

April 2020

God bless you all in these challenging times

As is being practiced in much of the world, social distancing and quarantining has become the uncomfortable new norm at work, at school, at play, and even in houses of worship. Such is the case here on West Kauai as our last ‘in-person’ service together, for the time being, was on March 15th. In following the Diocesan, State, & Federal guidelines for COVID-19 safety, there will be no gatherings of worship or meetings at least through the month of April. This includes Sunday and Holy Week worship at St. Paul’s and St. John’s and outreach to Habitat for Humanity and other organizations. These all are on hold. We pray that we can return to some sense of normalcy in May.

However, do not despair. As our Bishop +Bob and others have said, the buildings aren’t the body of Christ, you are! An excerpt of his March 20 message is below:

“As for Easter celebrations, we must remember that every Sunday is a celebration of Christ’s resurrection. This year, however, the first Sunday we can again worship together in our churches, will be a true “Easter” celebration (whatever the date on the calendar). I hope we celebrate our return as our “Easter Sunday” whenever it can happen. We continue to pray that before April 30, this suspension on public worship (and government restrictions) can be lifted.

The COVID-19 crisis has forced us – and much of the world – into introspection and taking our humanity into account. I have been delighted to see the new opportunities for prayer and care being taken up by our clergy and congregations. Thank you.

The 14th century English anchoress, Julian of Norwich, is most remembered for the phrase: **“All will be well, and every kind of thing will be well.”**¹

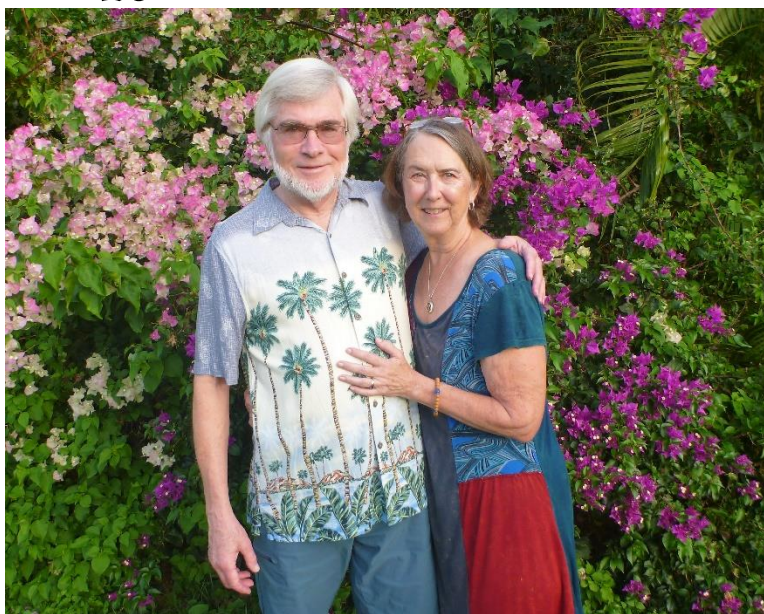
The source of her confidence is the Love of God known in Jesus Christ. Her years of solitary prayer led her to love. In this time of “social distancing” and physical separation, I pray you know the love of God. “All will be well, and every kind of thing will be well.”

Aloha ma o Iesu Kristo, ko mākou Haku,
+Bob

***The Right Reverend Robert L. Fitzpatrick,
The Episcopal Diocese of Hawai‘i,
visits ECWK February 2nd.***



Clergy Corner with Rev. Jim Stickney



Fr. Jim & Joni at the vicarage

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

I know I'm "getting the jump" on Easter a little bit, but our church newsletter comes out only four times a year — and we need some Resurrection news during this time of social distancing and "staying at home." As I write this, Joni and I are preparing to depart for our home without being able to say a proper "aloha" to you all. I've spent two Sundays next to an empty St. Paul's. And when I drop off the mail at St. John's, I really miss worshipping there with you.

Greg Williams asked me to send one of the recent homilies which I recorded for the parish Facebook page (thanks to the technical work of Ross Barker). I decided instead to make it an Easter homily. Here it is:

On Easter we celebrate the heart of Christian faith, that death is not the end of the story.

On Easter we rejoice that we share in the new life of Christ Jesus beyond death.

On Easter we proclaim our freedom from any fear of being imprisoned in this world of such swift and varied changes — we know where true joys are to be found.

If you have a Bible close by at home, please read the Gospel for Easter Sunday — it's from the Gospel of John, chapter 20, verses 1 through 18.

In this Gospel reading, Jesus' devoted follower, Mary from Magdala, just can't sleep.

She is thinking of what she plans to do at dawn — to visit the tomb of Jesus.

Finally she thinks, "I'm not sleeping anyway — I'll just walk over there by moonlight and be ready at first light for the anointing of the corpse of my beloved teacher."

She discovers that the stone (the stone of doubt?) has been rolled away, the tomb empty.

Then she runs and locates the official apostles, sharing this amazing news.

The men visit, and one of them has the insight that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Mary waits until they leave, and then peeks in, and sees angels robed in white, who ask her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" Why are **any** of us weeping?

Worse, why are we holding back our tears, our anxieties, our dread of the future?

"Why are you weeping?" Tell God what it is that deeply touches your heart. For **some**, though, it will not be anxiety, but joy — you are weeping to express your bliss.

I wept for bliss the other day when a colleague of mine from Berkeley sent me a link to the project of some European musicians who are all "staying at home."

They decided to use social media to play Beethoven's Ode to Joy together — remotely.

Why not click on this link and turn up the volume on your speaker:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eXT60rbBVk&feature=youtu.be>

Maybe you were not moved to tears. But I bet you felt joyful at this music!
So imagine this: it's a month or so from now, and the worst of the corona virus is over.
We're permitted to get out of isolation and gather together once more.

Yes, we'll take care of all the little things. We'll visit, we'll shop, we'll go to a restaurant.
I know I'll get a haircut! I'll rejoin my art club and display my stained glass work
that I've been working on alone and get their feedback and comments on my art.

But best of all, we'll gather in sacred community and pray together.
And we'll sing the "Alleluias" and "rejoicings" we have missed so much.
I'll miss hearing you sing the Queen's prayer, but even thinking of that now
gives me solid joy — a joy that goes beyond the limitations of physical presence. So:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Annual Meeting Highlights

Our Annual Meeting was held on January 26th with one joint service celebrated by Rev. Peg Williams at St. John's. Following the Eucharist, more than thirty members moseyed over to the hall for a world famous ECWK potluck lunch followed by the meeting. Here are highlights:

- 2019 Annual Meeting minutes approved.
- Ilokano ministry and the ministry of our visiting priests and members for the year was presented. A few of the newer highlights:
 - ✓ Helped with the annual Hanapepe Salvation Army Thanksgiving lunch
 - ✓ Increased volunteering at the KANAKA School
 - ✓ Rang bells and played music for Salvation Army red kettle drive
 - ✓ We hosted island-wide EM/EV training by Arch Deacon Steven Costa on November 2nd
 - ✓ Held 2nd annual SummerPraise music festival in June. Many thanks to Ross for organizing this
 - ✓ Many thanks to outgoing BC member Wilma Medina for 3 years of service
- Began exploring the possibility of having a long-term priest in a part-time position here.
- Junior Warden's Report by Ross Barker:
 - ✓ Eleele rental house - Extensive water damage to the kitchen and floor at end of 2018 was taken care of for the most part except for new vinyl flooring to be installed in 2020. Most of the mitigation cost was covered by insurance. Also, a new bathroom vanity and ceiling fans were installed.
 - ✓ Kekaha vicarage – many thanks to our supply clergy and their families who did lots of repairs, painting, installations, yard work, etc. while they were here.
 - ✓ We are deeply thankful and appreciative for everyone who volunteers to keep our buildings and grounds in good shape.
- Election of officers and BC Members (have all been approved by the Bishop)
 - ✓ Bishop's Warden – Lynn Barker
 - ✓ Junior Warden – Greg Williams
 - ✓ Co-Jr. Warden - Ross Barker
 - ✓ Clerk – Beth Charlton
 - ✓ Treasurer – Lincoln Wong continues in this position
 - ✓ New BC members are Julie Lagazo and Joyce Sato
 - ✓ Convention delegates: Julie Lagazo, Dailyn Sagucio, Lynn Barker. Alternate: Maggie Chrisp
- Much mahalos to our altar guild members. Their diligent and artistic work make for a beautiful worship experience; and to our music director, Ross, whose accompaniment is an integral part of the service.

The Episcopal Church on West Kauai

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St. Paul's Chapel
8640 Kiowea Rd., Kekaha

*The Episcopal Church on West Kauai
welcomes all to join us in knowing Christ
and spreading His Good News of hope
through worship, fellowship and community
outreach.*

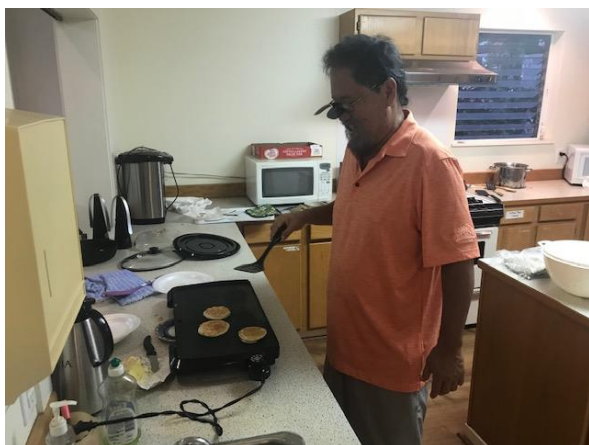


We're on the [Facebook](#) and at

www.episcopalkauai.org



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 2/25/20



ECWK Leadership

Bishop: Robert L Fitzpatrick
Priest-in-Charge: Rev. T.B.D. Goodbody
Ilokano Pastor: Rev. Imelda Padasdao

Priests-in-residence:

Rev. Jim Stickney (*Feb 16–Apr 2*)
Rev. Jerry Shigaki (*Apr 19–May 24*)

2020 Bishop's Committee

Lynn Barker, Bishop's Warden
Greg Williams, Jr. Warden (St. J)
Ross Barker, Jr. Warden (St. P)
Beth Charlton, Clerk
Lincoln Wong, Treasurer
Julie Lagazo
Joyce Sato