



St. Michael & All Angels, Kauaʻi Monthly Newsletter March 2018

Upcoming Events

- Praying the Lenten Journey
Explore a variety of prayer forms to enrich your Lenten journey. Potluck soup supper followed by discussion.
Tuesdays, February 20 – March 20, Parrish Hall;
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Adult Formation – Lenten Bible Study, using lectionary readings for the Lent
Sundays, February 25 – March 11, Goodale Center
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
- Bishop's Annual Visit
Saturday, March 17, 5:30 pm, Sunday, March 18, 7:30 and 9:45 am. The Bishop will preach and celebrate Eucharist at each service, and there will be a reception following each service.
- Holy Week Schedule:
March 24, 25 – Palm Sunday and Passion Reading
March 26, 7 am - Holy Monday Eucharist
March 27, 7 am – Holy Tuesday Eucharist
March 28, 7 am – Holy Wednesday Eucharist
March 29, 6 pm – Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing, followed by all-night vigil, broken by morning prayer at 7 am
March 30, noon – Good Friday Liturgy

Easter, Feast of the Resurrection

March 31, 7 pm – Easter Vigil
April 1, 10 am – Easter Sunday

“Mirror, Mirror on the Wall . . .”

The Reverend Andrew McMullen

As I write this article, I am preparing for the upcoming Vestry retreat when we will work together to discern the future vision for the leadership and ministries of St. Michael and All Angels. To say the least, this is not easy work! And it begins with the exploration of who we truly are as a faith community. This is harder than it sounds, because none of us has an objective view. Our perspectives are influenced by our previous experiences in this parish and elsewhere, the nature of our involvement in parish life and our individual beliefs about our strengths and challenges, what we think a church should or should not be or do. Perhaps the best way to reach beyond our individual, subjective view, in an effort to view the whole, is to include as many perspectives as possible. In the past weeks, we have distributed a Parish Questionnaire, and Vestry members have engaged many of you in informal conversation, precisely to address this need and facilitate our work.

We received twenty-seven responses to the questionnaire, all with a variety of detail and content. Each stands on its own and presents valuable insight and reflection. However, as a whole, there were common trends and opinions that I thought I would briefly share with you. Most of the respondents have been members for 5-7 years, and most of the responses came from those who attend 9:45am worship, although we did receive a good sample from the other two services. Most, but not all, of the respondents are very active in parish life and participate in multiple ministries.

A majority of respondents believe our energy level is good or higher, but 6 suggested that it is more average or “flat.” One respondent suggested that our energy level is hindered by the uncertain tenure of clergy leadership and our recovering financial situation. Overall, respondents believe there is effective leadership by clergy and the Vestry, and there was overwhelming affirmation for Loretta Roof and Kathleen Robb in our parish office as well as deep gratitude for our volunteers. There was almost unanimous consensus that the primary strength of the parish is the people who call it their home. Respondents strongly affirmed our parish community, our relationships with one another and our welcoming nature. Our worship, and our music ministry led by Alan Van Zee, are perceived as strengths. Outreach, adult formation and improving finances also frequently made this list. As far as challenges, there was a strong sense that we need to improve our communications both within the parish and beyond to the community. Many responses voiced the need for the parish to grow, to include more and younger families with children. Upkeep of buildings and grounds, maintaining financial health and supporting outreach also frequently made this list. These

“Mirror, Mirror” Continued

strengths and challenges, and the others outlined in the responses and otherwise identified by Vestry, will be a focal point of our retreat and our future efforts as we move forward.

One response concluded, “Our expectations for ourselves are too low.” I wonder if this is

so. I hope not, because God’s expectations for us in this vineyard could not be higher. We are the love of God for each other, for the parish, community and world. May we always be striving to be who we truly are.

Peace,
Andrew+

Words from the Junior Warden

Dana Bekeart, Junior Warden

With some financial easing of our 2018 budget, two major catch-up repair jobs will be done this year. First, the exterior trim on the 110 windows on the backside of the office building will be fixed. This is not a fix you will notice but it will prevent leaks into the interior. Second, all six restrooms will undergo complete renovations. Toilets, vanities, lights and dispensers will be new, along with new paint and cleaned flooring. This improvement will be very noticeable. As yet we have no contractors to carry out these two large jobs.

Other smaller jobs will be done also. The palms and kamani tree on Umi Street will be trimmed. Rotten exterior doors to the sheds and drum room will be replaced. The sprinkler system will be renovated. A video surveillance system is being looked into. Finally, we’ll likely have to renovate the vacated health training offices in the Goodale Center.

We hope to be nearly caught up on normal decay after almost 30 years at our present campus.

Diocese Forming New Design Teams

The Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii will be forming three Design Teams, who will be charged with developing implementation plans for the strategic goals established by the Strategic Planning Group in 2017 and presented at the 2017 Convention. To that end, the Rev. Cn. Kathleen (Kate) Cullinane has accepted the part-time position of Strategic Plan Manager for the Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii. She will be recruiting and working with Design Teams. The strategic goals for which the Design Teams will be developing implementation plans are: 1) to develop and sustain spiritual growth and vitality within the

churches; 2) to strengthen our identity as one ohana and the relationships within the ohana; and 3) improving the capacity for communication. If you would like to nominate someone for one of these Design Teams, including self-nomination, use the form at https://episcopalhawaii.formstack.com/forms/design_team_nomination_form. The first meeting of all three of the Design Teams will take place on Saturday, April 7th from 9 am to 4 pm. Nominations are due by March 16, 2018. For more information, contact Rev. Cullinane at kcullinane@episcopalhawaii.org



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