

Hawaiian Church Chronicle

VOLUME 103, No. 2

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF HAWAII

MARCH 2004

Waianae: 15 years, shoes, shirts and service

By Sarah T. Moore

Along the Waianae coast, down a side street off Farrington Highway in Maili, just blocks from the azure blue surf, Eleanore Anderson folds clothes in a crammed back room. Soon the garments will be placed in piles amidst household china, coffee pots and fans.

St. Philip's Thrift Shop

87-227 St. John's Rd.
Maili, HI 96792
Hours: 8:30 a.m.
to 1 p.m.,
Tuesdays/Thursdays

The Thrift Shop at St. Philip's Church, Maili, posts signs, "Dresses \$1 and up" over poles of hanging garments. Among tables piled high with

clothing, tank-topped shoppers, with little in their pockets, find bargains to put on their backs.

The shop is in the former church conference room/parish hall. The staging area is the former vicar's office.

"It's okay," says Helen Sterntal, St. Philip's



PHOTO BY SARAH T. MOORE

Continued on page C

Eleanore Anderson, left, volunteer manager of St. Philip's Thrift Store, laughs with volunteer Kathy Pettit.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Posing for a group photo on their winter meeting in Taiwan, Episcopal Bishops of the Province of the Pacific (Province 8) gather with their spouses in front of the Grand Hotel in Kao-Shiung. Front row, left-right: The Rt. Revs. Jerry Lamb (Northern California), William Gregg (Eastern Oregon), Johncy Itty (Oregon), Mark McDonald (Alaska), David Lai (Taiwan), Carolyn Irish (Utah), Richard Chang (Hawaii), Robert Shahan (Arizona), James Waggoner (Spokane), Katharine Jefferts Schori (Nevada), William Swing (California), and Harry Bainbridge (Idaho). Spouses, standing back row, left-right: Jane Lamb, Kathy Gregg, Lily Lai, Fred Quinn (spouse of Bishop Irish), Dee Chang, Mary Carol Shahan, Gloria Waggoner, Richard Schori, Mary Swing, and Kit Bainbridge.

Bishops unite, share message across Pacific

By the Rt. Rev. William E. Swing

BISHOP OF CALIFORNIA

The big news wasn't that bishops and spouses of the Eighth Province met 9,000 miles from the Episcopal Church Center in New York.

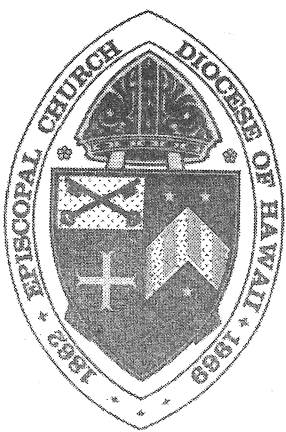
Nor was the big news that a bishop, who voted against [openly gay bishop] Eugene Robinson's consecration, hosted bishops who voted affirmatively.

The big news was the depth of sharing the message and life of Jesus Christ between the folks of Taiwan and of the U.S.A.

Usually each January the bishops of the

Continued on page D

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

229 Queen Emma Square
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-2304
Telephone: (808) 536-7776
Fax: (808) 538-7194

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elife@pubinfocenter.com

Sarah T. Moore
Editor

Elizabeth House
Layout

The Chronicle Editorial Board:
Ms. Arlene Lum
Ms. Patricia Osgood

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The Chronicle welcomes suggestions, story ideas, comments and opinions from its readers. Send articles, letters, news and photographs to: Sarah T. Moore, Editor, Hawaiian Church Chronicle, 229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, HI 96813-2304. E-mail: sarahmoore@earthlink.net Telephone: (808) 536-7776 ext. 126

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www.episcopalhawaii.org

April issue deadline:
March 5

Church family snapshots: review common life

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
In the course of the past two months I have been reading a wide variety of reports about congregations and our diocese. Many congregations sent me copies of their annual reports. The 2003 Parochial Reports have made for interesting reading, as did the report on average Sunday attendance of every congregation of our diocese for the past ten years.

These reports of our ministry are "snap shots" of the health of our congregations and our diocese. As in any roll of film, there are good photos and poor photos. The good photos, like grandchildren pictures, are the ones that we share quickly with a sense of pride. The good photos present the glamorous, the successful, and the happy. The over-exposed or poorly focused photos are put aside to be forgotten. Even the perfectly framed photo with full clarity may not be acceptable because it reveals something that we want to keep hidden from public view. With digital cameras we now have some capacity to "improve" the poorer photos to make them more "presentable." But there are photos that no matter how much we work on them, we cannot change the reality that they portray. These are set aside and lost to history.

Annual meeting reports, parochial reports, average Sunday attendance reports, and the monthly newsletter provide one kind of picture about our con-



**The Right Rev.
Richard S.O. Chang**
BISHOP OF HAWAII

gregations. It is safe to say that most members have never seen a parochial report. I would even make that same generalization of most Vestries and Bishops Committees. The revision of Canon I.6.1 by the 74th General Convention now makes the preparation and filing of this report the joint duty of the Rector or Vicar and the lay leadership of the congregation. Before filing with Diocese, the vestry or bishop's committee is now required to approve the report.

What other kinds of pictures should we have of our mission and ministry as a community of faithful disciples called by Jesus to follow him? How will these snapshots help us to strengthen existing ministries, to terminate existing ministries, and to initiate new ministries?

I ask every congregation of the Diocese of Hawai'i to act upon General Convention Resolution A074: Congregational Annual Study by July 1, 2004. Each congregation should engage in a study and review of its common life asking key questions about themselves, their mission, their leadership, and the communities in which they live. Is the

BISHOP'S VISITATION SCHEDULE

MARCH

Mar. 7 St. Christopher's,
Kailua, O'ahu
Mar. 14 St. John's By-the-Sea,
Kaneohe, O'ahu
Mar. 21 Travel
Mar. 28 St. Timothy's,
Aiea, O'ahu

APRIL

Apr. 4 Good Shepherd,
Wailuku, Maui
Apr. 11 Cathedral (Easter),
Honolulu
April 18 Travel
April 25 Travel

Good News of God in Christ truly being proclaimed in word and deed among us and in our communities? Each congregation will shortly receive a letter with a copy of the resolution from me. Canon Fitzpatrick and I will be available to assist you in your self-study.

Faithfully yours in Christ,
+Richard

Pray, work; impossible becomes possible

By Lance Horne and Nancee Cline

His message was clear from the start: healthy, mission-focused Christians and congregations develop by working and praying together, with emphasis on living to the fullness of the baptismal covenant. What seems impossible becomes possible, because we let Jesus lead.

The Bishop of Western Massachusetts, the Rt. Rev. Gordon P. Scruton, visited the islands Feb. 6-9, bringing a message on "Leadership in the Church."

Traveling with his wife Rebecca, he spoke to groups of clergy and laity at All Saints, Kapa'a, St. George's, Pearl Harbor, Good Shepherd, Wailuku, Maui, and St. James, Waimea, Hawai'i. Close to 100 people heard his message.

This new-decade preaching mission emerged when an earlier gathering at Camp Mokule'ia failed to gain steam. Bishop Richard Chang proposed a model where Scruton could bring his "good news" to more people by traveling the islands.

Scruton's message quickened people's thoughts on formation, fellowship, evangelism, service, stewardship, and discernment as he pointed to the most

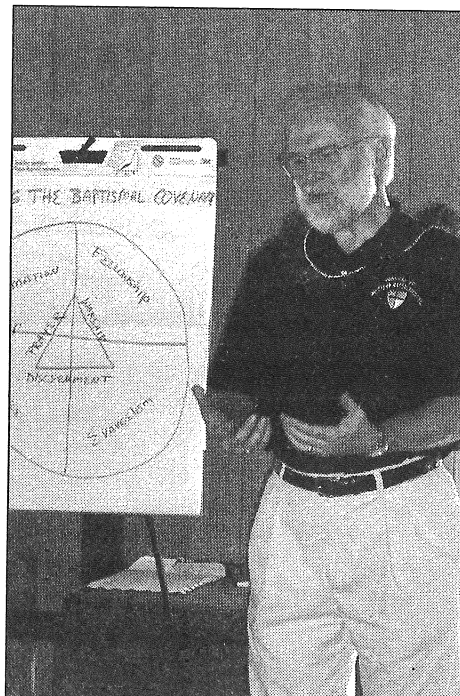


PHOTO BY CAROL ARNEY

Bishop Gordon Scruton brings a message of living the baptismal covenant to four islands. Nearly 100 people heard him speak in February.

valuable resource all have: prayer.

The bishop's wife, Rebecca, also helped people experience the power of silence. Every 30 minutes during her husband's presentation she stood up, closed her eyes and listened purposeful-

ly for the Holy Spirit, encouraging others to follow.

Each prayerful silence was an interruption of the intellectual processing in which we were engaged. In that silence, would we hear the voice of God? Would answers be given? Would secrets be revealed? Or would the awareness of God's presence be beyond words? Would God's peace surround us or God's passion ignite us?

The bishop spoke about spirituality within meetings, and gave us a model for shared wisdom.

Through stories he illustrated living into the baptismal covenant. They were rich, but it was the practice of becoming silent before God in the midst of a meeting that was actually golden.

"Prayer and spiritual commitment is central to our life as a church," said the Rev. Alison Dingley, vicar of St. Stephen's, Wahiawa, after attending the meeting in O'ahu.

Dingley looks for excitement to gain momentum in the life of the diocese as new folk step forward to embrace ministries in the church and in turn, engage their communities, living into the promises made at baptism.

Lance Horne is vicar of St. George's Church, Pearl Harbor. Nancee Cline is a member of Christ Church, Kealahou.

Musings on a long pastorate with the Rev. Jan Rudinoff

By Sarah T. Moore

Jan Rudinoff is snowboarding in Canada.

After 30 years as rector of St. Michael and All Angels in Lihue, Kaua'i, Rudinoff retired this month and headed north to vacation in British Columbia.

Thirty years in one place — especially the small island of Kaua'i — is a not the norm for most Episcopal clergy.

Rudinoff believes if you are in one parish as long as he has been, "you either have to reinvent yourself or you need to make a move."

Did he ever think of leaving over those 30 years?

"Yes, actually. But," he says with a wide grin, "a friend once told me, 'You're unemployable except on Kaua'i,'"

So, he "reinvented himself" several times over the years and "woke up one day and it was 30 years at St. Mike's."

"And you know, I'm grateful. I've had fun doing it and I've done all I can do. I'm tired. And I'm not willing to reinvent myself again."

Therapist, jokester, pastor, strong personality, lover of the good life, sensitive to down and outers, champion of the dispossessed, adamant in attitude, passionate about clergy wellness, lover of the church, frustrated with the church — this is a complex clergyman, a product of the Vietnam era with his pulse on the 21st century.

"Who else would have built a columbarium like this?" he says pointing to the glossy black wall outside St. Michael's, clearly modeled after the Vietnam Wall national monument in Arlington, Va.

At the Princeville Hotel near Hanalei, Rudinoff heartily greets service people as we wind our way to a quiet spot where we can talk about his ministry. Most recognize and smile at his gregarious greetings. They either know



PHOTO BY SARAH T. MOORE

The Rev. Jan Rudinoff culminates 30 years of ministry at St. Michael and All Angels, Kaua'i. His challenge to retire the church's mortgage before he left was met in January.

him or know someone he has baptized, married or buried.

"When I first got to St. Mike's, we had 37 to 40 people on a Sunday," he says. "Then it began to grow. If you stick around long enough, the [numbers of] people begin to grow."

"That's the trouble. All of it takes time. But after 5, 7, or 8 years, we're so stupid we pull clergy out," he says. "Not that I'm so special."

Lots of people have done things ... that's what has made St. Michael's thrive, he says.

"I'm too stupid to have done so many right things."

"It's the best congregation in the diocese!" he says excitedly. "There are healers, therapists, workers, welfare recipients and millionaires. In a place like this we have to be eclectic."

"They used to come because of me, when it was a small church. Now they come because of one another — and they like each other."

"Why did I stick it out?"

Well, some of it has to do with a roller coaster past and a solid present.

"The divorce helped me," he admits, talking about the difficulties, personal and interpersonal, and staying in a parish and diocese throughout one of life's crises.

"I went about doing my ministry ... changing, changing the church. A lot left."

Finding a companion and life partner, Paula, to whom he has been married 28 years, defined his life in new ways. She did not want to leave, he says. Kaua'i is a good place to raise kids — both of theirs. She has a career (in real estate). She's a "people person" and does what she's wanted in the church — which has been music.

"And, frankly, her income really allowed us to stay."

After traveling to the Northwest, the Rudinoffs expect to return to Kaua'i.

"Paula's parents are here. Our lives are here. Our friends are here. I need to stay away from the parish in a priestly

Burning the mortgage

On Jan. 18, at St. Michael and All Angels, Lihue, annual meeting, the congregation burned the mortgage on the church.

A tribute to the ministry of the Rev. Jan Rudinoff, retiring the mortgage was a challenge Rudinoff placed before the congregation at the end of his 30-year pastorate.

The \$96,000 goal was met, with a little extra to add to a building maintenance fund. An anonymous donor matched donations, two to one, which pushed the parish over the top with the donor's share of \$192,000. Priceless kudos was given to Hobe and Nancy Goodale for holding the mortgage for years. Additional donors stepped up from O'ahu, the Jewish Community, and O'ahu and Maui congregations.

role."

He's been reading lots about how other clergy deal with retirement, staying in the same place you served as a priest for decades. He talks about working with ideas for the national clergy association. "We need a stronger organization in the Episcopal Church."

He may delve more seriously into research, writing, maybe teaching on resort ministry, something he started with the Alban Institute. "The church doesn't know anything about it," he says. "But where's the growth? In resorts."

Meanwhile, an interim pastor is in place for the next 18 months and the congregation will do a self-study to find its new direction.

"The person who comes here will walk into a congregation that doesn't play at church. It gives itself to the community."

Thrift shop

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A

hall manager. "We don't have a priest. It's been vacant for three years," Sternthal says. The church is, however, in a search for a shared pastorate with the local Lutheran church. They have designated another space for clergy, ever-hopeful one will be called to their midst.

Though a stalwart few show up for worship on Sundays with a supply priest, an equally devoted number staff a thrift shop that is engaging lives on this side of O'ahu.

"This has really helped the community," says Sternthal. "Where can you

buy a pair of pants for 50 cents? We have the lowest prices anywhere."

"We serve the whole west coast and reach out to a lot of people," says Anderson, her hands always moving sorting clothes. "The money we make here goes right back into the community."

Outreach includes funding events such as Christmas parties for underprivileged children and sending young people to New Beginnings and summer camp. They also have donated to worldwide programs such as Episcopal Relief and Development, disaster relief, and to Guam, after a hurricane.

"We help in places we learn about and where we might be able to help out a little bit," says Anderson. "It's been gratifying. We like taking care of this community."

Fifteen years ago St. Philip's opened this thrift shop under the tutelage of Anderson, Marion Wong and June Rutters. The latter have since died, leaving Anderson, a retired registered nurse and longtime church member transplanted from the Mainland, in charge.

West O'ahu is "local," According to the 2000 census, nearly 80 percent of the population was born in the islands (compared to 52 percent in Honolulu), and nearly 30 percent identified themselves as Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders.

"We can't say how helpful they are to us," adds Dixie Padello, executive director of Hawai'i Family Services, Inc., that shares office space in St. Philip's quad-shaped building complex. The small private, non-profit agency pro-

vides programs to prevent family violence and child abuse. Frequently displaced women are invited to a shopping spree at the store.

Participants in a grandparent respite care program find low cost necessities such as car seats for grandchildren in their care. Also sharing the building is the Kamehameha preschool program, making the whole building financially viable.

In February, St. Philip's Thrift Shop quietly marked 15 years of service and outreach to its neighbors. Anderson and her crew of volunteers continue a ministry from this tiny church.

"We can't say enough how helpful they have been," says Padello. "They are heaven sent."

Bishops meet in Taiwan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A

Province of the Pacific gather in Los Angeles or Berkeley, Calif. for a week of sharing, support, worship, study, and Sabbath time.

This year the Rt. Rev. David Lai and his wife, Lily, invited bishops and spouses to gather in Taiwan since that country is part of Province VIII. It turned out to be a different agenda than usual, because this large group toured most of the churches and schools of the island as well as preached and celebrated in various churches on the Second Sunday of Epiphany.

Three things were abundantly clear. First, despite differences of language, culture, and diet, there is a single Spirit unifying everyone. Second, the people of Taiwan are generous and hospitable by nature.

And third, the bonds between the Episcopal Church in the U.S.A. and the Episcopal Church in Taiwan are profound. Everywhere the entourage went it was met with genuine gratitude. Comments such as these were heard:

“Our church was built by money from the Diocese of South Carolina.”

“Our church was build by money from the UTO.”

“Our church was built by money from the General Convention of the Episcopal Church.”

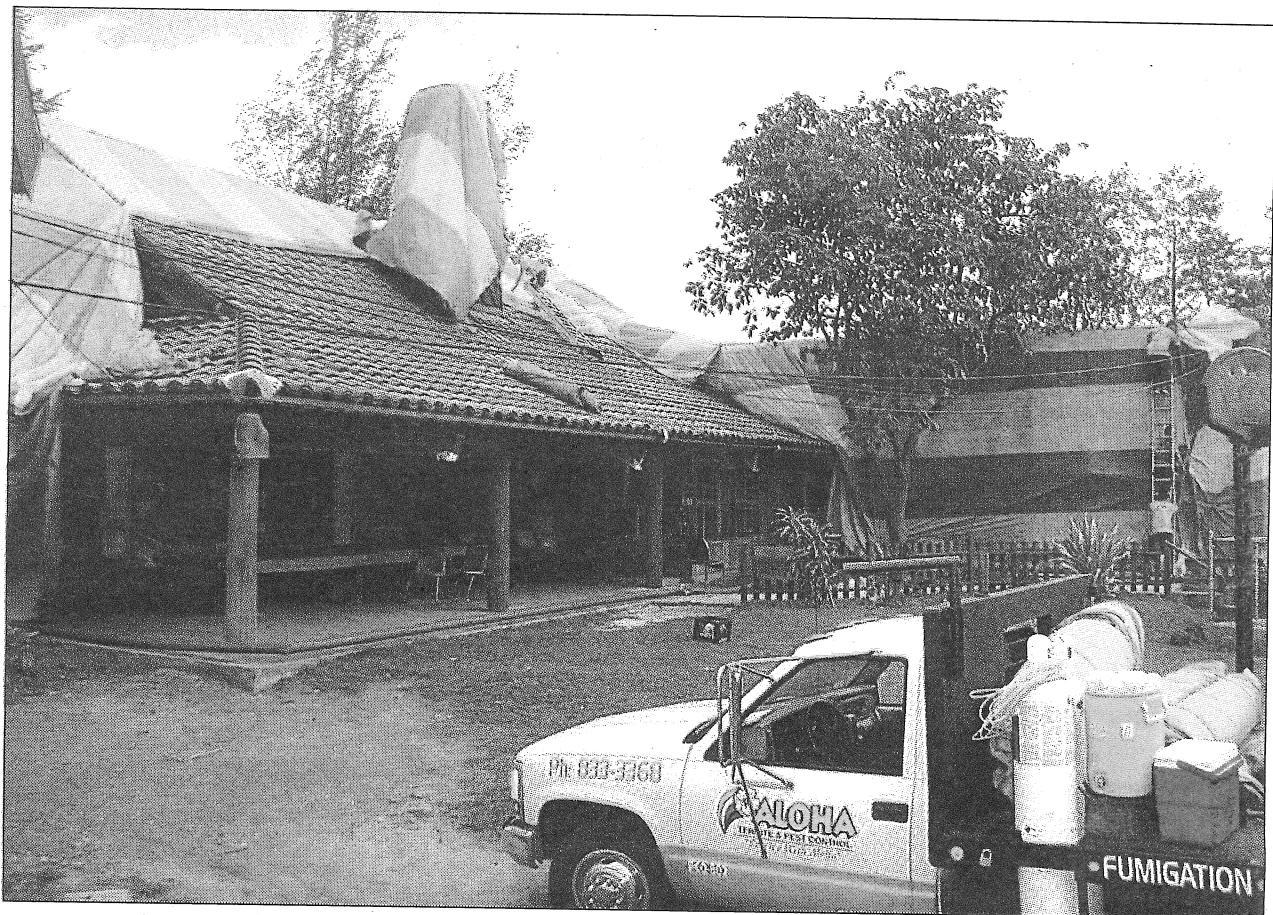
This year of 2004 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Episcopal Church in Taiwan.

In addition, while the bishops were there, celebrations were almost underway for the Chinese New Year and the beginning of the Year of the Monkey.

Almost all of the Episcopal churches had a related liturgy that emphasized respect for beloved, departed ancestors in keeping with the Chinese tradition.

From the Great Salt Lake to the China Sea, from Alaska to Arizona, from Idaho to Hawai‘i, the bishops and spouses of Province VIII crossed many miles.

At this spot and at this time, the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion are basking in the joy of fellowship in Jesus Christ.



Workers tented Camp Mokule‘ia’s dining hall for termites, thanks to funds from a national UTO grant.

PHOTO BY LAURIE SCHLEGEL

Mokule‘ia renovations underway

Colorful tents covered tall buildings for a week in February while noxious fumigation chemicals were pumped throughout to kill termites.

Stage one of reviving buildings at Camp Mokule‘ia on North Shore of O‘ahu began as the lodge and dining hall were tented, alongside the campers’ cabins. Next will come roof repairs and painting, inside and out, as funds allow.

“We will evaluate bids and major renovation work on cabins A and B, including new bathrooms, foundation work, floor and window repairs and painting,” says William Lucas, chair of the camp’s board of directors. “We have allocated \$40,000 from the \$75,000

operating surplus in 2003 to this endeavor.”

These two projects, (UTO funded repairs and cabin renovation) constitute almost \$90,000 of repairs to the facilities in 2004,” Lucas adds. “Quite a change!”

The \$35,000 balance from the 2003 surplus will be set aside as a financial/contingency reserve.

“Given our existing reserves and the elimination of almost all payables, Mokule‘ia should be in extremely sound financial condition, baring some catastrophic loss. We pray daily for the camp!”

The board’s next priority is to discuss with the diocese the role Mokule‘ia will play in the life and ministry of this diocese. The Rev.

Tony Litwinski of St. James, Kamauela, Hawai‘i, was appointed by Bishop Richard Chang to head up a committee to begin that conversation.

The project at the church’s camp and conference center began thanks to a \$47,000 grant from United Thank Offering (UTO) of the Episcopal Church Women. The nationwide women’s organization funds projects throughout the world.

The first 2004 fundraising and fellowship event is a luau scheduled for Saturday, March 27 from 3-7 p.m. Open to the public, funds will go toward continuing improvement of the camp facilities. The cost is \$18 per adult.

POSITIONS OPEN

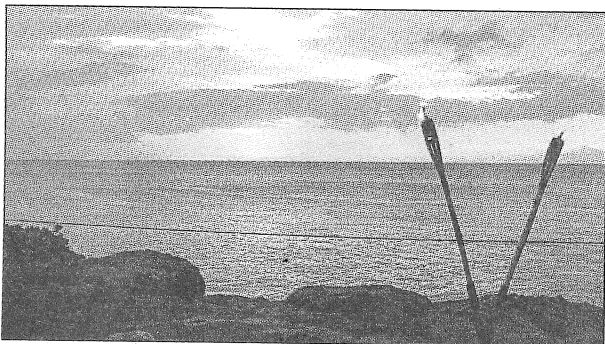
Rector, Holy Apostles, Hilo.
Search Task Force is preparing the profile.

Rector, St. Elizabeth’s, Honolulu.
Search Task Force will soon be organized. Interim minister in place.

Rector, St. Peter’s, Honolulu.
Search Task Force and Vestry have completed the profile. This is a full-time position. Names of candidates are being accepted by the Canon to the Ordinary.

Pastor/Vicar, St. Philip’s, Maili, and Maluhia Lutheran, Waianae.
Profiles complete for a shared pastor/vicar call to a full-time ministry. Names of candidates are being accepted by the Canon to the Ordinary.

Completed profiles of open positions are posted on www.episcopalhawaii.org Contact Canon to the Ordinary at 536-7626, ext. 110; RLFitzpatrick@episcopalhawaii.org



Camp Mokule‘ia luau

Enjoy a Hawaiian feast on the North Shore

Saturday, March 27

3-7 p.m. \$18 per person

All proceeds to benefit ministry of the Episcopal Camp and Conference Center at Mokule‘ia

COMING SOON

(EVENTS AROUND THE DIOCESE)

MARCH

| | |
|-----------|--|
| March 1 | Deadline: Parochial Reports |
| March 6 | Deacons’ Meeting |
| March 12 | Standing Committee |
| March 13 | Diocesan Council |
| Mar 20-23 | “Don’t Miss the Boat!” Leadership Cruise |
| March 20 | Diocesan Council |

APRIL

| | |
|----------------|--|
| April 3 | Commission on Ministry candidate discernment |
| April 4 | Palm Sunday |
| April 7 | Clergy Chrism Mass, Cathedral |
| April 8 | Maundy Thursday |
| April 9 | Good Friday, Bishop’s Office closed |
| April 17 | Diocesan Council |
| April 24-May 8 | Sister Jose Hobday, stewardship mission |