



St. Michael & All Angels, Kauaʻi Monthly Newsletter May 2019

Upcoming Events

- Adult Formation: Sunday, May 19 and 26, Taking a Look at Jesus' Disciples, Goodale Conference Room 8:30-9:30 a.m. Adult Formation will be taking a break for the summer months.
- Pentecost Sunday, June 8/9. One of the high feast days of the Christian calendar, marking the gift of the Holy Spirit. Wear red.
- Father's Day, June 16. Reception following 9:45 service prepared by women of the church.

Vestry News

Andrew McMullen, Rector

Last month, the St. Michael's Vestry met on a Saturday to focus our efforts on discerning our vision of the identity and future of our parish. This is always ongoing work, but once a year we set aside a special time to give it our full attention outside of the "usual business" that we conduct during our regular meetings. At the conclusion of our meeting, the Vestry identified six focal points which we hope to address in the coming year. I am pleased to share them with the parish and invite all to give them thought and prayer, and if called to do so, join in on these efforts!

1. St. Michael and All Angels has never had a comprehensive, parish policy as it relates to the homeless among us. In the near future, a committee will be formed to begin this work with two main (Continued on page 2)

Healing Prayer

Barbara Reynolds, Healing Prayer Ministry

One of the ministries offered by St. Michael and All Angels is that of healing prayer. Each week during communion anyone who desires prayer and/or the laying on of hands is welcome to come to the healing prayer station. We believe in the power of prayer, and have seen God answer prayers, offered in His name, by granting what we asked for. We light a candle to represent each person that has asked for prayer.

Currently, there are six of us who offer prayers at the healing prayer station. Clarita Medeiros prays at the 7:30 a.m. service, and Ruth

Stirling, Maria Skelton, Deb Gillikin, Richard Reynolds, and Barbara Reynolds pray at the 9:45 a.m. service. As yet we do not have anyone for the Saturday Vespers service. Volunteers are welcome at any and all of the services. If you are interested, we will give you a book on healing prayer written by Malcolm Miner to read first. If you are still interested we will put you into the service.

If you have any questions on healing prayer, text Barbara Reynolds at 510-501-2844, and she will get in touch with you. We believe prayer is one of the most important things in a Christian's life, and God encourages us to pray for one another.

Vestry News (continued)

objectives. First, develop a theological statement as to our response to the homeless which are so prevalent on this island, and in particular, our campus. Second, discern and determine our practical calling, in light of the theological statement and our identity as a parish, to respond to the reality of the homeless among us.

2. In order to strengthen our presence in our immediate community, we will reach out to Wilcox Elementary to determine if there are any opportunities for the parish to partner with them in support of the children and their families. In addition, in the coming year, we will hold a “Bread Walk” in which we will bring greetings and a gift of fresh baked bread to those who live in our surrounding neighborhood.

3. We are going to explore the identity and nature of our Saturday, 5:30pm, worship service. In the coming months, a parish survey and other opportunities for sharing will allow us to determine the service’s place in our overall worship. Are there opportunities for us to grow this service or perhaps make some changes that might make it more meaningful and a greater part of our overall parish life?

4. It is a reality that websites remain a common method for people to find us as well as for us to

share meaningful information to the parish and community. We want to take greater advantage of this means of communication so it is our intent to reformat our website and enhance our management of it.

5. Three issues as it relates to our campus management: First, the use of our campus and grounds falls under the authority of the Rector, but the Vestry expressed some interest in developing a formal policy regarding the terms and conditions for the community use of our church and grounds. Second, renovations of our public restrooms will soon begin the bidding process and we are hopeful to have the work completed by the end of the year. Third, the parish needs to develop a comprehensive disaster plan in the event of hurricane, earthquake, fire, etc.

6. The Vestry expressed energy for the development of a “Keep in Touch Ministry.” This would involve a core group of parishioners who make regular contact with church members.

Feel free to engage any Vestry member in conversation about these endeavors or any other issue relating to our parish life. We would love to have your thoughts and opinions as well as your heart and hands if you feel called to join in this work!

It Takes a Host of Volunteers

Pat Hillegonds, Director of Loaves and Fishes

A ministry like Loaves and Fishes cannot occur with the help of only two or three people. There are many jobs, many roles, and they all need people to fill them. We are blessed to have a crew of dedicated, hard-working volunteers, most of whom are not members of St. Michael’s church, and many who have been volunteering for more than 10 years.

Most of our volunteers help with food re-packaging and food distribution on Wednesday mornings. Kay, at 94 our oldest volunteer, has been volunteering for many years—she doesn’t remember exactly how many, but knows it’s more than 10. Ross, a spry 90-year old, and Mila, at 86, have also been volunteering for

more than 10 years. When asked why they volunteer, the response is some variation of “I want to be useful. I don’t want to just sit at home and grow old.” In her mid-80’s, Esther, a member of the Jewish community, has re-joined us after taking time off to care for her dying husband. Norma, one of our newest volunteers, comes to us at 83 and runs circles around people 20 years her junior.

A number of our volunteers, including Linda, Grace, Betty, and Pua, are in their 60’s and 70’s. Our “drill sergeant”, Momi, who barks orders and ensures that everyone is doing their jobs, is in her early 60’s. Yvonne and Kento, who have been volunteers for nearly 10 years, also serve as Food Bank shoppers, in addition to helping with food (Continued on page 3)

Meet Your Choir Members

John Mueller, As Told to Alan Van Zee,
Director of Music Ministries



This month, we introduce you to choir bass, John Mueller. John has been singing with the St. Michael and All Angels choir for approximately two years. John says there are several things that brought him to St.

Michael's: Episcopal theology and polity that are compatible with his own beliefs; the reputation of the choir and the Music Director; and the quality and number of the choral singers.

John has extensive experience as a choral singer. He went to a Catholic high school in Youngstown, Ohio, where he sang with his school's glee club. He also sang with the men's choir at a Roman Catholic church, where the liturgy included beautiful, ancient music. He regarded the director of the glee club and men's choir as an unbelievably excellent musician, and an inspirational teacher, who fostered his love of music.

John's parents would not allow him to become trained as a professional musician, but he

participated in choral opportunities as much as he could, loving every moment of song. While a student at the University of Notre Dame, he sang with liturgical choirs. After college and graduate school, he sang with church choirs for many years, sometimes as a soloist. He feels that God blessed him by leading him to sing with excellent directors and organists, whose excellence inspired him.

He studied voice for seven years with a renowned professional, operatic soprano, who helped him become a better singer. Also, he sang with several Jewish temples, both as a soloist and as a choral member, for Shabbat and High Holy Day services, in the Cleveland/Akron, Ohio areas.

Approximately seven years ago, he moved to Honolulu. While living in Honolulu, he sang with the First Presbyterian church choir. He also sang for High Holy Day services at Temple Emanuel in Honolulu.

Upon retirement, John moved to Kauai, where he sang with the Lihue United Church choir for a time before ultimately finding his way to St. Michael's. He also sings with the Kauai Chorale.

John loves singing with the St. Michael's choir. He enjoys the leadership and musicianship of Alan Van Zee, the Music Director, and is amazed by the number of delightful and talented singers in the choir. He is grateful for the opportunity to praise God in song. We are delighted to have him as a part of our choral ohana.

It Takes a Host of Volunteers (continued)

distribution, as does Quentin. All of them are in their 60's and 70's. Our newest volunteer, Vicki, hails from New Zealand, and is practically a babe in her 40's. We are also fortunate to have Willie and Bill step in as shoppers when our regular shoppers are gone or ill for extended periods of time. John helps with shopping when

he is here for the winter months.

And then there is our dedicated crew of truckers who pick up food from the Food Bank on Wednesday mornings: Brian, Larry, Dana, Barbara, and, until recently, Mike. Loaves and Fishes is successful, in large part, because of our loyal volunteers, for whom we are grateful.

Parish Life!



St. Michael & All Angels
Episcopal Church
4364 Hardy Street
Lihue, HI 96766