

Hawaiian Chronicle

Diocese of Hawaii Edition of Episcopal Life

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A Delegate's View of Convention

It has been at least 6 or 7 years since I have been to Convention. To let you know how long ago it really was I recognized some of the following changes. We are now in Tenney Hall rather than a hotel ball room. I even noticed that Tenney Hall is air now conditioned...hurrah!

We start Friday and end Saturday night, rather than Friday night and all day Saturday and Sunday.

I also noticed some more subtle changes. I renewed many old friendships. There was both thickening and thinning of head tops and girth sizes along with blessings from Madam Clair and Father time. There were many of the same faces I had seen in the past, busily preparing food for our indulging, those who scurried out to get more leis for deserving recipients and even those to whom no job was assigned were ready and willing to serve.

I listened to many of the speakers on Resolutions that I have heard in the past. I smiled as I thought that their trek to the microphone may seem longer now, their hearing not as good and their speech a bit slower. Yet, in these people, I saw the same shine in many of their eyes. The same light of Christ that I assume does not diminish with time and advancing maturity. I also saw new faces helping with the extraordinary cuisine, delivering some exquisite leis and awaiting an opportunity to serve. I saw and heard new voices with energy and enthusiasm at the microphone; I saw and felt their commitment and zeal to serve. And again I saw the glow of Christ in these faces.

What I also experienced at this Convention that I seem not to recall in the past was the evidence that this was not merely a conference but a communion of committed, caring and concerned Christians. It was a gathering of God's people to do God's work. Work that was beyond a budget, or loan repayment or division because of a debate on a heated subject.

I experienced for the first time at a convention the introduction of some wonderful meditations and even a Bible study...a gasp.. a bible in our presence...well there was at least one. In our Bible study group I

had mentioned the Christian gift we as Episcopalians are endowed with. The gift of Tradition, Bible and Reason. This important triad of our faith is so important to our understanding and actions as Christians.

When we became involved with potentially heated discussions on resolutions I again studied the demeanor of the audience. Perhaps it was because we were not in some hotel room, Maybe it was because we were nearer to a worshiping place. It could have been that I haven't been to a convention in a while and maybe our attitudes have changed. I can't pin point how I felt. Yet again the presence of our Lord was evident.

Despite disagreements there was a sense of harmony and caring amongst us. I remembered our meditation our speakers reflection on the Holy Spirit. She shared the Celtic belief in regards to the Holy Spirit. Unlike our gentle, unpretentious and soothing Christian dove, the appearance of the Holy Spirit is one of a pretentious goose forever chasing, not willing to keep quiet and at times biting to acknowledge it's presence. Maybe, I thought as others probably did, that this group was being bitten by the Holy Spirit. Whatever it was there was an evident difference.

Then I thought again about our Episcopal tradition. We need to use our gift of reason as well as tradition and scripture. I thought of this as I listened to some of our more seasoned clergy. I listened to how their views of what they thought was acceptable and the decisions they made 20 years ago were now different. I thought about the difficulty this audience was having in how we deal with recognizing homosexuals and also acknowledging homosexual unions. I don't think acceptance of homosexuals as God's children was as difficult a problem as was the issue of condoning and recognizing their unions in whatever way need be.

This was an issue I struggled immensely with as I rode the plane home. I looked up at the air conditioning unit. As I watched the clouds of condensation billow from the unit I pleaded, "Lord please tell me what you would do. You know as the



Bishop Jackson Gilliam and Bishop Richard S.O. Chang prior to the opening Eucharist of the Diocesan Convention

bracelet the kids wear asks, "WWJD?" (What Would Jesus Do?) My answer was simply this, "I would come and listen and for every season there is a time."

WOW I thought what a revelation!! Or perhaps maybe I was just mesmerized by the clouds of condensation! The plane was about to land and I thought well whatever, I had some interesting thoughts. Oddly enough we took an alternate landing pattern that afforded me 5 more minutes on this subject. I started to think again about seasons. I thought that there really are seasons for things. I thought about the seasoning of some of our more generationally enriched clergy and how their attitudes and decision making have changed with time. I thought of how perhaps as little as 200 years ago no one would think that reserving and conserving our natural resources would be an issue to consider. I thought about how as little as 30 years ago interracial marriage was prohibited in many states. I thought about other issues of changing seasons that

were brought up at convention. There is indeed a season for perhaps changing our ways of thinking and acting. But then I re focused on the issue so, what would you do Lord you know specifically on this issue.

I still don't know the answer. I struggle with the issue of human rights and biblical standards. My conscience continues to struggle and perhaps will always do so. However, I do know that my experience with the many committed Christians who were at convention was eye opening. These were Christians who differed somewhat in procedure and interpretation of what we should condone or not condone. These were Christians who were brave enough to take a stand weather yea or neigh, yet, walk out and embrace a fellow Christian no matter what their testimony, orientation or feeling was. These were Christians whose faces show, can show and will show the light of Christ to the World.

- Lani Bowman
(Ms. Bowman was a delegate from Kohala Misson on the Big Island)

Thought for the Month

Once you get people laughing, they're listening
and you can tell them almost anything.

- Herbert Gardner

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BISHOP'S LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The end of the year holidays of Christmas and New Year's are always very special for me. They are not special because of the gifts given and received, because of the food and drink of parties, or because of the music of carols. Growing up in Hawai'i, the holidays for me were a time for "reconnecting" with family, friends, and all the other people that have been an important part of my life. I got to renew ties with family or meet new members of the family at a time other than a wedding or funeral. We were able to spend time together to hear the stories of lives that had been separated for the previous year or longer. People who shared life experiences with me reminded me of those experiences through their cards, newsletters or phone calls. There would be disappointment and concern when I did not hear from someone during the holidays. I would wonder if they were doing well or had they experienced some misfortune. Family and friends once again became real people in my life. The visits with family, the cards sent and received, and the phone calls made the relationships incarnate.

Jesus Christ is the Incarnation of the God's Love for the creation. Each of us is a recipient of this love gift. Each of us is given a new relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The love of God is no longer an intellectual abstraction, but real flesh and blood. In the simplicity of a human birth, the reality of God's Love is placed before us. Such is the joy of the Feast of the

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Nativity.

As we enter into another year and closer to the new millennium, the question for us is how we make the Good News of God in Christ real in the ministries we seek to exercise in the world. How do you and I make the Jesus Christ real to the unchurched, the voiceless of our society, the wealthy and powerful, and those on the edge?

I believe that God has given us the gifts and resources to make the love of God a part of everyone's reality. We must first accept the reality of the incarnation in our own lives. We must be converted. Let us seek to be real in our ministries in the coming year and be willing to engage others in person-to-person relationships. Be it friend or foe, family or stranger, may it be our resolution to live our baptismal promises exercising ministries that make real the love of God for all people.

"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

+ Richard S.O.Chang

Annual Church Leaders' Conference

The Annual Church Leaders Conference, formerly "The Treasurers, Vestry and Bishop's Committee Workshops", has been scheduled for Saturday, February 6, 1999, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at St. Andrew's Cathedral. This annual event has provided workshops for church leaders, in particular the members of Vestries and Bishop's Committees. Last year more than 80 participants attended workshops for first-time members of Vestry and Bishop's Committee and Treasurers.

In 1999 the workshops will be open to all church leaders, not only treasurers and members of Vestries and Bishop's Committees. An expanded curriculum and schedule will include presentations on Mutual Ministry Review, Nurturing Leaders and their Spiritual Growth, Conflict Management, Leases and Contracts, Reviewing Financial Statements, and Year 2000 Computer Problems. The introductory core programs for treasurers and church leaders, Finance 101 and Leadership 101, will once again be offered, as will Family System Theory. Attendees will select workshops that will best support their ministry as a church leader. Finance 101 will be open to persons who are not treasurers but may be members of the finance committee of their Vestry or Bishop's Committee.

Bishop's Calendar

DECEMBER
6th St. George's
13th Holy Nativity
20th St. Stephen's

JANUARY
10th Waikiki Chapel
17th Holy Nativity
24th Good Shepherd
31st St. John's

Please mark Saturday, February 6, 1999, on your calendars. Registration information with detailed course descriptions will be available in mid-December. Attendance by church leaders is highly recommended. Questions may be directed to Lucille Tamura and Peter Pereira at the Diocesan Offices, or to Richard Halverson of the Diocesan Institute.

Diocesan AIDS Ministry Task Force Meets

A Diocesan AIDS Ministry Task Force has recently begun to meet, and we want to introduce ourselves and purpose to you. We have a specific task before us which is to discern objectives for ministry, at this time and in this place, following the guidelines set out by the National AIDS Task Force. Our Process includes a focus on the following areas: How can we best respond to persons living with HIV-AIDS and their families? How can we best equip congregations seeking resources for AIDS ministry? How can we be advocates for those who have no voice?

We are in the very early stages of information gathering. We will let you know as our pathway becomes more clear. In the meantime, we ask your prayers for the mission we are about. The members of the Task Force are: Ms. Honey Becker, St. Andrews Cathedral, Mr. Taylor Clark, St. Mark's, Honolulu, The Rev. Curtis Metzger, St. Marks, Honolulu, Mr. Bill Lucas, Christ Church, Kealahakua, and The Rev. Canon Kay Johnson, St. Andrew's Cathedral.

TO ALL OUR READERS

The Editor and all connected with the Hawaiian Church Chronicle, wish our readers a very blessed Christmas time, and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

UTO GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE IN DIOCESAN OFFICE BY DECEMBER 31

The United Thank Offering grant application packets are available for congregations or for programs that wish to apply for 1999 funding.

A completed draft application is due in the Diocesan Office by December 31, 1998 for review and revision.

Only two applications can be accepted from each diocese.

The deadline for mailing to the National Office is January 31. Any application received after that date will NOT be considered.

Please be prompt with your requests.

Mahalo...H. Kaleiupu, Chair

HOW TO SOLVE A PROBLEM!!

Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia is located on Peachtree Street near the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip. Since the Episcopalians start Sunday services earlier than the Baptists, members of St. Philip's Cathedral congregation were availing themselves of the Baptist parking lot. This prevented the Baptist Sunday School arrivals from parking in their own lot.

The problem was solved by a Baptist deacon putting a bumper sticker on every car that was parked there too early for Sunday School. The sticker read: "I'M PROUD TO BE A SOUTHERN BAPTIST."

Just a Note For Your Information

The staff of the Chronicle would appreciate it if contributors to this paper submit materials as early as possible for each issue. If articles arrive at the last minute, they may not be included due to lack of space.

If you wish to have your name and address changed or removed, we would ask you to send such information directly to Episcopal Life at: P.O. Box 928, Vineland, New Jersey, 08362-0928 - and not to the Diocesan Office.

BISHOP GILLIAM'S
CORNER

Sex in the News

One of the early celebrity preacher scandals involved sex and a clergyman who, like today's group of miscreants, also enjoyed the "good life".

Before and after the Civil War, the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was the most famous preacher in the land. Some called him "the greatest preacher since Saint Paul". He reportedly earned the princely sum of \$40,000 a year.

Delighting in his treasures, Beecher enjoyed carrying with him uncut gems, and openly endorsed commercial products ranging from soap to watches. Then in 1874, Beecher's friend and protege, Theodore Tilton accused the beloved preacher of seducing his wife.

The trial was such an attraction that admission tickets were sold to the public. And the outcome? The jury failed to reach a verdict but Beecher's influence and popularity continued undiminished for another thirteen years until his death.

The moral of this story: "Lest we forget that integrity is always on trial!"

+ Jackson Gilliam



Rosemary Jordan



Phyllis Crain and Imogene Miner

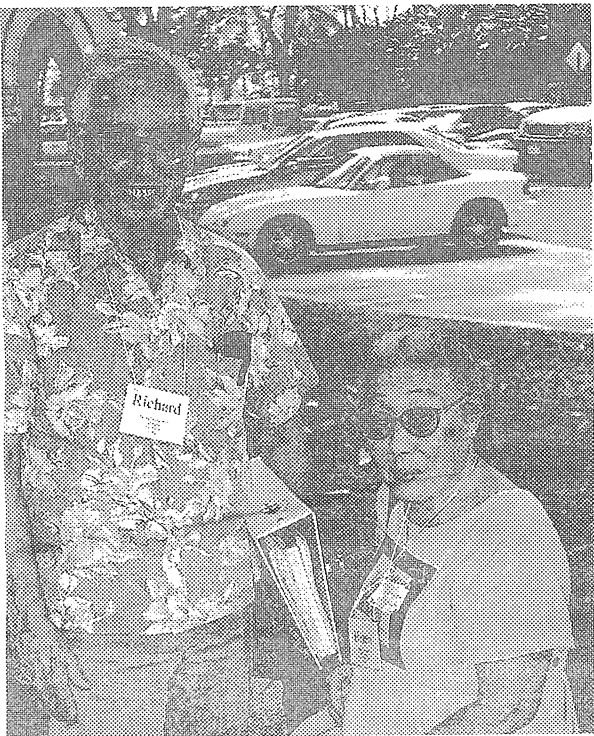
THEY WERE ALL AT THE DIOCESAN
CONVENTION



John Turner and Marilyn Johnson



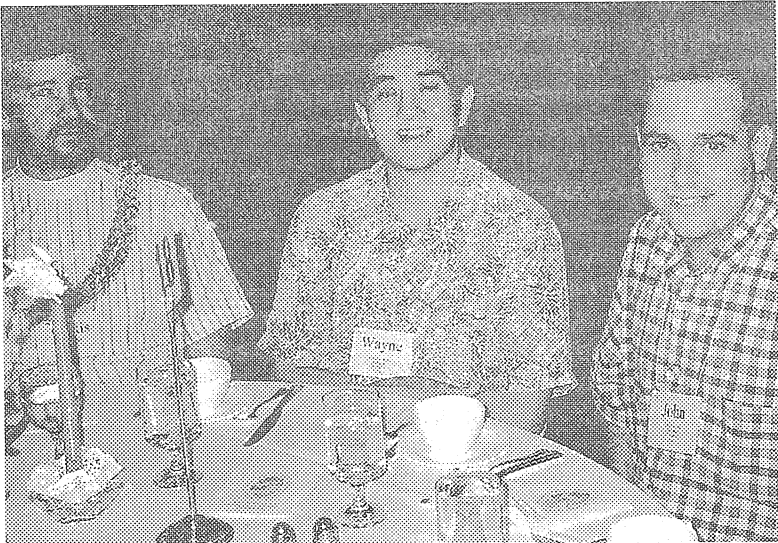
Robert and Annette Jim



Richard and Helen Hagemeyer



Janet Makua and The Rev. Heather Mueller-Fitch



The Rev. Curtis Metzger, Wayne Yoshiga and John Schamber



The Rev. Imelda Padasdao and members of St. Paul's Chapel, Honolulu



Ajuka Ueda, Emiko Shimoyama and The Rev. Norieka Ueda

DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

- 2 Finance & Real Estate Department
- 3 Commission on Ministry East Honolulu Deanery
- 7 East Honolulu Clericus
- 9 - 12 Clergy Retreat
- 12 Diocesan Institute
HEY Board
ECW Christmas Luncheon
- 13 Oahu Ultreya
- 17 Cathedral Chapter
- 18 Standing Committee
- 19 Congregational Development Diocesan Council
- 20 Big Island Ultreya
- 23 Stewardship Committee
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25} DIOCESAN
- 26} OFFICES
- 27} CLOSED
- 28} "
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE
(Diocesan Offices Open)

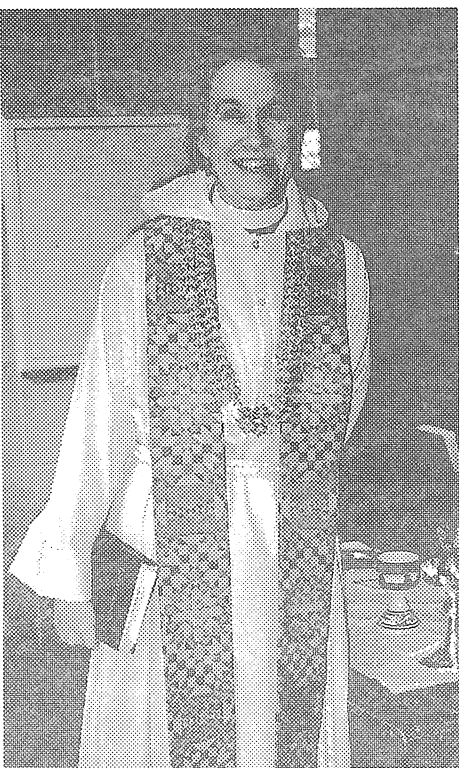
JANUARY

- 4 Diocesan Offices Closed
- 6 Diocesan Institute Board
- 7 Commission on Ministry
- 9 Diocesan Institute
Chronicle Deadline
- 13 Finance & Real Estate Department
- 15 Standing Committee
- 16 Congregational Development
Diocesan Council
- 18 Diocesan Offices Close
(Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
Anti-Racism Board Meeting
- 21 Christian Formation Committee
Cathedral Chapter
- 22 Grant Requests for Budget Mailing.
- 27 Stewardship Committee
- 29 Diocesan Institute
- 30 Diocesan Institute.

A VERY BIG "THANK YOU"

The Editor would like to say a big "thank you" to everyone who so kindly responded to our subscription envelopes which were in the last issue.

We greatly appreciate your generosity and your support for the *Hawaiian Church Chronicle*. Without your kind and generous support, it would be difficult to meet the costs of publishing this paper, which is such an essential means of communication in our Diocese. Thank you.



The Rev. Dr. Sheryl Kajawa who conducted the Meditations during the Diocesan Convention

Diocesan Elections Results

DIOCESAN COUNCIL - IAY: **Ryan Kusumoto, Lot Lau, William Lucas and Lynn Ho.**

DIOCESAN COUNCIL - CLERGY: **Revs. Peter Besenbruch and Marvin Foltz.**

STANDING COMMITTEE - LAY: **Arthur Kusumoto.**

STANDING COMMITTEE - CLERGY: **Rev. Donor Macneice.**

CATHEDRAL CHAPTER - LAY: **Geraldine Tom.**

CATHEDRAL CHAPTER - CLERGY: **Rev. Paul Kennedy.**

ECCLESIASTICAL TRIAL COURT - CLERGY: **Rev. Ernest Uno.**

SECRETARY OF CONVENTION: - **Jane Tonokawa.**

DEPUTIES TO GENERAL CONVENTION: - LAY: **Arthur Kusumoto, Cynthia Salley, Bettye Jo Harris, Tabitha Secretario.**

ALTERNATES TO GENERAL CONVENTION - LAY: **James Putnam, Leland Leong, Gretchen Y.Y. Jong, Richard Hagemeyer.**

DEPUTIES TO GENERAL CONVENTION - CLERGY: **Revs. Darrow Aiona, Morley Frech, Carol Arney, Steven Bonsey.**

ALTERNATES TO GENERAL CONVENTION - CLERGY: **Revs. Alison Dingley, Heather Mueller-Fitch, Donor Macneice, Joseph Carr.**

ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED:

CHANCELLOR: **Jack Lockwood**

VICE CHANCELLOR: **Walter Beh**

HISTORIOGRAPHER: **Stuart Ching**

REGISTRAR: **Rev. Norio Sasaki**

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY: **Barbara Street, Rev. Steven Bonsey**

COMMISSION ON EPISCOPAL SCHOOLS: **Joanne Na'ai, Rev. Lee Kiefer.**

DIOCESAN COMPENSATION REVIEW: **Pamela Fern, Rev. Alison Dingley.**

Christmas Services Around the Diocese

OAHU

St. Andrew's Cathedral:

CHRISTMAS EVE:

5.00pm Church School Pageant & Eucharist

7.00pm Choral Eucharist with

Hokoloa Singers from Iolani School

9.00pm Music for Christmas

10.00pm Candlelight Christ Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY:

9.00am Hawaiian Mass

Calvary Church:

CHRISTMAS EVE:

7.00pm Family Christmas Service

10.30pm Festival of Lessons & Carols

11.00pm Holy Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS DAY:

9.00am Holy Eucharist

St. Timothy's Church

CHRISTMAS EVE:

6.30pm Family Worship Service

10.30pm Christmas Eve Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY:

10.00am Christmas Day Eucharist

St. George's Church

CHRISTMAS EVE:

5.00pm Children's Service, Story & Song

9.30pm Candlelight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY:

10.00am Morning Prayer & Carols

Waikiki Chapel

CHRISTMAS EVE:

10.00pm Holy Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY:

10.00pm Holy Eucharist

Holy Nativity

CHRISTMAS EVE:

4.30pm Festive Eucharist & Live Nativity Scene

10.00pm Music & Festive Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY:

10.00am Christmas Eucharist

MAUI

Holy Innocents, Lahaina

CHRISTMAS EVE:

7.30pm Lessons & Carols, Flying

Angels and Communion

10.00pm Festival Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY:

10.00am Holy Eucharist (said service)

St. John's, Kula

CHRISTMAS EVE:

4.00pm Lessons & Carols and building of Creche

8.00pm Holy Eucharist Rite I & Carols

10.00pm Holy Eucharist and Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY:

8.30am Holy Eucharist

Trinity-by-the-Sea, Kihei

CHRISTMAS EVE:

7.30pm Family Service with Holy Eucharist & Carols

10.30pm Candlelight Service - Holy Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY:

9.00am Holy Eucharist with Carols

KAUA'I

All Saints' Church, Kapa'a

CHRISTMAS EVE:

10.30 pm Carols

11.00pm Holy Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY:

9.30am Holy Eucharist

Christ Memorial, Kilauea

Sunday 20th December:

6.00pm Festival of Carols & Nine Lessons

CHRISTMAS EVE:

10.30pm Festival Eucharist with Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY:

8.30am Holy Eucharist with Carols

St. Thomas' Church, Hanalei

CHRISTMAS EVE:

9.00pm Holy Eucharist with Carols

HAWAII

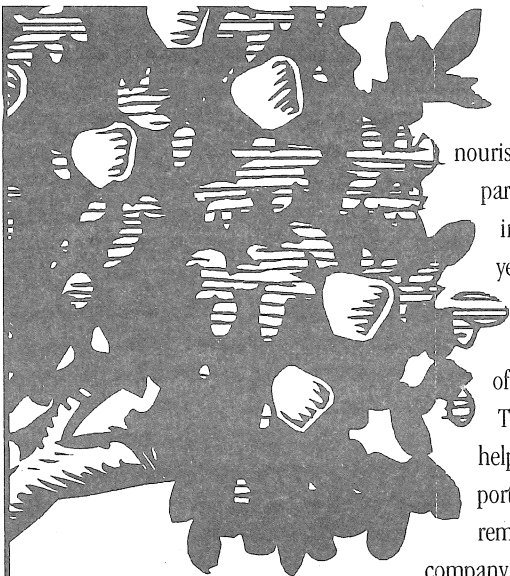
Christ Church, Kealahou

CHRISTMAS EVE:

10.30pm Holy Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY:

10.00am Holy Eucharist



*Sharing your
apple nourishes
many generations.*

Your time, talent and treasure sustain programs that nourish the shared life within our parish, as well as beyond the building's boundaries now, and for years to come. In the act of giving time, skill and money, you can experience a renewed sense of God's grace at work in your life. The ministry of planned giving helps secure future financial support for our parish. It also serves to remind us that we are part of a great company of saints who have borne witness to Christ's grace in every age. Planned giving helps us sustain that witness for coming generations.

To learn how to make a Gift That Gives Back, please contact the church office,