



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

Upcoming Events

- Fathers' Day Reception
Sunday, June 17 after the 9:45 service, prepared by the women of St. Michael's Church.
- Ti Leaf Lei-Making Workshop in Memory of the People of Kalaupapa
Saturday, June 23
9:00 a.m.—noon
Sponsored by ReSource for Christian Spirituality.
- Father Andrew Vacation
June 11—July 10.
All requests for pastoral care during this time, emergent and otherwise, should be made through Loretta Roof, Parish Administrator, at 245-3796.

Bob Marley and Summer

Andrew McMullen, Rector

There is a legendary story about Bob Marley, Jamaican musician and pioneer of reggae music. Because of his stark, revolutionary message of love and justice in the face of political and oppressive forces in his country and beyond, he had some significant opposition and powerful enemies. One evening, as he was preparing for a music festival, a truck filled with armed assassins drove into Marley's compound and filled it with gunfire, attempting to silence his voice. Marley suffered wounds to his chest and arm, and while not life-threatening, he certainly needed medical attention. He refused. When asked why, Marley responded, "The people trying to make this world worse are not taking a day off. How can I?"

Perhaps Marley should have sought medical treatment. He deserved the rest. Because the fact is, we all need it.

Summer is once again upon us. It is a time when things tend to slow down a bit with children off from school and many families making arrangements for travel, vacations or just time to be together on the beach. Life in the parish also tends to rest – I take my annual vacation, (continued on page 3)

Disaster Relief Efforts

Pat Hillegonds

Between Saturday, April 14, and Sunday, April 15, the north shore of Kauaʻi received upwards of 50 inches of rain. Hanalei was flooded, and the Hanalei River found new paths to reach the ocean, destroying homes in its way. Multiple mudslides between Hanalei and Haena closed the road. Homes were destroyed, and people evacuated on an emergent basis. Those who remained found

themselves facing problems of raw sewage, mold, and mildew, in addition to the flooding..

Considerable logistical coordination was required to make sure all of the details of emergency evacuation and relief were attended to. Early on, Malama Kauaʻi, an organization whose focus is on building a sustainable Kauaʻi, assumed the role of coordinating rescue and relief efforts among government workers, social service providers, (continued on Page 2)

Disaster Relief (continued)

and community volunteers. The initial priority was ensuring people's safety. When it was determined that most of the road beyond Hanalei was impassable because of mudslides, local residents with boats began the process of evacuating people in danger, even before Coast Guard vessels arrived.

The next priority was ensuring that people in the affected area had sufficient food and water. Hawaii Food Bank—Kaua'i Branch plans for conditions such as these, and was ready to deliver supplies to the affected area, while simultaneously activating their network to make sure there would be an ongoing provision of food and water to meet the need. The response from the public was described as "overwhelming" by Wes Perreira, Branch Director. In addition to individual donations of food, water, clothing, and toiletries, local businesses donated palate after palate of food and water during the initial days and weeks after the flooding. Boats made trips daily between Hanalei Bay and drop-off sites in Wainiha and Haena.

The emergency disaster relief period lasted approximately a month. During this time, the Hawaii Food Bank and its member agencies on the north shore – the food pantries at Christ Memorial Episcopal Church in Kilauea, Church of the Pacific United Church of Christ in Princeville, and St. William's Roman Catholic Church in Hanalei - played critical roles in the provision of food and water to the north shore flood victims. Church of the Pacific was a designated shelter, so was feeding people who were staying at the shelter, in addition to offering food through their regular food pantry and reaching out to those affected by flooding in the north shore communities of Kalihiwai and Hanalei. St. William's suffered flood damage to their church sanctuary, but their food pantry was relatively unscathed. They tried to meet the added demands for food from the Hanalei community.

Additionally, the Hawaii Food Bank provided food for soup kitchens set up at the YMCA Camp Naue in Haena and at the Opakapaka

Restaurant at Hanalei Colony Resort in Wainiha. Approximately 200 people were being fed at each location every day until mid-May. Christ Memorial assumed the role of liaison between the soup kitchens and the Hawaii Food Bank, making sure that the soup kitchens received all the food they needed in quantities necessary to meet the demand.

According to the Department of Transportation, the road to Haena is not expected to be open to the public until sometime in September. However, twice a day at specific times, one lane is open for local residents, who are allowed to leave and return to the area. St. William's Church, with the assistance of a trailer acquired by the Hawaii Food Bank, will be preparing boxes of food and delivering them to residents in Wainiha and Haena. Residents in these areas are also being encouraged to use the windows when the road is open to shop for themselves at regular grocery stores. The goal is to return people to a state of self-sufficiency, while still providing supportive measures as needed during this period of transitioning from disaster to normal life.

No one wants to experience a disaster like the one on the north shore. But when one does occur, it is good to live in a place where people support each other, and care for each other. It would seem that aloha is still alive on Kaua'i.



Food collected at one of several Disaster Relief food drives.

Bob Marley and Summer (continued)

our Senior Warden is off on an extended adventure to Europe and Africa, adult formation is on break, Vestry does not meet in June (absent a crisis!) and other areas of ministry life simply relax. It is a time for rest, and in this hectic and seemingly demanding world of ours, we all need time to disconnect, relax and restore.

However, like Marley, we do not completely "take the day off" or fall asleep during the summer. Much continues to go on – our worship and music ministries will not rest; we will continue to gather in fellowship to nurture the love and bonds between us, including a July parish picnic; Loaves and Fishes will continue to feed those in need; our children's formation program will explore a VBS curriculum and look forward to an August camping adventure; our campus will bustle with our tenants and a variety of community events. And as the summer months roll by, we will organize our 2018-2019 program year including our worship calendar, outreach ministries, adult and child formation curriculum, fundraiser and social events and other areas of parish life. All of this will culminate on Rally Sunday, September 9, 2018, when we come together to celebrate our lives in this place - who we are and who we are called to be - and begin our new program year with renewed hope, energy and commitment. I hope you will mark your calendars now and plan to join us!

Personally, in addition to my primary commitment to the parish, I will continue to serve on Diocesan Council, the governing board of the Diocese of Hawaii, as well as a member on the Commission of Finance Administration. I am honored to serve on the Ethics Board for Kauai Hospice. In an effort to serve the greater community, and to better tune into youth and younger families, I will be teaching a history course for Juniors at Island School this fall; so my summer will include the preparation of a lesson plan or two! And whenever I can, I will spend time enjoying my family and children, and giving thanks for all the blessings that have so abundantly been bestowed upon me.

So, this summer, I will strive for times of rest, not just physically but also emotionally and spiritually. I urge you to do likewise. We are going to need it in the future. But let us not fall asleep. The forces that are trying to make this world worse are not taking a day off. How can we?

The Herald will also take a break for the month of July, and will return in August.

ReSource for Christian Spirituality
Ti Leaf Lei-Making Workshop
in Memory of the
Patients of Kalaupapa
Saturday, June 23
9:00 am – Noon in The Zone



Spring Cleaning

Dana Bekeart, Junior Warden

You are right if you've noticed that your church is looking particularly nice this Spring. Under the supervision of the Property Committee, St. Michael's campus has been cleaned up in the past month. Almost twenty people turned out for the day of clean-up.

First, all the palms have been trimmed back. Take a look at the Umi Street side of the sanctuary for the airy and sunny result. The sacristy palms have been thinned to protect against damage to the copper roof. And the hedges there were also cut back.

Second, mildew and dirt were removed from all the sanctuary chairs. Additionally, the kitchen oven was cleaned, and a team of workers scrubbed and cleaned the stove and the fan and vents, making Willy and Marge very happy.

Rick and Barb Reynolds took on the Goodale Conference Room, cleaning it from top to bottom. Another focus was the Parish Administrator's office, which had never been finished after shelves and cases were removed at an earlier clean-up project. A fresh coat of paint drastically improved the appearance.

Finally, the former nurses' training office next to the Zone was stripped down to the bare walls to prepare it for eventual conversion into residential, money-making rental units (pending availability of construction funds). One wall, carpets, old toilets and cabinets were ripped out.

Enjoy the fruits of your congregation's hard labors. Further upcoming major improvements will be announced in the next issue of *The Herald*.



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