

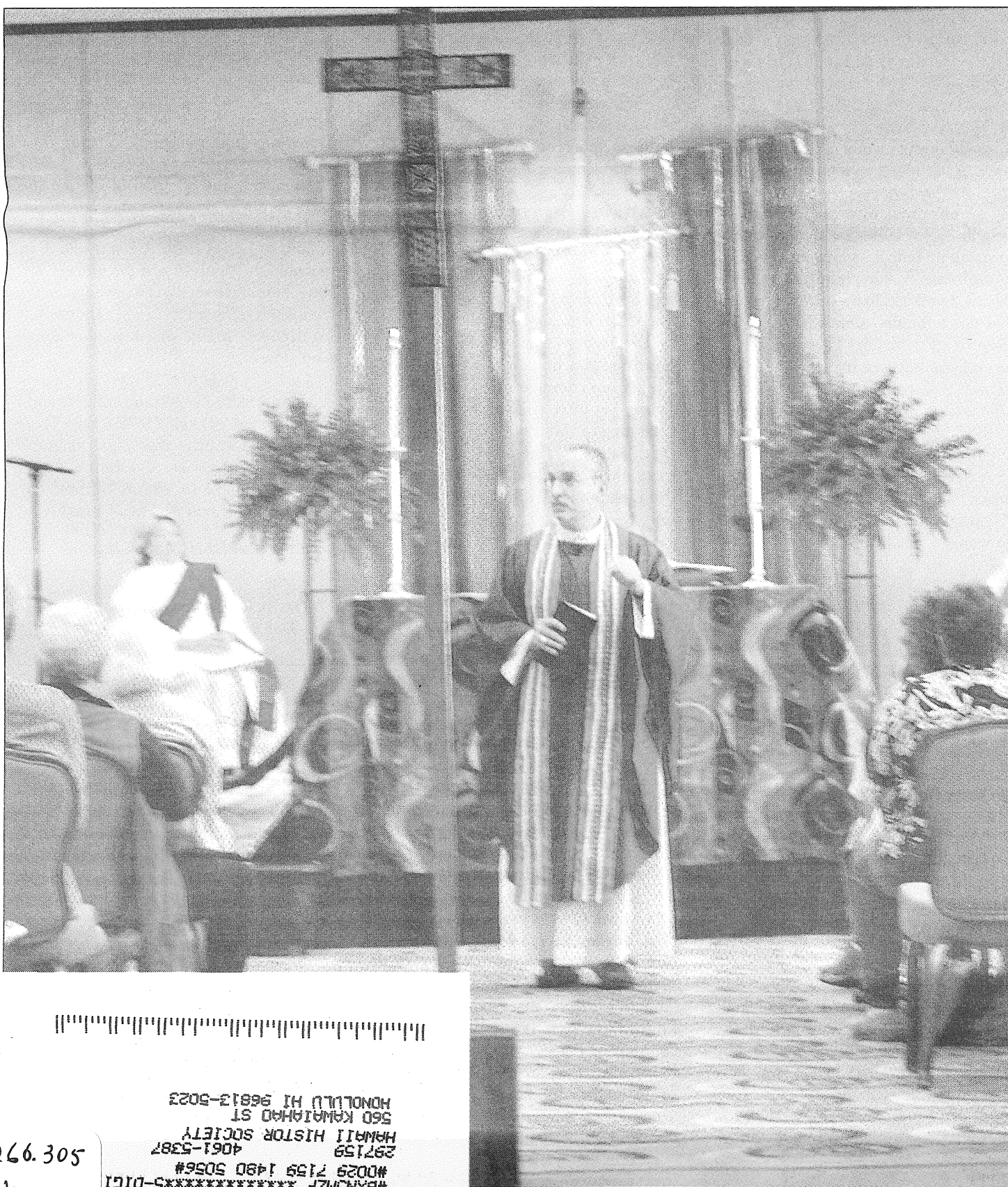
Hawaiian Church Chronicle

VOLUME 20

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF HAWAII

NUMBER 5

The Journey has begun



More than 200
people attended
DJ'09 on N. Shore

By Maria Skelton

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, KAUA'I

My husband, Bill, and I were fortunate to attend this convocation planned by the Diocese of Hawai'i on March 20-22. More than 200 Episcopalians gathered at Turtle Bay Resort on O'ahu's North Shore. The purpose was to worship, learn, study, share, and to be together as a community of faith.

Worship was a key focus. From 3 p.m. on Friday until noon on Sunday, there were six worship services, each unique in music, readings, and content.

Additionally, there were two opportunities for contemplative prayer. The spiritual nourishment received by so many powerful worship experiences in such a short time was amazing.

The keynote speaker was Tex Sample, a Methodist pastor and author from Mississippi, who now lives in Arizona with his wife, Peggy, who also attended DJ'09.



Sample

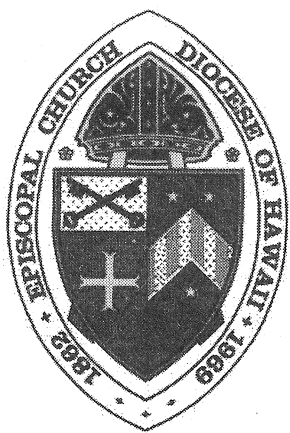
He used humor as well as stories to challenge, inspire, and motivate us to be better disciples for Christ. To build a church that speaks the message of Jesus Christ, we must work together as one body, communicate effectively, share resources, and act boldly yet appropriately.

His message was an energetic, updated version of Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

At the closing Eucharist Bishop Robert Fitzpatrick sent us back into the world with our marching orders. Rise up and meet one another! There is a life to be lived together. Pray, share, study, talk story and get involved together.

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Cover photo by Bill Allport

Center of common life must be Jesus

Aloha i Akua,

I was baptized 30 years ago this past March 18 in St. Andrew's Church, in Greencastle, Indiana. Just off the campus of DePauw University, it was a welcoming haven for a college student from an unchurched family with many questions, doubts, and hopes. I found a faithful church home. I encountered God in Jesus Christ and in the Episcopal Church. What was it about St. Andrew's Church that attracted and encouraged a college student?

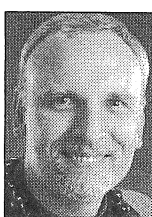
It has been a great joy making weekday visitations to congregations. These evening visits offer wonderful insights into the life of a congregation. On a recent evening, I was with St. Timothy's Church in 'Aiea. The congregation has seen remarkable recovery in attendance, stewardship, and mission over the past 18 months after several years of slow decline. There is renewed energy and hope. During the question-and-answer time with the Bishop, I was asked a common question, but one which has a new meaning in a congregation with a rising energy. What can we do to attract people to church?

I have been pondering my own journey of faith and the congregations that have been havens of transformation. I suggest that such congregations reflect a way of being. They are "joyful communities, loved by Jesus Christ and eager to share that love."

Joy is different than happy. Congregations with joyful members face the pain and trials of life together with mutual support and care. Joy is infectious. In a church with joy, members want to invite their friends and neighbors. Joy allows for disagreements in love without rancor and manipulation.

A growing healthy church is part of God's 'ohana, but it acts like a community of faith and not a "family." One is either born or adopted into a "family." There are some families one cannot even marry into they are so tight. I hope congregations in this diocese will function like healthy communities, part of the family of God, but not as individual families.

A healthy congregation is not one big happy family (with one service and one group). One of the signs of decline in a congregation is when they try to combine the 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Sunday worship services into a single service once a month or on special Sundays. Community encourages diversity. We can come together over parties,



**The Right Rev.
Robert L. Fitzpatrick**
BISHOP OF HAWAII

work projects, outreach, and special events. A Christian community encourages diversity of styles, music, generations, cultures, languages, and participation. My prayer is that every mission and parish will have multiple Episcopal worship services meeting the needs of different groups and forming diverse communities of faith.

The center of our common life must be Jesus Christ. The marks of such communities are:

- Active, conscious, and practical application of the Baptismal Covenant in all aspects of community life.
 - Regular Bible study for adults and children. You can't know Jesus without knowing the story of salvation.
 - Trained and supported lay volunteer leaders who welcome and train their own successors.
 - Vital and relevant worship and preaching. (If it's boring or irrelevant in the local context, how can it be joyful?)
 - Willingness, even desire, and ability to share personal stories of faith in Jesus Christ by the members of the congregations.
 - A welcoming environment for all of God's children.
 - Willingness to risk as a community — even to fail — to share the Gospel.
 - The people's walk matches the talk (bad behavior — yelling, gossiping, parking lot conversations, and whining — is not tolerated by the people of God).
- Eagerness to share the love of Christ is measured by action. As I have noted before, I think our common ministry can be summarized in three passages from the Gospel according to Matthew:
- **Matthew 22:37-40** (The Great Commandment): The love of God is the basis of our community. Without that basic love of and belief in God known through Jesus Christ, churches are, in fact, odd antiquarian clubs or social societies with no purpose but the preservation of buildings and the singing of dated songs.
 - **Matthew 25:31-46** (The Parable of the

BISHOP'S VISITATIONS

Regional confirmations

During April, May and June, the Bishop will be conducting Regional Confirmation services. These dates are approximate:

May 2Kaua'i
May 10Maui
May 24Windward O'ahu
June 14Central O'ahu
June 21West O'ahu

Bishop's Visitations

June 28St. John's Kula, Maui
Holy Innocents, Lahaina, Maui

Sheep and the Goats): Love of God must be tangible. That love is made real in the care of those who cannot care for themselves or who need help. A congregation that does not give the love of God away by caring for God's children is not a church or even a club; it is a drain on the broader world and is taking up space.

• **Matthew 28:18-20** (The Great Commission): If we are truly loved and we know it, if we are joyful in that love, how can we not share it? Do we really dislike our family and friends so much that we would deny them something important in our own lives? Would we deny them God's love?

Ultimately, the question of sharing the gospel is one of *personal and collective passion*. Are you willing to share your own story of faith in Jesus Christ? Are you willing to welcome the doubter and the seeker? Are you willing and even eager to invite someone completely different from you? Are you willing to change for the sake of another and of God's love?

I am fortunate that 30 years ago, I wondered into such a community of faith and I found the love of God in Jesus Christ. These Islands are fortunate that many congregations in this Diocese are also ready to answer yes to these questions. We can. We must. The world needs to know the love of Jesus Christ!

Aloha i Iesu Kristo ko makou Haku,

+Bob
The Rt. Rev. Robert L. Fitzpatrick
+ Keali'ikoaokakua

Happening event can be life-changing

By Mary Grace Basig

GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Happenings is an event where high school students, grades 10-12, experience new friendships, sing joyful worship songs, hear talks about people's experiences and connections with God, and make their own connection with God stronger. There is also some time where you can just have fun! It is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

I went to Happening #21 at Camp Mokule'ia in February. While I was there, I made many new friends, and those friendships grew stronger as the weekend progressed.

By the end of the event, I didn't want to leave. Some of us had some crazy times. Dancing crazily to some songs. Making troubles to each other. My memories with them will never be forgotten.

It was good to hear about others and their experiences and connections with God. Some of them even made me think, "How is my relationship with GOD?" Through the talks, I have learned many things. I learned that God may not always answer your prayers but still, never give up on praying because one day he will. I also learned that you need to have good communication with God. What if you lost communication with someone you love? What happens then? Same thing goes with

God. If you don't communicate with God, then how will He be able to help you? How will there be love between you and Him? Through this experience, I have made my faith stronger and built a stronger relationship with God.

Because Happening really is a once in a lifetime opportunity, I won't be able to attend another as a candidate. However, I can go again as part of the team, and I would really like to do that. I would like to see other people experience this wonderful opportunity. I strongly encourage those of you who are eligible, to go. This will make your relationship with God stronger and better!

DJ'09: A success from beginning to end

The Holy Spirit has been working in our midst. DJ'09 was amazing. Thanks be to God.

I was on the planning team for the event, so theoretically "knew what was coming," but when the Holy Spirit is working, there's no way to predict what will happen. There is no way of knowing ahead of time whether things will come together and whether people will respond.



**The Rev.
Canon Liz
Beasley**

CANON FOR
MINISTRY
DEVELOPMENT

So here's where I saw the Holy Spirit's presence and activity:

People enjoying themselves, from infant to elder. People were smiling and laughing and talking.

People crossing church boundaries to talk and exchange ideas with people they had not known before.

Worshipping so many times in the space of not quite 48 hours. It was great to keep turning our attention to God.

The Bishop delivering some pretty challenging sermons and people liking them, and responding in action. For example, the Bishop told us during the Friday Eucharist to tip the room cleaning staff, and that "five dollars per night no longer cuts it." He also told us to "give more" in the offering in the Sunday Eucharist. The Sunday offering was more than twice the amount given on Friday, and the hotel staff said they had never had such a generous group.

The way Tex Sample, our keynote speaker, mixes stories and humor with keen insights and profound intelligence.

The youth from St. Augustine, Kapa'au, singing for us at the Saturday night banquet. It wasn't planned, by the way — one of the adults from St. Augustine asked me on Friday if there was any time they could perform, and what better time than when we gathered for a meal together? Thank you, St. Augustine!

The utterly beautiful setting of Turtle Bay. Even the weather, after weeks of rain and humidity, gave us sun and good trade winds.

The staff at Turtle Bay. Their helpfulness and hospitality is unequalled among any other hotel staff I've ever encountered, both as someone staying in a hotel, and working with them in the planning before and during the event.

Bishop Carol Gallagher's presence with us again as chaplain and her moving stories illustrating God's love and presence with us.

Bishop Winston Halapua's presence. Through my few interactions with him, I found him to be a person of grace, wisdom, and holiness.

The conversation on Saturday night as people started proposing new ways that we as the Diocese of Hawai'i might go about our ministries, and how we can do so more cooperatively. I wasn't even sure people would show up on Saturday night. After all, the day had been jam-packed, and I thought people might decide to take the evening off. But the room was pretty well filled. The event had been billed as "Talk Story with Tex" — a chance to talk with Tex about anything from his keynote addresses



PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE BY BILL SKELTON, KEANE AKAO AND BILL ALLPORT

St. Augustine, Kapa'au, on the Big Island sent almost 20 people to DJ'09, including a group of about 10 youth, aged 10-17, who have a ukulele band and regularly play together. Here, they perform two songs during the banquet on Saturday night at DJ'09. The audience joined in the songs' choruses during their enthusiastic performance.

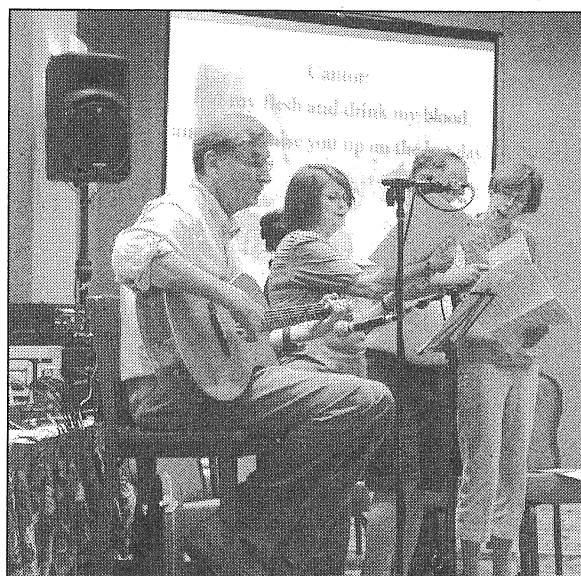
and with Bishop Bob about how we might apply these ideas to ministry in the Diocese of Hawai'i. People asked good questions and ideas began to flow. See Diocese.com in this issue for announcements about Companion Congregations and about contributing to the Bishop's video address at this year's annual meeting of the Convention. Both of these ideas grew in part out of the conversation on Saturday night at DJ'09.

And, finally (last but not least?), we finished "in the black." After repeated concerns that this event would be way too expensive, and after some unexpected last-minute expenses, we finished under budget.

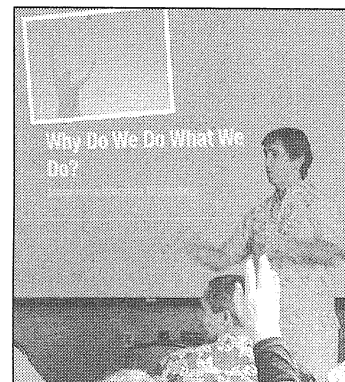
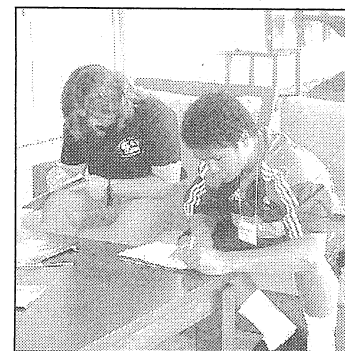
By the way, our speakers also said very positive things about us. They, too, were impressed by the event and by those who attended.

So what comes next? As I write this in mid-April, the planning team has just met to discuss that very question. We reviewed the evaluations of those who attended. We are taking concrete steps toward improving our logistics and registration. The resolution passed by the Convention in 2007 that gave rise to DJ'09 (by calling for "a meeting to which all lay and clergy members of the Diocese shall be invited, focusing on spiritual development and mission") said that it would be an "annual event" but did not say how long it would last or where it would be held.

So we have already begun planning for A Disciple's Journey 2010 ("DJ'10")! We have taken note of those who indicated on their evaluation form that they would like to help in the planning. We will be contacting you! If you would like to take part, con-



Above, the musicians perform during one of the several worship services. Upper right, participants do some paperwork. Lower right, Mike Woods, Lay Associate at St. Peter's, Honolulu, leads a Saturday workshop called "Diving In," about new ways of expressing our belief through our worship.



tact me at lbeasley@episcopalhawaii.org.

Before I close, however, you should know who it is that served on the planning team for DJ'09. I named them during the banquet at DJ'09, but their names should be in print. Some contributed early, some came on halfway through, and some were there the whole time, but they all played an integral part.

So mahalo nui loa to the following people: Keane Akao, the Rev. Bill Allport, the Rev. Carol Arney, the Rev. Cass Bailey, Sharon Billingsley, John Condrey, Alfredo and Bennette Evangelista, John Hawkins, Kala Holden, Lani Kaaihue, Lei Kalipi, Karen Sender, Sue Ann Wargo, and Tami

Woods. Thanks also to Katie Finrock, Annalise Castro, and Zandie Chang for providing childcare.

A special thank you should go to Lani Kaaihue. The Bishop had told both Lani and me when we volunteered to work on DJ'09, "No, you *will* work on it." Still, Lani put in countless hours (I'm sure she doesn't want to count them), especially during the last three weeks. She was also the primary contact for the staff at Turtle Bay. Mahalo, Lani.

And thank you to all who attended. It was truly a pleasure to see you there.

And primarily, thanks and praise be to God!

New clergy gather to learn ways of Hawai'i



PHOTO BY THE REV. CANON LIZ BEASLEY

On March 5, clergy newly called to the Diocese (plus a few more) gathered to learn history, customs, and protocol of some of the cultures that make up life in Hawai'i. Other clergy and laypeople from the Diocese served as presenters. Pictured here are: Standing, L to R: the Rev. Clayton Ingalls and his infant daughter, Autumn, St. George's, Pearl Harbor; the Rev. Ben Nelson, All Saints, Kapa'a; the Rev. Shirley Ellingboe, Christ Memorial, Kilauea, and St. Thomas, Hanalei; Cynn timer Decker and the Rev. Dallas Decker, St. Jude's, Ocean View; the Rev. Tom Buechele, St. Augustine, Kapa'au; the Rev. Rick Vinson, Holy Nativity, Honolulu; the Rev. Paul Lillie, St. Mark's, Honolulu; the Rev. David Jackson, Epiphany, Honolulu; Peter Pereira, Diocesan Treasurer; the Rev. Bill Allport, St. Peter's, Honolulu. Seated, L to R: the Revs. Marvin Foltz, Good Shepherd, Wailuku; Canon Frank Chun; Deacon Sandy Honnold, St. Jude's, Ocean View; Kate Lewis and Deacon Pat Hendrickson, Emmanuel, Kailua.

DIOCESE.COM NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE

Companion Congregations

Is there a congregation in the Diocese with which your own congregation has a special affinity or relationship? We are creating "Companion Congregations" throughout the Diocese: special links between two different congregations for mutual assistance and cooperation. The idea grew out of a meeting of the priests with Bishop Bob Fitzpatrick and out of the Saturday night "Talk Story" session at DJ'09.

The links are intended to be primarily between an O'ahu congregation and a congregation from a Neighbor Island, though in some cases it might be between two O'ahu congregations.

Canon Liz Beasley is keeping track of existing or proposed linkages. If your congregation has an already-existing relationship, or if you have one to propose, contact her at LBeasley@episcopalhawaii.org or by phone at (808) 536-7776, ext. 326, or from Neighbor Islands, 800-522-8418.

Bishop wants address input

Bishop Bob Fitzpatrick plans to deliver his Address to the annual meeting of the Convention a little differently this year. Instead of beginning his address with a video clip, as he did this past year, and then talking, he plans to do the entire address as a video — and he wants your input.

Please send in still photos or video clips for possible inclusion in the Bishop's video. Still photos should be in .jpg format. For video images, the preferred format is Mini-DV tape; next is High 8; least desirable but possible is video ripped from a DVD.

For all images, please provide information on what is happening: who, what,

when, where, why, and how. Also, please identify the photographer/videographer.

Send all videos to Office of the Bishop, Attn: Bishop's Address, 229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, HI 96813. Still photos are best sent on CD or DVD, or emailed to News@episcopalhawaii.org. Please send them by July 1.

EfM at Camp Mokule'ia

The next Mentor training for Education for Ministry (EfM) will be held from May 8-9 at Camp Mokule'ia.

The training this year has two concurrent classes: a basic EfM mentor training and an advanced formation class on Group Dynamics and Human Interaction. For more information, see the Web address below or call the Rev. Carol Arney, the Diocese of Hawai'i EfM Coordinator, at (808) 734-5632.

EfM is a program of theological education-at-a-distance of the School of Theology of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Students sign up one year at a time for this four-year program. It covers the basics of a theological education in the Old and New Testaments, church history, liturgy, and theology. Students meet regularly, usually once a week, in seminars under the guidance of trained mentors. The program grants a certificate at the completion of the four years and 18 Continuing Education Units for each year's work. As a Diocese, Hawai'i sponsors the EfM program, which means that participants here get a lower rate. We are also entitled to annual training to keep our mentors current on the latest developments in the program, and to sharpen their skills.

For registration forms and a training

schedule and information, go to: <http://www.episcopalhawaii.org/ViewArticle.php?key=941>

Fager in Geography Bee again

Alex Fager, whose family are members of St. George's, Pearl Harbor, and a 7th-grader at Our Savior Lutheran School, will be representing Hawai'i in the national Geography Bee, to be held May 19-20 in Washington, DC. The preliminaries are held at the Washington Plaza Hotel. The finals at held at the National Geographic Headquarters.

Alex also represented Hawai'i in the national Geography Bee in 2008.

Planning week set for staff

The Office of the Bishop was closed to outside business the week after DJ'09, March 23-27, for reviewing and reorganizing systems.

It will be closed again the week of June 1-5 for planning and integrating some of these changes. The Bishop's staff typically has a one-day retreat in June. This year, that retreat will take place during that first week.

The staff also has recently upgraded its computer server and software, and it is working with a new IT (Information Technology) consultant.

The staff will be concentrating on setting plans and schedules for the next three years and instituting technological changes, such as building a comprehensive database and redesigning the diocesan Web site, to facilitate its operations and ministry within the Diocese.

During that week, as during the week in March, the staff will not be answering the

COMING SOON

(EVENTS AROUND THE DIOCESE)

MAY

- 3 Na Imiloa Formation Group, St. Andrew's Cathedral
- 7 Stewardship Dept., 11:30 am
- 21 Ascension Day
Founders Day, St. Andrew's Priory School
- 23 Council Chairs meeting, 8 am
Council Depts. Meeting, 9 am
Standing Committee, 9 am
Diocesan Council, 12:30 pm
- 25 Memorial Day holiday;
Office of the Bishop closed
- 30 Seabury Graduation
- 31 Pentecost

JUNE

- 1-5 Office of the Bishop closed for staff planning.
- 4 Stewardship Dept., 11:30 am
- 6 'Iolani Graduation
- 7 Priory Graduation
- 13 Community of Deacons, St. Andrew's, 9 am-noon
Na Imiloa Formation Group 9 am-3 pm
- 16 Commission on Ministry, 4:30 pm
- 20 Council Chairs meeting, 8 am
Council Depts. Meeting, 9 am
Standing Committee, 9 am
Diocesan Council, 12:30 pm

JULY

- 8-18 General Convention of the Episcopal Church, Anaheim, CA
- 23 Clergy meeting with Bishop Fitzpatrick
- 25 Council Chairs meeting, 8 am
Council Depts. Meeting, 8 am
Standing Committee, 9 am
Diocesan Council, 12:30 pm

For a full schedule of events, activities and meetings around the Diocese, check out the Calendar of Events at episcopalhawaii.org. Updated regularly, event submissions welcomed.

phone. You may still call and leave messages or send emails, and we will get back to you, but not immediately.

Update on Camp Mokule'ia

Camp Mokule'ia has gone through some interesting times of late.

On January 16, heavy winds toppled an ironwood tree on the front of the newly renovated road house, which now serves as the Camp office. In the nature of "who says God doesn't have a sense of humor?" — or is it irony? — the Camp Board had authorized the expenditure of \$12,000 to remediate hazardous materials and demolish the trailer, which formerly served as the office, and which had been vacant for the last year. Removal of that structure opened the view to the ocean and removed an eyesore. We only wish God's aim were more precise!

For more information on renovations at the Camp, contributions of volunteer labor, and groups that will soon be gathering at the Camp, go to: <http://www.episcopalhawaii.org/ViewArticle.php?key=940>