

# Hawaiian Church Chronicle



Episcopal Life

VOLUME 99, No. 10

NEWS OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF HAWAII

NOVEMBER 2000

## Members of Only Episcopal Religious Order in Diocese Renew Vows

BY THE REV. KENNETH JACKSON  
*Good Samaritan, Honolulu*

On October 4, the Feast of Saint Francis, the Hawai'i Fellowship of the Third Order, American Province, Society of Saint Francis (TSSF), celebrated the 774th anniversary of the death of the Seraphic Saint with a public renewal of their pledges. The Third Order, an Anglican/Episcopal religious order within the Society of Saint Francis, consists of men and women, married and single, clergy and laity — who, though following the ordinary professions of life, are called to dedication through lifelong discipline and vow.

After their initial life profession, tertiaries pledge to keep their Rule of Life for one year and renew it annually at the Feast of Saint Francis. This year

for the first time the Hawai'i Fellowship did this publicly at a service of Holy Eucharist at Good Samaritan Church with the Rev. Robert H. DeWolfe as both Celebrant and Officiant at the Renewal of Professions Eucharist.

Following the service, the tertiaries entertained the participants to luncheon.

The Hawai'i Fellowship was also the subject of an article in the Summer 2000, "Celebrating TSSF Worldwide," issue of the *Third Order, S.S.F., Chronicle*: the journal of the European



A lei-draped, newly ordained Rev. Taylor Clark stands with his sisters after his ordination to the vocational diaconate at St. Mark's, Honolulu, on September 16, 2000. Congratulations, Taylor!

Province (pages 16-18). The article, entitled "Worldwide View from a European Perspective," was written by Carolin Clapperton, TSSF, Minister Provincial, European Province. Dr. Clapperton visited the tertiaries in

Hawai'i for three days in September 1999 on her way back to Glasgow, Scotland, from the Third Order Inter-Provincial Conference in Australia.

SEE ST. FRANCIS, PAGE G

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## What's in *Episcopal Life*

The lead news story in this month's *Episcopal Life* is the reaction to the increased Israeli-Palestinian violence, including a letter from Presiding Bishop Frank T. Griswold to President Clinton, urging him to use any means available to bring about a just and lasting peace. (The November issue went to press around October 13.)

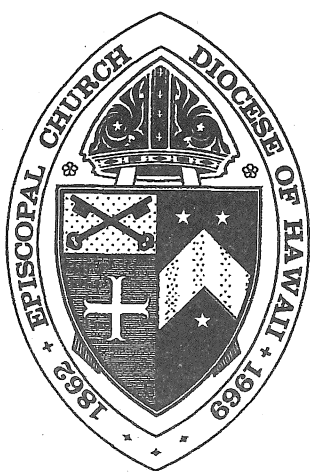
The Page 1 feature will be a story about the "resurrection" of Collington Square. This Baltimore neighborhood was plagued by drugs and crime until it was revitalized by a coalition including Episcopal Social Ministries and the Episcopal Housing Corp., five local churches, a school, a neighborhood association, two non-profit corporations, a university, and several Episcopal churches in the Diocese of Maryland. By Val Hymes.

Forum: "What are the best ways to increase church membership?" Page 32.

## Pray for our Annual Diocesan Convention

*As this issue goes to press, the 32nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Hawai'i is still two weeks away. When you receive your issue, please pray for the Convention. And even if the Convention has passed by the time you receive your issue, it never hurts to pray for the Diocese anyway!*

Almighty and everlasting Father, you have given the Holy Spirit to abide with us for ever: Bless, we pray, with his grace and presence, the bishops and the other clergy and the laity assembled in your Name, that your Church, being preserved in true faith and godly discipline, may fulfill all the mind of him who loved it and gave himself for it, your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



## Hawaiian Church Chronicle

VOLUME 99, No. 10  
NOVEMBER 2000

The Rt. Rev. Richard S. O. Chang  
*Bishop*

The Rt. Rev. Jackson Gilliam  
*Assisting Bishop*

229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, HI  
96813-2304. Telephone (808) 536-7776.  
Fax (808) 538-7194.

**Episcopal Life: The Hawaiian Church Chronicle** is prepared ten times each year by the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i and published by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, Inc. (ISSN 1050-0057). US Subscriptions: \$1 per copy; \$10 per year; \$18 for two years. Add \$10 per year for foreign surface. Air mail rates available upon request. Gift subscriptions available. Periodicals postage paid in New York, NY, and additional mailing offices.

**POSTMASTER:** Send changes of address to Episcopal Life, P.O. Box 982, Vineland, NJ 08362-0928.

The Rev. Elizabeth P. Beasley  
*Editor*

**The Chronicle Editorial Board:**  
Ryan Kusumoto (Chair)  
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The Hawaiian Church Chronicle is the official news publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i. All policy, editorial, and administrative decisions are under the direction of the Editor, in consultation with the Bishop and the Editorial Board.

The Chronicle welcomes suggestions, story ideas, and letters to the editor from its readers. Send articles, letters, news, and photographs to:  
The Editor, Hawaiian Church Chronicle,  
229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, HI  
96813-2304. Fax: (808) 421-1511.  
E-mail: <chrncle@aloha.net>.

The Chronicle cannot assume responsibility for the return of photographs or manuscripts.

Editorial deadline for The Chronicle is the 9th of the month prior to publication.

# Bishop's Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

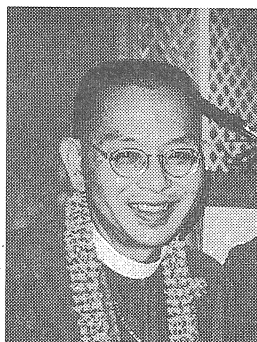
We begin November with the celebration of All Saints' Day remembering those whose faithful witness built our church and departed family members and friends. Later this month we celebrate Thanksgiving Day focusing on the "fruits of the earth" and for "the labors of those who harvest them."

One of my favorite prayers is found on page 838 in the Book of Common Prayer. I discovered this prayer when I was the rector of All Saints' Church, Kapaa. It is hidden among prayers entitled "Thanksgivings for the Church" and is Prayer 4, "For the Saints and Faithful Departed." I wonder how many people are familiar with or have ever read this prayer of thanksgiving.

It has become a special prayer for me since it links All Saints' Day, Thanksgiving Day, and church history. The prayer serves as my reminder that God is the God of history who calls people to faithful service. All who serve God in God's Church are part of our history as the people of God. Looking at the names contained in the prayer, we recognize that God has been

The Right Rev.  
Richard S. O. Chang

BISHOP OF HAWAII



present from the very beginning and fulfills the promise of Christ to be with us forever. Today we can add the names of Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma from the history of our Diocese and whose feast day is November 28.

My brothers and sisters, you are the saints of God. It is with a thankful heart that I thankfully pray to God this All Saints' Day and Thanksgiving for all members, past and present, of our Diocese of Hawai'i and for your faithful response to the call of God in Christ in this place.

Yours in Christ,  
+Dick Chang

## Prayer for the Saints and Faithful Departed

*We give thanks to you, O Lord our God, for all your servants and witnesses of time past: for Abraham, the father of believers, and Sarah his wife; for Moses, the lawgiver, and Aaron, the priest; for Miriam and Joshua, Deborah and Gideon, and Samuel with Hannah his mother; for Isaiah and all the prophets; for Mary, the mother of our Lord; for Peter and Paul and all the apostles; for Mary and Martha, and Mary Magdalene; for Stephen, the first martyr, and all the martyrs and saints in every age and in every land. In your mercy, O Lord our God, give us, as you gave to them, the hope of salvation and the promise of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first-born of many from the dead. Amen.*



## From the Editor

This month's issue is a bit different from previous ones. Usually I have a wealth of contributions to include — articles, pictures, or both — and the hard part is fitting it all in. This month was the opposite. When it came time to put the issue together, I had very little. So you will find a variety of things here: press releases, press reports, gleanings from church newsletters, excerpts from web sites, plus two duplicates from last month's issue (because I felt they are still quite timely).

I believe that part of the reason for this sudden drop in contributions is that as this goes to press, we are in the lull, media-wise, before our Annual Diocesan Convention. Previous issues have been filled with preparations for Convention: nominations, deadlines, etc. The next issue, the December/January one, will doubtless be filled with Convention coverage. I look forward to putting it together.

Please note that the next issue does cover two months. We publish ten issues per year: July and August are combined, as are December and January. This means that after the November 9 deadline, the next deadline will be January 9 for the February

## Bishop's Visitations

### NOVEMBER

- 5 All Saints'
- 12 St. Peter's
- 19 St. Matthew's
- 26 Christ Church

### DECEMBER

- 3 St. George's
- 10 Holy Nativity
- 17 Holy Innocents'
- 24 St. Andrew's Cathedral



## Kidney Donor Sought for Fr. Domingo Calag

*From information supplied by the Rev. Hollis Wright, St. James', Kamuela.*

A kidney donor is urgently needed for Fr. Domingo Calag, vicar of Resurrection and of St. Columba's on the Big Island. Fr. Calag's kidneys are failing. A donor should have type B-positive blood (or O-positive, as type O is a universal donor). If the blood type matches, then tissue matching and other tests also need to be done. Fr. Calag's wife died several years ago, and he is now the father of two preteen children. If you feel called to help, please contact Bishop Chang at 536-7776 or 1-800-522-8418, ext. 102.

issue. If you know of any events coming up in January, please try to send me that information by November 9 so that others can learn of it.

Since I do not ordinarily have the space to write something, let me take this opportunity to say that it is a privilege to be the editor of our diocesan newsletter. (It's also fun.) I appreciate having the opportunity to learn what is going on in the churches and with some of the people around the diocese, and I value the contacts and relationships that I have been able to develop because of being in this position.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to the *Chronicle*. Please keep it coming. And thank you also to the staff of the Office of the Bishop for being so helpful to me and such a pleasure to work with.

Please send any contributions to:  
Hawaiian Church Chronicle  
229 Queen Emma Square  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
or to <chrncle@aloha.net>.

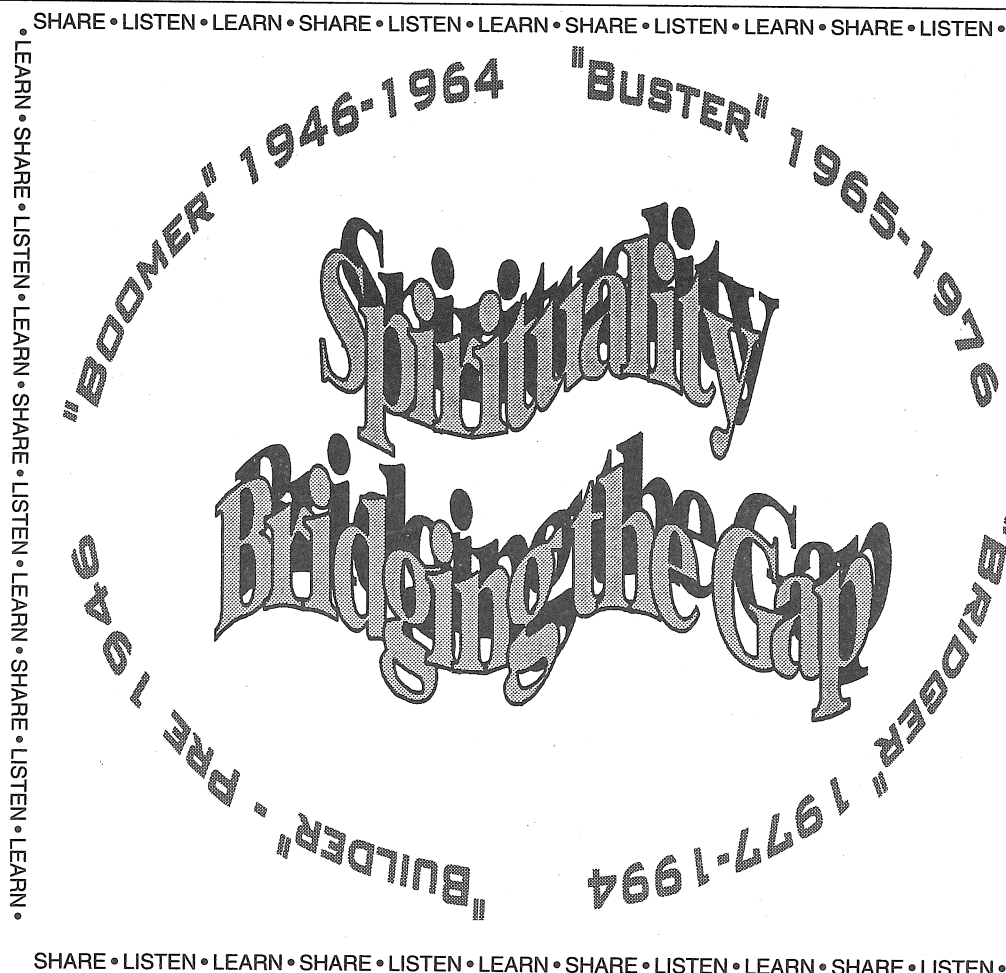
# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

## Men's Retreat in 2001

BY BRUCE FINK  
*Calvary, Kaneohe*

Peace of the Lord to You. It has been three weeks since our men's retreat and I have not totally returned to the valley from the mountaintop experience. Next year's retreat is September 28-30, 2001, so it is time to start planning again. Please contact me directly (brucefink@kahala.net) if you have any input on planning the retreat. Lucille Tamura in the Diocesan Office (536-7776, ext. 105) will be working with me this year to help plan the retreat, so you may also contact her.

1. I am asking each church to appoint a contact person for planning next year's retreat. If it is the same person as last year, great. If you would like to appoint someone new, I would appreciate the name, phone number, and email address if available.
2. If you have someone who would like to be on the planning committee (one can be both church contact person and on the planning committee if they desire), please let me know. We scheduled our first meeting for October 24 at 7 PM.
3. We have a strong possibility for next year's speaker. I cannot share the name yet, since he is still working on his calendar, but I will pass it on as soon as it is confirmed.
4. If you have not done so already, please start praying for the retreat.  
Aloha in HIS Service



**Saturday, March 31, 2001  
St. Andrew's Cathedral  
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Additional "twilight" workshop offered from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

Plenary Speakers :  
From 815  
The Episcopal Church Center

Robin Szoke, Staff Officer for Children's Ministry  
Betsy Boyd, Staff Officer Youth  
Tom Chu, Staff Officer Young Adults

Cosponsored by:

Commission on Episcopal Schools  
Young Adults  
Committee on Christian Formation  
Hawai'i Episcopal Youth Board (HEY)  
Episcopal Ministry on Aging (EMOA)

## "New Beginnings" Approaching

BY THE REV. JOSEPH CARR  
*New Beginnings Spiritual  
Director*

In case you didn't read about them last month, don't forget the upcoming registration deadlines for the New Beginnings Weekend, to be held on December 8-10 at Camp Mokule'ia.

What is New Beginnings (N.B)? N.B. is a unique weekend especially designed to respond to the issues, concerns, and needs of teenagers in grades 7-9 (plus mature 6th graders). It was created in the Diocese of Central Florida by adults and young people to

help participants grow in their love of themselves, of others, and of our Lord Jesus.

Here in Hawai'i, this will be our third N.B. Weekend. As the spiritual director for this program, I have to tell you as soon as one weekend begins to come to a close the teens are already asking when the next one will be held. Having been involved in youth ministry as a priest for over 21 years, I have never seen anything quite like this program. It is the catalyst for personal change and growth, for the birth of new church youth groups, and for the healing of broken relationships.

The weekend is led by high school youth and adult team members. Each congregation who sends youth must send an adult sponsor to experience the weekend along with them. This helps with the transition after the weekend is over from diocesan experience back into the local church. Including youth and adult team, along with adult sponsors and youth participants, we will have space for a maximum of 140 people. The last weekend had a waiting list, so I urge everyone to watch for the registration forms and to register early (neighbor-island air coupons will be made available upon receipt of registration). The registration

deadline is set for November 17, and for the first time we will be holding 40 slots open for first-time participants up to November 7. After the 7th any unfilled spaces will be released to repeat attendees. If you have come before, you know how important it is to get on the registration list as soon as possible.

As this weekend nears I ask all of you throughout the diocese to lift this weekend up in prayer. If you have any questions please e-mail me at <JJCarr2@aol.com> or call me at Calvary Church, Kaneohe, at 247-2733.



# STEWARDSHIP

## What Is Stewardship?

### ✠ A Report from the Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development

*The following is excerpted from the Report to the 73rd General Convention of The Episcopal Church from the Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development. For a complete copy of the report, including the Commission's initiatives for the coming Triennium, see their report on the website of The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS): <<http://tens.org/BBReport.html>>.*

#### INTRODUCTION

The ministry of Christian Stewardship is about the joyful transformation of hearts, minds, and spirits. We are called in Christ to a life of generous giving in response to the grace of God. Such a life is an on-going journey of conversion, transformation, and challenge as we seek to be stewards of God's gifts and of the mission of the church.

We believe that the challenge before us in this new century and millennium is found in the words of God's call to St. Francis of Assisi quoted in our

Presiding Bishops institution sermon, "Rebuild my church." These words have shined as a beacon for us in this Triennium. They guide the theology and initiatives for stewardship and development which we are placing before this General Convention. God is calling us to build and rebuild the church in fresh and life-giving ways. Stewardship must be at the center of this journey.

#### STEWARDSHIP DEFINED

The theology of Christian stewardship concerns the management and offering of our whole lives in response to the grace and call of God in Jesus Christ. It is *lived theology*; a central way in which we live out our faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Stewardship is our *joyful response* to the magnitude of God's love. All that we are and all that we have is God's gift to us. The God we know in Christ is a God of abundance and

blessing, multiplying the loaves and the fish so that there is enough for all.

Stewardship is our *confident and thankful* knowledge that the God of abundance always gives full measure of our daily bread — enough and more to fill our needs. We can give of what we have each day and lie down to rest, knowing that there will be manna in the morning.

We are invited to respond to God's abundance by being joyful stewards of all God has given each of us to do the work God is calling all of us to do. Faithful stewardship involves giving of our time, talent, and treasure in thanksgiving to God and for the mission and ministry of the church. It is *an invitation to joy, not merely a duty or an obligation*. Stewardship is an expression of our love affair with God in which we are privileged to give to the Beloved who has given all to us. At the heart of it is the Biblical teaching of the tithe, given to us as a minimum guide for our financial giving to God. This is not a legalistic standard. Tithing is a *transformational act of stewardship which changes our hearts*, freeing us to be generous and cheerful givers. It empowers the church to be a celebrative community of faith and mission.

Finally, stewardship is a *bold commitment to the call of Christ to "build my church."* All of our giving is for mission and ministry. It is through the generous stewardship of each of her members that the Body of Christ is equipped to do the work of the Gospel in the world.

If we are to build the Church as Christ commanded, our understanding of stewardship must move from a concept known in the mind to a truth of the heart lived out in every act of every day. The Commission's work is dedicated to that goal, that as we share ourselves and our resources we become *disciples* and are empowered to take God's love into a world desperately in need of God and the power of grace. The initiatives which have emerged from our work as a Commission in the 1997-2000 Triennium are the lived theology which we believe we are called to teach.

### Curious Participants Gather to Learn about Stewardship

Fall tends to be when churches start thinking more earnestly about stewardship, as they prepare for their annual stewardship commitment program. To help us all in this endeavor, the Diocesan Stewardship Committee held a educational day on September 23 at St. Andrew's Cathedral. We were delighted to welcome among us some members and clergy from Lutheran churches as well.

The Rev. Peter Van Horne, of Emmanuel Church, Kailua, began by giving an overview of stewardship development programs in general. A Stewardship Development Program consists of those things we do throughout the year to educate one another in what it means to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, and to invite each other to make a personal commitment to offer thanks for all our blessings and to support God's work in the world.

After hearing brief descriptions of specific financial commitment programs, participants broke up into workshops to learn about one specific program of their choice in more detail. The morning ended with a videotape of a talk by Bishop William Burrill (another of his talks is at left).

For a wealth of information on stewardship, check out the website of The Episcopal Network for Stewardship ([www.tens.org](http://www.tens.org)) or call them at (800) 699-2669. Our diocesan Stewardship Committee is also available to help. Contact the chair, Nancy Rowe, at 847-2339 or by email at <[rowe@aloha.net](mailto:rowe@aloha.net)>.

## A Bishop Considers His Will

BY THE RT. REV. WILLIAM BURRILL  
*Bishop of Rochester*

*Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind, and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return "All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

—(Page 482, Book of Common Prayer)

My wife, Kay, and I have had a will for decades and have updated it twice. However, we have recently begun to rethink the assumptions that we have routinely accepted in the past. Presently, 10 percent of our estate would go to the Diocese of Rochester and the remaining 90 percent would be equally divided among our four children. I believe that most of us just assume that the largest part of our accumulated wealth should go to our children and that each child should receive the same amount. We are now questioning these assumptions.

Our four children are, thank God, very different people. All four are now

married and live with their families in different parts of the country. At this time, their needs, including their financial needs, are very different. Why should we treat them as if they were the same? We have loved each of them as completely as we are able; but we have treated them differently depending upon their needs. Why should it be different in our will?

Beyond that question, if our children and their families are doing well financially, is it the best stewardship on our part to give them more money when there are millions of people in desperate need? Would it not be better stewardship to give most of our accumulated assets to people in real need or to the institutions which minister to them?

Kay and I recently raised these questions at a dinner party in our home. It resulted in one of the liveliest discussions we have ever witnessed. We have begun to discuss these issues with two of our children and will need to include other two and their spouses as well.

Our new will is not yet written, but we have learned several and things and undoubtedly have many more to

learn. First, the phrase "we brought nothing into this world and we will take nothing out" is where we need to begin. (This part scripture should be in the Baptismal liturgy; the Burial Office is late.)

Second, as Christian stewards our challenge is to use the gifts God has bestowed upon us according to the principles of our faith. This includes our personal family budget as well as our will and other means of planned giving.

Third, God, as manifested in the person Jesus, has an overwhelming love of the poor. "In as much as you do it to me...."

Fourth, as Kay and I have been wrestling with these truths and how they influence our next will and other vehicles of planned giving, we realize that it has been good for us and our spiritual journey.

Finally, we have discovered a subject which opens the doors to some in-depth discussions with friends. We would urge all clergy and lay persons in our church to begin asking these kinds of questions about their own planned giving. The writing of a will should be much more than a legal action. It should be an expression of a spiritual journey as one of Christ's stewards.





# THE WIDER CHURCH

## Rebuilding Efforts of Episcopal Relief and Development

Episcopal Relief and Development, formerly the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief (see September 2000 *Chronicle*) has continued to be active in recent months in both Honduras and Kosovo.

### Donated Trees Will Add Shade, Fruit to Each House in Honduran Village

Volunteers planted 100 trees in the Faith, Hope and Joy village in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, in recent weeks. The trees will add welcome shade and fruit to each of the houses.

Mr. Davila, head of the Honduran Ecological Park System, donated the lemon, mango, and avocado trees to the village. Volunteers from Miami,

Florida; Mays Landing, New Jersey; and Fayetteville, North Carolina, planted the trees.

The Episcopal Church, through Episcopal Relief and Development, began constructing the village a year ago in response to the thousands of victims of Hurricane Mitch who lost their homes and everything they owned in the region's worst hurricane of the century.

Currently, approximately 70 homes are completed and 60 families live on site. In addition, the medical clinic is open and ground was broken last month for a church and community center.

Hundreds of volunteers have gone to Honduras in the past year to work

alongside the families in constructing the homes. For more information on volunteering or contributing to the project, please contact Abigail Nelson, Program Associate, at (800) 334-7626 or <anelson@dfms.org>.

### Focus in Kosovo Turns to Farm Machinery and Livestock

The efforts of Episcopal Relief and Development in Kosovo have shifted to rebuilding the agrarian economy of this war-torn country.

While its initial response was directed toward emergency relief and refugee assistance, the Episcopal Relief and Development response now focuses on two major agricultural projects.

First, Episcopal Relief and Development is working with Kosovo farmers who till small plots of land, organizing them into cooperatives as a

way to manage a major gift of farm machinery.

Secondly, it is helping to increase the farmer's livestock by preventing diseases through vaccines, and to improve the breeds through artificial insemination, and training.

Episcopal Relief and Development is partnering with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, a nonprofit organization that has extensive experience in the Balkans.

Episcopal Relief and Development responds to manmade and natural disasters around the world. It assists in the rehabilitation of lives, property, and organizations and often works in partnership with those who identify and address the root causes of human suffering.

For more information please visit our website at <www.er-d.org> or contact Malaika Kamunanwire at (800) 334-7626.

## Episcopal Altar Guild Members Team Up to Create 2001 Altar Guild Calendar

The 2001 Altar Guild calendar, written and illustrated by Nancy Grandfield and Eleanor Smith, pays tribute to the invaluable service of Altar Guilds in the Episcopal Church.

Now available from Morehouse Publishing for \$11.95, the 12-month lectionary planner is a practical, yet entertaining resource that helps altar guilds organize responsibilities for all of the seasons and events of the church year.

The inspiration for this year's theme, "Custodians of the Holy," came from a survey conceived by Ms. Grandfield for the Diocese of California. Responses to questions such as, "How do you choose your members?" and "Rate your altar guild for such qualities as responsibility, spirituality, and liturgical knowledge," are sprinkled throughout the calendar in the form of helpful quotes and encouraging meditations.

Each month also includes:

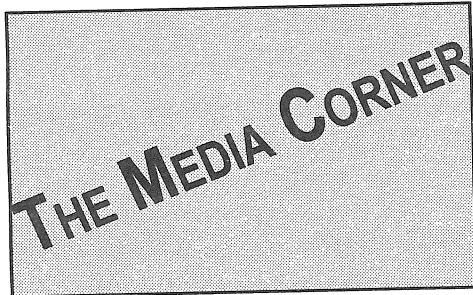
- ✕ Date boxes with liturgical colors, special saints' days, and Christian holidays
- ✕ Timely reminders of altar guild responsibilities
- ✕ Cartoons of real-life altar guild stories told to Grandfield and Smith, and
- ✕ Tips on everything from removing candle wax to preparing for a visit from the Bishop.

"The idea for the calendar was born after years of collecting hilarious stories from churches I visited," said Grandfield, who is past president of the National Altar Guild Association and a member of the Church of the Transfiguration, San Mateo, California. She is active in many Episcopal women's ministry groups, and currently serves as president for the Diocese of California Altar Guild and executive director of the Episcopal Women's Foundation.

"Altar Guilds are famous for taping notes and scraps of paper on the wall. I thought it would be a real service to create a calendar expressly for altar guilds."

Smith added, "This was a joyful project to introduce gentle humor to a most solemn service in the church. The Altar Guild Calendar is not just for use in the church, but makes a unique personal gift for altar guild members, clergy, seminary graduates, and anyone involved in training or working with altar guilds." She is also active in local and national Episcopal ministry groups, and is a member of the congregation of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

For more information, or to order the calendar, call 800-877-0012. Morehouse Publishing is part of the Morehouse Group, which publishes and provides books, church curriculum, church supplies, and communications services.



## Women's Uncommon Prayers Addresses Contemporary Issues

*Women's Uncommon Prayers*, a book of prayers and poems written by clergy and lay women from around the country, has been published by Morehouse Publishing.

A project of the Council of Women's Ministries, *Women's Uncommon Prayers: Our Lives Revealed, Nurtured, Celebrated*, features prayers and poems dealing with contemporary issues involving identity, daily

life, stages of life, spirituality, and ministry. The 384-page book also contains sections of seasonal prayers and corporate prayers.

"This is a rich and diverse collection, not only of prayers in the classical sense, but reflections upon the experience of life from the perspective of believing women. There is much here that both women and men of faith will be able to make their own," said the Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold, Presiding Bishop.

*Women's Uncommon Prayers* covers the full spectrum of emotions from desperate pleas for compassion in times of despair to quiet gratitude for the simple blessings of everyday living, to raucous praise during moments of celebration.

Royalties from the sale of the book will be donated to the Episcopal Women's Foundation for programs and projects that address the issue of violence against women and girls.

The book was compiled by three editors, Elizabeth Rankin Geitz, Marjorie A. Burke, and Ann Smith; and three associate editors, Debra Q. Bennett, Kathryn McCormick, and Tracy J. Sukraw.

*Women's Uncommon Prayers* is available for \$23. Call 1-800-877-0012.

## Christian Interactive Video Game Now Available

Wading through human carnage and blood may appear to be the norm in the gaming industry, but this is a standard that many hope will change with the launch of N'Lightning Software's new game: "Catechumen."

"Catechumen" is the first high-quality game where everyone can experience fast-action, first-person gaming without the violence.

It's an adventurous game set in ancient Rome and based on scriptures taken from the Old and New Testaments. It contains a digital soundtrack, 3D graphics, and a story line with hunt-or-be-hunted battle sequences.

Catechumen, although based on scriptures from the Bible, is created with the average gamer in mind. N'Lightning Software hopes this game will bridge the gap that has existed between the Christian and secular markets.

A three-level demo is available to download free at [www.catechumen.com](http://www.catechumen.com).

# REFLECTIONS

## The Story of the “Running Father”

By THE REV. GERHARD LAUN  
*St. Elizabeth's, Honolulu*

*These reflections are excerpted from Fr. Laun's column in the St. Elizabeth's newsletter of September 29, 2000.*

During the September 26, 2000, BOD (“Vestry”) Meeting, our first after the summer recess, Joan Kealoha gave a very timely and impassioned talk on *Ho’oponopono* and what “forgiveness” means in her Hawaiian heritage, akin as it is to the Christian tradition. During the responses and discussion that followed, and to which I listened carefully and at times with some sense of frustration, two images popped up in my own mind. It is these two images that I want to share with you, inasmuch as they are germane and relate to the subject of “forgiveness,” which is so central to the Christian faith and to our Baptismal Covenant.

First the image of *a man running*. It is one of the most vivid images in the whole New Testament. These days, all sorts of people run to keep fit. Heads of state, including Pope John Paul II, have been photographed in jogging or ski suits, even taking exercise. But in Jesus’ world of the first century AD, the more senior you were in a community, the more unlikely you were even to walk fast. It showed a lack of dignity, of *gravitas*. So when Jesus told the story of a man running, this was designed to have the same effect on his audience as we would experience if, say, the

President of the United States were to show up for the State of the Union Address wearing his golfing attire. It would be a total loss of dignity.

And when we discover why this man is running, the effect is even more shocking. This man is running to greet someone who has brought disgrace upon his whole family. We call it *The Parable of the Prodigal Son* (Luke 15:11-32), but it might equally be called the Parable of the *Running Father*. And only when we understand why this man is running will we really understand what Jesus meant when he taught us to pray: “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” We need shocking stories like the Running Father, because our generation has either forgotten about forgiveness or trivialized it. Once you replace morality with the philosophy that says “if it feels good, do it,” there isn’t anything to forgive. If you still feel hurt by something, our culture suggests that you should retreat into your private world and pretend it didn’t happen. In that sort of world, I don’t need God to forgive me, and I don’t need to forgive anybody else, either.

Instead of genuine forgiveness, we have been taught the vague notion of “tolerance.” This is, at best, a low-grade parody of forgiveness. At worst,

it is a way of sweeping the real issues in human life under the carpet. If the Father in the story Jesus told had intended merely to *tolerate* the son, he would not have been running down the road to meet him. Forgiveness is richer and higher and harder and more shocking than we usually think. Jesus’ message offers the genuine article, and insists that we should accept no manmade substitutes.

Jesus sits down to eat with tax collectors and sinners, acting out the open welcome to the sinner that God

*Jesus’ disciples, having received God’s forgiveness themselves, were to practice it among themselves. Failure to forgive one another wasn’t a matter of failing to live up to the new moral teaching. It was cutting off the very branch you were sitting on.*

extends. When he is challenged about his undignified behavior, he tells the story of the *Running Father*, who throws his dignity into the trashcan and runs down the road to welcome his disgraced son. Healings, parties, stories, and symbols all said: the forgiveness of sins is happening right under your noses. This is the Advent of our astonishing God!

Jesus’ disciples, having received God’s forgiveness themselves, were to practice it among themselves. Not to do so would mean that they hadn’t

grasped what was going on. Failure to forgive one another wasn’t a matter of failing to live up to the new moral teaching. It was cutting off the very branch you were sitting on. If one didn’t live forgiveness, one was denying the very basis of one’s own existence in Christ. So the Lord’s Prayer contains, at this point, a most unusual thing—a clause which commits the *pray-er* to actions which back up the petition just offered: “Forgive us our trespasses, as we *forgive those who trespass against us*.” Prayer and life are here locked insolubly together.

Another image popped up in my mind during Tuesday’s Vestry meeting: it is the image of the *Wailing Wall* in Jerusalem, the holiest site of Judaism. The Wailing Wall is all that is left of Solomon’s Temple. And kneeling in front of the Wailing Wall is His Holiness John Paul II, confessing the sins of the Christian community, which, through the

centuries, wittingly or unwittingly practiced anti-Semitism, thus setting the stage for Hitler’s Holocaust.

John Paul II is also the co-author with Cardinal Ratzinger of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1994). The *Catechism* divides the Lord’s Prayer into “Seven Petitions.” Commenting on Petition V: “And Forgive Us Our Trespasses, as We Forgive Those Who Trespass against Us,” Pope John Paul II (or Cardinal Ratzinger) writes: “Our petition (‘Forgive us our trespasses’) will not be heard unless we have first met a strict requirement. Our petition looks to the future, but our response must come first, for the two parts are joined by the single word ‘AS’.... This ‘AS’ is not unique in Jesus’ teaching: ‘Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful’; ‘A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.’ It is impossible to keep the Lord’s commandment by imitating the divine model from outside; there has to be a vital participation, coming from the depths of the heart, in the holiness and the mercy and love of our God. Only the Spirit by whom we live can make ‘ours’ the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. Then the unity of forgiveness becomes possible and we find ourselves ‘forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave us.’”

Forgiveness *now* — not tomorrow or in thirty years — if we truly are Christians!



Bishop Mark MacDonald, Bishop of Alaska, participated in the baptism of his son Adrian Blake while his wife Virginia and daughters MayLi and Brenna watch closely. (Episcopal News Service photo by James Solheim.) More than 300 participants journeyed to Fort Yukon, Alaska, eight miles above the Arctic Circle for Vigil 2000, where the baptism took place.

### Holy Spirit Infuses Vigil 2000 in Diocese of Alaska

#### Episcopal News Service

The Holy Spirit had a great time at Vigil 2000 in Fort Yukon, Alaska.

Over three intense days, the music and stories poured forth as the Diocese of Alaska, joined by friends from around North America, returned to its roots in an effort to forge a mission vision for a new millennium.

“We are coming together as a diocese to focus on the Gospel, to see what God is calling us to do as individuals, as communities of faith, as a diocese and as a national church,” said Bishop Mark MacDonald in expressing his hopes for the vigil. He urged participants to come to Fort Yukon, eight miles above the Arctic Circle and accessible only by boat or plane, with the expectation that “something sacred is coming.”



# FOCUS ON CHURCHES & PEOPLE

## “I Present These Persons for Confirmation”

✱ Scenes from Bishop Chang's Visits



Left: Bishop Chang and confirmand Ruby Santana at St. Jude's Church, Ocean View, Hawai'i, on the day of her confirmation, September 10, 2000.

Below: The Confirmation Class at Holy Cross, Malaekahana, O'ahu, stands with two sponsors and Bishop Chang on their special day, September 17, 2000.

If you would like pictures of your church's baptisms or confirmations included in the Chronicle, please send them to Hawaiian Church Chronicle, 229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, HI 96813, or e-mail them (preferably in TIF or JPEG formats) to <chrncle@aloha.net>.

*Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

—Book of Common Prayer, page 418



### ST. FRANCIS, FROM PAGE A

The article summarizes her impressions of Franciscan spirituality here and concludes: “I have had a very slow morning, Hawaiian time, just seeping in the contemplative spirituality of this place, which is both this place and this island, the experiences I have had and the people I have met.”

The Hawai'i Fellowship, TSSF, covers the area of Hawai'i and the American Possessions in the Pacific. It is the only Episcopal religious order in the diocese and currently has three professed members. For more information, see the Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis webpage: <<http://www.li.net/~kenorian/tssf.htm>>.

This website is linked to several Prayer Book Offices.

- Online Daily Office — Morning and Evening Prayer, from the Episcopal *Book of Common Prayer*. (This site is a ministry of The Mission of St. Clare. It includes hymns and some sung responses as well as the BCP, Lutheran, and Orthodox Calendars.)
- Celebrating Common Prayer SSF (adapted from Church of England)
- New Zealand Prayer Book Daily Office

Questions about the Third Order may be addressed to the Convenor, Edean Iwanaga, TSSF (735-4044), or to the Rev. Kenneth Jackson, TSSF (732-3393).



Francis of Assisi

## Ali'i Day at Grace Church

Taken from the Grace Church, Moloka'i, newsletter

On August 27, Grace Church was blessed with the presence of six gracious ladies of the Ahahui Kaahumanu at our Sunday worship. Known as the “Kaahumanu Society,” this Hawaiian women's organization was established in 1863 to contribute to improving conditions in the Hawaiian community. As members of the benevolent society, these lovely women in their formal black regalia and adorned with yellow feather leis, take time every year to honor ali'i who greatly improved conditions in the Hawaiian community by living out their Christian faith.

On this particular “Ali'i Sunday,” Queen Liliuokalani was remembered in remarks made by the current president of the Moloka'i chapter — none other than our own Barbara Hanchett! She recalled the visit made by the queen to the people of Kalaupapa — the first such visit ever made by a reigning monarch — in a time when Hansen's disease was viewed with great fear. She was to have made a brief stop, but ended up staying the whole day encouraging the residents.

A striking portrait of the queen was painted by Teresa Wong and placed near the bishop's chair during worship, draped with ti leaf lei and rope pikaki provided by Jule Kamakana. The celebration was concluded with one of our delicious potluck luncheons outside under the monkeypod tree!



## Art Kusumoto Re-elected Trustee of Church Pension Fund

The 73rd General Convention held in Denver, Colorado, July 4-15, 2000, re-elected Art Kusumoto, a member of St. John's, Kula, for another six-year term as Trustee of the Church Pension Fund Board. Art was immediately elected to the Executive Committee, Audit Committee, Social Fiduciary Responsibility on Investment Committee, and to the Board of Directors, Church Life Insurance Company.

Congratulations, Art!



# COMING SOON

## NOVEMBER

### Any Sunday in November

- UTO In-Gathering

### 1 Wednesday

- Diocesan Institute Board 3:00 p.m.

### 2 Thursday

- Commission on Ministry 3:00 p.m.

### 4 Saturday

- Priory Ho'olaulea

### 9 Thursday

- Central, East, & West Oahu Clericus 12:30 p.m.
- Chronicle Deadline 4:00 p.m.

### 10 Friday

- Diocesan Offices Closed Veterans' Day Holiday

### 11 Saturday

- ECW, St. Andrew's Cathedral 9:30a.m.

### 10-11 Friday-Saturday

- Planning for Tomorrow Retirement Conference (Clergy)

### 13 Monday

- Planning for Tomorrow Retirement Conference (lay)
- Diocesan Offices Closed

### 16 Thursday

- Maui Clericus 10:00 a.m.
- HEPAM 3:00 p.m.
- Cathedral Chapter 4:30 p.m.

### 17 Friday

- Standing Committee 9:30 a.m.

- Diocesan Council Orientation & Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

### 18 Saturday

- Diocesan Council Departments & Meeting, 8:00 a.m.
- Diocesan Institute 8:30 a.m.

### 22 Wednesday

- Clergy Newsletter

### 22-23 Wednesday-Thursday

- Okinawan Diocesan Convention

### 23-24 Thursday-Friday

- Diocesan Offices Closed Thanksgiving Holiday

### 25 Saturday

- Bishop of Taiwan Consecration

## DECEMBER

### 1-3 Friday-Sunday

- Senior High Retreat, Camp Mokule'ia

### 3 Sunday

- Kamehameha & Emma Lectures, Kaua'i

### 3-6 Sunday-Wednesday

- Clergy & Spouses Retreat

### 5 Tuesday

- Finance Dept. 11:30 a.m.

### 6 Wednesday

- Diocesan Institute Board 3:00 p.m.

### 7 Thursday

- Commission on Ministry 3:00 p.m.

### 8 Friday

- Diocesan Staff Christmas Luncheon 12:00 noon

### 9 Saturday

- ECW Christmas Program
- Deacons' Meeting 9:00 a.m.

### 14 Thursday

- Central, East, & West Oahu Clericus 12:30 p.m.

### 15 Friday

- Standing Committee 9:30 a.m.

### 16 Saturday

- Diocesan Council 12:00 p.m.

### 20 Wednesday

- Clergy Newsletter

### 21 Thursday

- Cathedral Chapter 4:30 p.m.

### 25-26 Monday-Tuesday

- Diocesan Offices Closed Christmas Holiday

### 29 Friday

- Certificate of Elections Church Officials List Mailed to Churches



## Bits & Pieces

### Daughters of the King Coordinate Prayer Vigil

The Daughters of the King are coordinating a Prayer Vigil for the 32nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Hawai'i on October 27 and 28. Participants will pray at whatever location suits them best. Parke Chapel will be open for meditation on Friday, October 27 from 9 AM to 5 PM and Saturday from 7 AM to 4 PM. We would appreciate your sending your list of prayer warriors to me so that a composite list can be made and posted at Parke Chapel. Those who go in to Parke Chapel will be asked to pray for them as well as for the proceedings of the Annual Convention. The theme

for this year's Convention is God's Abundant Provisions.

Your prayer warrior list can be sent to me at any of the following:

Email: paosgood@aol.com

Fax: % Calvary Episcopal Church, 247-0999

Mail: Pat Osgood, 47-775 Ahilama Rd., Kaneohe, HI 96744

The following Scripture passages on God's Abundant Provisions are suggested for your prayer.

- Deuteronomy 7: 6-14
- 2 Corinthians 5: 6-21

- Exodus 16: 1-21
- Colossians 1: 1-14

- Romans 8: 3-39
- Revelation 19: 1-10

In addition, the Rev. Nancy Conley has written the prayer below for the occasion (it also seems suitable any-

time as we give thanks for God's abundant provisions).

## World AIDS Day: A Celebration of Life

Hawai'i's World AIDS Day Service will be held on Friday, December 1, at St. Andrew's Cathedral. This interfaith service, cosponsored by the World AIDS Day Planning Committee and the Diocesan AIDS Committee, will have as its focus "A Celebration of Life." The service will begin in the early evening with a vigil around the St. Andrew fountain, process into the Cathedral, and conclude with a reception in the narthex. Music will be directed by Dr. Arlan Sunnarborg, Cathedral Director of Music, and it will include Taize chants, healing, and a keynote speaker.

To participate and for further information, contact Honey Becker, Service Coordinator, at 254-4756.

## What Seekers Look for in a Church

*Courtesy of the Newsletter Newsletter*

In 1999, researchers printed a report listing six things that mattered most to people seeking a church to join. They were:

- Church doctrine with which they were comfortable,
- The care church members exhibited toward one another,
- The quality of the sermons,
- The friendliness of the members to visitors,
- The congregation's willingness to serve the disadvantaged,
- The quality of the programs for children.

—The Barna Report

*Almighty God, in wisdom you have created us and all things. You provide our daily needs and grant us strength to fulfill our baptismal vows. From your heart of love, your arm of strength, and your hand of plenty we live each day to be one with Christ. You alone make provisions for our victory, and arrange all things to offer us a rendezvous with your abundant heart. We give you thanks and praise, not only for your great wisdom and strength made available, but also for your great love, your glory, your peace, your joy, your grace, your presence, and all your resources. Together, with one voice, we praise and glorify your holy name. Amen.*

Next Chronicle Deadline:  
**November 9**  
for the December 2000 issue  
Send articles and photos to:  
Hawaiian Church Chronicle  
Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i  
229 Queen Emma Square  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
<chrncle@aloha.net>