



St. Michael & All Angels, Kaua'i Monthly Newsletter April 2019

Upcoming Events

- Adult Formation: Sunday, April 7, Holy Week rituals and traditions, Goodale Conference Room 8:30-9:30 a.m. No adult formation on April 14 and 21.
- Adult Formation Lent Program, Tuesday, April 2 and 9. Evening prayer in the sanctuary at 6 p.m. followed by potluck supper and discussion of the topic, What is salvation?
- Holy Week Service Schedule:
 - April 14: Palm Sunday, regular service hours.
 - April 15-17: Holy Eucharist celebrated each morning at 7 a.m.
 - April 18: Maundy Thursday 6 p.m.: Washing of feet, Holy Eucharist, all-night vigil.
 - April 19: Good Friday: Morning prayer concluding all-night vigil, 7 a.m. Good Friday liturgy at noon.
 - April 20, Easter Vigil, 7 p.m.
 - April 21 Easter Sunday, Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

Columbine

Andrew McMullen, Rector

A columbine is a beautiful flower which is prevalent in the Rocky Mountains. In the spring, many a hillside is transformed into a blue sea of columbines. However, my guess is that the title of this article did not bring this flower immediately to mind. This month, we arrive at the twentieth anniversary of the mass shooting at Columbine High School. On April 20, 1999 (not coincidentally the day Adolf Hitler was born in 1888), Seniors Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, armed with 2 semi-automatic guns, 2 sawed-off shotguns, 99 crudely made bombs and 4 knives, entered the large high school in the relatively quiet, modestly affluent suburb of Denver, Colorado and killed 12 students and 1 teacher. Thereafter, they took their own lives. 21 others, some severely, were wounded. This horrific event tore through the fabric of American life in countless ways, and heated debates about teen bullying, gun control and school safety followed. Sadly, this was not to be an isolated event in our history. Well over 100 shootings have taken place in our schools since then, most notably Virginia Tech, Sandy Hook and Marjory Stoneman. Since Columbine, over 220 students have died. It is, and continues to be, an American tragedy. It continues because we allow it to do so. This is Good Friday.

However, this is not a political piece. I offer no opinion on the heated and often divisive issues that these tragedies bring, nor do I advocate for any particular solution. Instead, I share the following: As many of you know, my wife, Renate, was a school counselor at Columbine (although after the shootings). While we were dating, I had several occasions to visit the school. I have walked the hallways, been in the cafeteria and library where many died and have visited the Memorial Wall. I have met and engaged many of the administrators, counselors and teachers, several of whom were present on the day of the shooting. I have been among the students. One night (continued on page 2)

Columbine (continued)

assume, given the history, that one would encounter darkness and fear. Instead, the opposite is true. There is no school like Columbine. It has a spirit like no other, energy like no other, unity like no other, pride like no other. Perhaps all of this is best reflected in every school assembly and sporting event when all the students stand and chant, over and over again, "We Are Columbine!" There is not a day when they do not remember the horror of what took place and honor the dead, but their response is to bind together and embrace each

other, holding themselves as one. They are a light in the shadow of darkness. They are hope. To be in the school, to be among the students and faculty, is to taste true redemption, and in that, resurrection. Columbine. This is Easter.

May the remaining days of Lent be holy unto you; may Holy Week reveal your true, created identity and presence in the shadow of the cross that we all bear, and may Easter lift you up again to the eternal light that is God's love for all. Amen.

Ladies Fellowship, Bible Study, and Prayer

Gail Smith, *The Herald* Co-Editor

Every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., approximately 6 to 8 women meet in the Conference Room of the Goodale Center to fellowship, study, discuss, and pray together. The study encourages and supports reading and understanding the Word through the Bible as it focuses on the apostles, disciples, women of the Bible, books of the Bible, and sometimes uses videos to accompany the lessons. There is a half hour of welcome time, and an hour of the lesson, beginning and ending with prayer. Vikki Secretario leads the group and provides the reading materials at the meeting. Ladies are asked to bring their own Bibles, if possible, or may borrow one during the study time. When Vikki is away, other participants volunteer to

lead. Interested women are welcome to join in at any time.

The current study is from *Knowing the Bible Series: Joshua, A 12-Week Study*, by Trent Hunter. The lessons will complete at the end of April. Information from the book back cover states:

"The Book of Joshua records a key period in the outworking of God's plan to redeem his people from slavery in Egypt. At God's command and under Joshua's leadership, the nation of Israel invaded Canaan --- the land God had promised his people.

In this study, pastor Trent Hunter offers readers rich insights into the book's overarching story of salvation and the ultimate rest offered to all who trust in Christ for salvation – helping them apply its message to their lives today."

A Day in the Life of the Parish Administrator

Loretta Roof, Parish Administrator

Growing up I wanted to be a doctor, so that I could deliver babies. As I entered the working world, the desire to be a doctor faded and the medical field became less appealing; especially after having to dissect frogs in science class! Like many of us, I went through various phases of trying to figure out what career path to take; getting sidetracked along the way. I've been a waitress, a barista, a hard drive technician, an advertising executive, a human resources

professional, and even a yoga instructor. Throughout my working years I've begun to hone in more on the idea of wanting what God wants for me rather than on trying to figure it all out, because the truth is, it doesn't matter what I do, it's how I do it and the relationships that are built as a result. Even though I bypassed the Parish Administrator position when I initially saw it posted (because it was only part-time), somebody thought St. Michael's would be a good fit for me, and me for St. (continued on page 3)

A Day in the Life of the Parish Administrator (continued)

Michael's and so, here I am as your Parish Administrator.

While one obvious answer to the question, "What does our Parish Administrator do all day?" maybe something like, "I sit behind a desk answering emails, doing paperwork, working on worship bulletins, e-news, taking phone calls, and helping with church events", there is something more to what happens inside of our little church office!

As your Parish Administrator, I like to think of my job as one where I have been given the opportunity to come to work every day to be of service to God and to those around me.

Working day in and day out with the management and coordination of much of the business of the parish – such as managing schedules and building usage, working with our office volunteers, ordering and shopping for supplies, cleaning out the kitchen refrigerator and pantry each week, scheduling repairs and building maintenance, helping with Loaves and Fishes, developing a new website, and overseeing tenant management – may not initially appear to be filled with direct examples of service to God. It's not

always thrilling to spend oodles of time on the phone with service vendors that don't understand the urgency of a needed service at hand, or to have to wake up people who spent the night sleeping on our campus, and clean up the messes they may have made. What I am thrilled about though, is that I have a position where I feel compelled to push beyond my idea of what I think service to others ought to look like. While not on my job description, almost daily I am presented with people that simply need compassion, understanding, and information about various community resources. I get to practice compassion. I get to practice understanding others. Much of what I do as the Parish Administrator is to connect people to answers – answers about the food resources in the area, answers to getting nametags for our greeters, answers to who installs our tenant signage, answers to who washes our windows, and everything in-between! Within the ebb and flow of all of the moving pieces that happen within the office, I view the most important part of my position as being helpful to others in a way that I hope reflects the values of the St. Michael's ohana I've come to be a part of.

Meet Your Choir Members

**Marcia Harter, As Told to Alan Van Zee,
Director of Music Ministries**

Every week, the choir leads the congregational singing of hymns and performs a special anthem. The number of choir members at any given service averages 12 to 15. Some of the singers have been with the choir for several years; others have joined within the past 2 or 3 years, and may not be well known to the congregation. For the next several months, we will be introducing you to some of these newer members. We begin this month with Marcia Harter. Marcia first came to St. Michael's because of the jazz festival. She and her husband, John, are jazz fans, and loved the

jazz performances and the jazz masses at the Jazz Festival. She started occasionally attending the Sunday services. One Sunday, she sat next to Imogene Miner. Imogene's descriptions of the inclusivity and respect for all spiritual journeys at St. Michael's felt comfortable to Marcia, who refers to herself as a Methodist renegade, and she started to attend Sunday services more regularly. She loved the music, and asked me if she could join in the choir. I told her, "Absolutely!" and she's been a regular choir member ever since.

Marcia lives in Anahola half the year, from the end of October until (continued on page 4)

Meet Your Choir Members (continued)



the end of April or mid-May, and in Bellingham, Washington the remainder of the year. She says she always participated in school and church choirs until she entered college. As an adult, she didn't

sing in any organized group until a few years ago when a friend encouraged her to attend a singing workshop. She did, and thoroughly enjoyed it. She then had enough courage to join a small local community chorus and sang with them for a couple of years. She currently also sings with the Kauai Chorale when she is on island.

When asked what she enjoys about singing with the St. Michael's choir, Marcia said, "First, I love the music, and so enjoy the liturgical

repertoire and the enhancement it gives to my worship experience." She also appreciates the very talented musicians that make up the choir, and believes it is a blessing to be able to sing with them. Given the limited rehearsal time and the selection of music, she finds the sight-reading somewhat difficult and definitely challenging, but she also believes her fellow choir members are talented and tolerant role models, and is hopeful her skills are improving. Most importantly, she says she enjoys the leadership of the Music Director, whom she regards as an amazingly talented musician whether singing, playing, or directing.

Marcia had never attended an Episcopal Church before, so she was not familiar with the worship order and liturgy. She was surprised by how much she likes it and how much teaching she finds in the patterns of the service. Attending an Episcopal Church has also made her more aware of the strong social justice component of Episcopal ministries. For her, this is a clear alignment with the Christian message. We welcome Marcia to the choir, and to the St. Michael's community.



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