or 4WD vehicles will take *keupuna* to waterfall. See Liz for further details.

9/17

Saturday  
Starts at 8

**Work Day at St. John's!**

Bring your grubby clothes and get ready to clean up our church property. Starts at eight a.m. and eats 'til we're done!

10/7-  
10/9

Friday, 6pm  
through  
Sunday, 2pm

**New Beginnings: A Unique Weekend Experience for Teenagers (grades 7-9)**

Held at Camp Mokuleia, participants will learn to grow in their love of self, others and in Jesus Christ. This program is designed to respond to concerns and needs of today's teens. Mature grade sixers also welcome. **Deadline to register your child: September 22.** Contact for info: Ferdinand Cajigal at 871-4345 or 276-5629

Auntie Lois'

## 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) 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*.
- (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**



**God of all  
the  
nations of the earth:  
Remember the  
multitudes who have  
been created in your  
image but have not  
known the redeeming  
work of our Savior  
Jesus Christ; and grant  
that, by the prayers  
and labors of your holy  
Church, they may be  
brought to know and  
worship you as you  
have been revealed in  
your Son; who lives  
and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever  
and ever. *Amen.***

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*The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 257  
"For the Mission of the Church",  
Preface of Pentecost*