

# VESTRY RETREAT 2015

## REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

September 18-20, 2015: The All Saints' Vestry participated in a retreat at Koke'e State Park. The retreat provided the Vestry the opportunity, time, and space to prayerfully discern and discuss the future of All Saints'.

Inspired by Rachel Held Evans' new book *"Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church"*, the retreat agenda was developed through the lens of the Sacraments:



The church tells us we are **beloved** (baptism), we are **broken** (confession), we are **commissioned** (holy orders). The church also **feeds us** (communion), **welcomes us** (confirmation), **anoints us** (anointing of the sick), **unites us** (marriage).

The Vestry wanted to take an opportunity to report out to the 'Ohana the major "actionable items" from the retreat. These items will continue to be discussed, explored, and/or implemented in the next 16 months.

We invite the 'Ohana into the conversation. Please do not hesitate to ask Vestry members questions and/or to engage them in thoughtful and prayerful dialogue.

### CHURCH RETREAT

Following the success of the Vestry's own retreat, we are exploring the possibility of hosting an All Saints' Church and Preschool Retreat in Koke'e for the 'Ohana of all ages in 2016. The goals of the retreat will be family fun, fellowship, and strengthening our faith.

*Mary Margaret Smith and Jean Nakamoto have agreed to guide the Vestry through the next logistical steps of organizing the retreat.*

"Millennials aren't looking for a hipper Christianity. . . We're looking for a truer Christianity, a more authentic Christianity. Like every generation before ours and every generation after, we're looking for Jesus—the same Jesus who can be found in the strange places he's always been found: in bread, in wine, in baptism, in the Word, in suffering, in community, and among the least of these.

In spite of all my doubt and insecurity, in spite of my abiding impulse to sleep in on Sunday mornings, I have seen the first few ribbons of dawn's light seep through my bedroom window, and there is a dim, hopeful glow kissing the horizon. Even when I don't believe in church, I believe in resurrection. I believe in the hope of Sunday morning."

Rachel Held Evans

*"Searching for Sunday:  
Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church"*



## DEEPENING THE CONNECTION: SUNDAY SCHOOL AND 9:30 AM SERVICE

Starting in January 2016, the first Sunday of the month (typically), the Sunday School will have an increased presence in the 9:30am service. The Sunday School students will process into the Church during the offertory behind the Sunday School Cross bringing forth their offering. On the first Sunday, Eucharist will be celebrated from a “low-altar” position—just in front of the baptismal font. Children

of all ages will be invited to sit on the floor in front of the altar for an optimal view of the celebration of Eucharist. The Eucharist will continue to be served from the high-altar rail. In addition, a few Sundays throughout the year, the Sunday School students will be invited to attend the whole Church service with their families. A children’s homily will be offered and the liturgy will be amended to better support the learning styles of our younger parishioners.

## LAUNDRY LOVE 2.0

In June, we witnessed the successful launch of *Laundry Love*. The outreach ministry has made an immediate and profound impact on the island and has raised All Saints’ visibility in the community. The Vestry discussed strategies to “sustain” the ministry long-term and ways to avoid volunteer fatigue. Father Ryan is also working with leaders from St. Michaels and All Angels to help establish a second *Laundry Love Kauai* chapter in Lihue on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. *The Laundry Love volunteers will gather later this fall to evaluate and refine the ministry and to begin implementing updated practices to further enhance the program.*



## MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Looking forward . . . the Vestry began the process to revise and reimagine the Mission and Visions Statements of All Saints’. The Vestry agreed that our current Mission Statement does not reflect the boldness and vitality of our congregation. Furthermore, our current Vision Statement is actually a “statement of values” rather than a vision statement. A vision statement should serve as the “guiding star” of our congregation’s hopes, dreams, and plans. *In 2016, the Vestry will engage one other and the congregation in the process of drafting updated Mission and Vision Statements of the Church.*

## ‘OHANA GAME NIGHTS



Based on the overwhelming positive feedback from our ‘Ohana, the Vestry is looking to establish quarterly ‘Ohana Game Nights at All Saints’. The event is a wonderful opportunity for free fun and fellowship that unites our young and young-at-heart parishioners.

*Mary Margaret Smith and Bill Caldwell will be working to establish dates for 2016 Game Nights.*



## ORGAN PROJECT

After 90 years, our current organ, is unfortunately on life-support. It is not a matter of “if” but “when” our organ will no longer be operational. For the past year, Morris Wise and Manuel Rosales have been searching the country for the “ideal” organ to serve as the foundation for our newly built organ. A few weeks ago, they located the perfect match at a Catholic Church in Maryland.

Since such an ideal find is very rare, the Vestry authorized the purchase of the organ for \$8,000 and additional funds to remove and store the organ on the mainland until the Vestry and Organ Committee determine the next steps of a potential organ reconstruction project. In the Vestry’s judgment, the financial liability is relatively small if All Saints’ ultimately

decides not to reconstruct the organ. In that event, the organ would be sold on the open-market and All Saints’ could recuperate a large percentage of its original costs. Given the manageable risk and unparalleled match of this organ to All Saints’ needs, the Vestry decided to proceed with the purchase and storage of this organ.

*The Vestry and Organ Committee continue to work together to give shape to the project and to determine the best solution for future generations of our ‘Ohana.*

## PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

The Vestry is hoping to extend our “pastoral outreach” ministries. Essential to making this goal a reality, our ‘Ohana must bring together parishioners who feel called to serve in pastoral care ministries. Churches with thriving pastoral care ministries do not rely on the clergy to provide the bulk of the ongoing pastoral care; rather, pastoral care is overseen by a group of dedicated, compassionate, trained volunteers. The Vestry wants the ministry team to especially reach out to our Kupuna, our ‘Ohana who need prayer and support, and those individuals and/or families who consider themselves part of our extended ‘Ohana but rarely attend services or events.

*Linda Crocker and Father Ryan are working together to build the foundation of the ministry team and to articulate the group’s objectives. They are looking to schedule the first meeting of the Pastoral Care Ministry Team shortly after Easter 2016.*



## SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND EDUCATION (2016)

Education is a vital ministry at All Saints’, in our Preschool ministry, Sunday School program, and our formation/education ministries to the congregation. For the 2016 program, the Vestry is looking to develop offerings that will (1) Deepen our faith in God, (2) Enrich our understanding of the Church and the roles it is called to play in the world, (3) Empower us to more fully live out our Baptismal Covenant; and, (4) Open our programs to the whole community, not just the All Saints’ ‘Ohana.

*Father Ryan will be working with the Vestry and others to develop the program for next year. The goal is to announce the 2016 Spiritual Formation and Education program at the annual meeting in January 2016.*



## SUNDAY VISITOR ORIENTATION INFORMATION

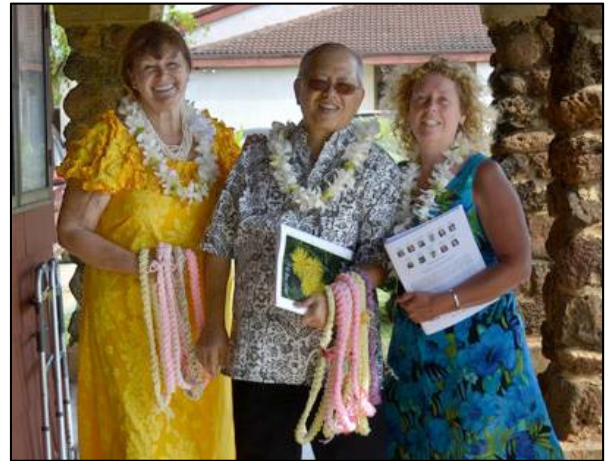
Each Sunday our Church is blessed with visitors. Some of the visitors join us from down the street. Others call the Mainland or other parts of the world home. The Vestry believes we need to enhance our visitors' experience of All Saints' by improving the quality of the orientation we offer to All Saints', the Episcopal Church, and our worship service. In the coming weeks, we will update our "Sunday Visitor Orientation Information". Our goal is to provide our visitors with the necessary information to feel more comfortable, welcomed, and equipped to worship with their new 'Ohana.

*Father Ryan will be working with the Vestry and Chris Wataya to update the visitor orientation information and the pew cards. The goal is to introduce the new materials by All Saints' Day 2015.*

## USHER TRAINING, WELCOME MINISTRIES, & VISITOR RETENTION

Another key component to welcoming and retaining visitors to All Saints' is the strength of our welcoming ministries, specifically our ushers. Typically, the first person(s) visitors meet at All Saints' are our ushers. The Vestry has identified the need to host an usher training and to provide additional orientation materials which better articulate the roles and responsibilities of ushers. Furthermore, the Vestry is looking to develop a program to follow up with visitors.

*Father Ryan and others will host an usher training before Christmas 2015.*



## The Vestry of All Saints'



**David Murray**  
Senior Warden



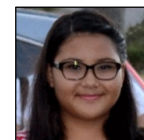
**Linda Crocker**  
Junior Warden



**Jan Hashizume**  
Treasurer



**Ryan Newman**  
Rector & Head of School



**Daileen Barton**  
Youth Rep



**Jean Nakamoto**  
Clerk



**Maricel  
Baldovino**



**Bill  
Caldwell**



**Galen  
Nakamura**



**Mary Margaret  
Smith**



**Bob  
Terao**



**Janis  
Wright**