

2021 ALL SAINTS' ANNUAL MEETING
Meeting Agenda | January 24, 2020

- I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
- II. Clerk of the Annual Meeting Appointment
Judge of Elections Appointment
- III. Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
- IV. Voting for Vestry Members and Convention Delegates
- V. Priest-in-Charge Report
- VI. Senior Warden Report
- VII. Junior Warden Report
- VIII. Ministry Reports
- IX. Preschool Report
- X. Election Results
- XI. Commissioning of Vestry Members
- XII. Closing Prayer and Blessing

Priest Report
All Saints' Annual Meeting 2021
24 January 2021, 10am

Next week marks the one-year anniversary of when Muriel and I moved to Kaua‘i to formally join you in the All Saints’ ‘ohana. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for the warm spirit of aloha with which you greeted us, and for the countless ways you have blessed our lives being here and sharing in God’s ministry with you. We had a wonderful time kicking off our year here with worship together and a SuperBowl/Get-to-Know-Each-Other party at the Rectory. We have been the beneficiaries of so many acts of kindness – random and otherwise – that has made our transition to Kaua‘i life a sheer joy. We are so thankful to God and to all of you for granting us the blessing to live and serve among you.

What a difference a year makes! Who knew that we would have to face the twin challenges of a worldwide pandemic the likes of which we hadn’t seen since the Spanish Flu outbreak of 1918-20, as well as the accompanying downward movement of our economy and particularly the hardship many individuals, families, and businesses have had to face and are still undergoing?

When we faced our statewide lockdown from mid-March until the end of May, we had to get creative in how to “be church” at such a time as this. We had the blessing of joint recorded Morning Prayer services with Fr. Andrew McMullen and the people of St. Michael and All Angels during this time. I particularly want to thank Hank for his ongoing music ministry, as well as Ron Morinishi and Cami Baldovino for their technical skills in broadcasting our church services, such that we were able to reach a much larger audience than when we were only meeting in-person. In addition, the lockdown led to a temporary curtailment of internal and outreach ministries we could do. This led to the Zoom meeting format we have had to employ for committee meetings, Bible studies, and the Ke Akua Youth Group.

At the beginning of June, the Bishop allowed the resumption of in-person worship services. While doing that, we decided to enhance our broadcasting of the 9:30am service through the medium of Livestreaming, thereby reaching a large audience. The Altar Guild was extremely helpful and creative with helping us to have in-person worship that conformed to the safety guidelines that the CDC, the Department of Health, and the Diocese stipulated. We also moved away from printed bulletins to minimize changes of spreading the pandemic, as well as

wanting to be more “green” and ecologically conscious of our planet’s resources. Having a variety of types of screens up so that people can see the order of service has helped us to be on “one page” together without the need for having to handle printed bulletins. Thanks to David Crocker for being creative with different approaches with this.

In fact, this is a big “mahalo” to all of you for your flexibility and grace in a very trying time for all of us. Not too many other churches and houses of worship have fared as well or were able to be as nimble with ever-changing circumstances and mandates.

We’ve had to have creative flexibility with regard to “big ticket” services like Pentecost, the Holy Sovereigns, Advent, and Christmas. But through it all, we’ve striven to bring honor to the God we worship as well as to be a blessing and encouragement to each other. The Music Ministry has been a real joy, even without the blessing of a permanent in-person choir – Hank’s creativity and sensitivity to worship themes is remarkable and uplifting, and the musical offerings of the Virtual Choir have been superb.

Understandably, the numbers of worshippers have been a mixed picture, due to the limited quantity of people we could accommodate in person in live worship together at the same time. The in-person 8am congregation has held steady, with an average number of 23. The in-person 9:30am congregation average had been at 66 prior to the mid-March lockdown and arrival of the Pandemic; post-Pandemic the average is 40. However, the online Livestream audience at 9:30 and other online services during the Pandemic has averaged 160 – this is due to increased viewership via all social media platforms plus our Mainland ‘ohana’s participation as well members of other churches here in this state, in the rest of the country, and even from other parts of the world. So a lesson for me has been this: While the Pandemic has had little effect on 8am attendance and a dampening effect on 9:30am in-person attendance, it has also created an opportunity for profound outreach to a greater number of people than we had ever done before. Finally, at last year’s “Ashes to Go” we had 67 come through on top of the those who attended both Ash Wednesday services.

While we had to curtail to an extent our ability to offer community outreach, we were still able to have the KIA Thanksgiving Service and Meal Distribution done in pandemic-sensitive creative ways. Big mahalos to Sarah Rogers and Mary Margaret Smith, as well as to leaders from our sister and brother houses of

worship, for a beautiful joint interfaith worship service as well as distributing over 1,500 donated meals.

An amazing thing from this past year has been our financial health as a Church and Preschool. While both the Church and the Preschool qualified for the initial PPP loan/grant amounts that were helpful to our mutual budgets (especially since the Preschool had to offer only remote learning for the months of April and May during the lockdown at no tuition cost to parents), both emerged from 2020 in good financial shape. Total church pledging actually increased over 2019, with \$192,143.80 pledged for 2021, well over a goal of \$175,000. Mahalo nui loa for your generosity and commitment of whatever amount God led you to pledge.

The Preschool also was blessed with additional grant monies (thanks to Cami and Jan for their work here), coupled with the tuition it received from a mandatorily-reduced total keiki enrollment from 60 to 46 due to social distancing requirements. Given the reality that so many churches, preschools, and schools have had to face this past year, we can truly say that God has really blessed us in amazing ways!

We ended the year on a high note with the culmination of the Organ Project. We thank Morris Wise for his indefatigable leadership, and that the organ has finally been installed after more than four years. We only await its finetuning by the second organ crew, as soon as pandemic limitations get lifted. We are immensely thankful that we were able to receive the final \$40,000 outstanding, as well as for the amazing level of donations over the years that have brought us to this point.

While this report could go on indefinitely if I were to attempt to name every individual who stepped up and ensured our thriving this past year, I want especially to thank:

David Murray and Mary Margaret Smith, the Wardens who first welcomed me from my interview at All Saints to the start of my ministry here;

Linda Crocker and Ron Morinishi, our Senior and Junior Wardens, who have provided great amounts of wisdom, partnership, vision, and drive – so much has gotten accomplished this past year despite the Pandemic, and this has given so many of us hope that God is still with us through it all;

Jan Hashizume, our tireless Treasurer who, in addition to her normal duties to do with Church and Preschool finances, had to shepherd both the Church

and the Preschool through the maze of the PPP application process (Peter Pereira, our Diocesan Treasurer, also was extremely helpful to us);

Hank Curtis, our talented and insightful Music Director, who incorporates a variety of music styles and has been a joy with whom to plan around the themes of church services;

Chris Wataya and Cami Baldovino, who together transitioned our leadership of both the Preschool and Office Administration, and had to deal with the challenging moving target of changing Pandemic realities;

The Vestry, with whom it has been a joy to be in leadership partnership in this adventuresome year;

Those who enable worship such as the Altar Guild, Monday and Friday Clean-up Crews, LEMs, Readers, Tech supports of PowerPoint slides and Livestreaming, Flower Ministry, Ke Akua Youth Group, Sunday School leaders, Ushers, Offering Counters, Aloha Hour Hospitality, and countless others;

Those from Buildings & Grounds and who helped with work projects that Ron would lead or arrange, like the Labyrinth, Roof repairs on the Rectory and Cottage, the driveway drainage and laying of the path, and a myriad other repairs around the premises;

All the ministries and their representatives on the Ministry Council, without whom we would have many gaps in our ministry outreach and service.

We look forward to 2021 as a year full of resourcefulness, rebuilding and reinvention. An example of this is an exciting prospect of tentative plans for a solar-panel building project for this year with roof replacement over the Preschool, the significant seed money of which has already been provided and would cover the majority of the cost. This and other signs show that God is with us, and that through God's grace we will nurture and even expand the level of our worship, education, outreach, and the arts.

Mahalo i ke Akua ekākou,
Kahu Kawika+

Senior Warden Report for Annual Meeting 2020

As 2020 started, we had just finished our search for a Rector. We had invited The Reverend David Jackson (AKA Kahu Kawika) to be our priest and leader and he and his family had accepted the call to come to Kauai.

We knew they were going to fit in when the first Sunday they served, they threw a Super Bowl party in the same afternoon for all interested parishioners.

Then in March came COVID 19 and the health emergency from which we still have not emerged.

There were challenges:

First we were on lockdown and had online church only— Kahu Kawika and Fr. Andrew figured a way forward and started presenting virtual recorded church services.

The Preschool staff began to make packets to provide for the continued education of the children while unable to attend school.

We then created our own ability to record and present live on Facebook services and to record music and broadcast a Zoom choir.

Our amazing Alter guild and Kahu Kawika figured out how to have communion and meet in person being safely distanced and masked for services. We also had our wonderful Alter Guild and Friday/Monday crew to do the needed cleaning.

Hospitality got a whole new look with pre packaged items for our selection.

The Preschool staff made a well thought out plan for the protection of our preschool students, teachers and all of their families. The Preschool re opened for in person school with the appropriate number of students for safe social distancing.

We have had meetings by Zoom and Bible study by Zoom. We have prayed by Zoom and planned by Zoom. The Epistle newsletter kept us informed and connected.

We have had some unexpected benefits of these changes. Our Mainland and other island parishioners have been able to participate in our church services and perform in the choir when not on Kauai. We notice and have new appreciation for the hugs and gatherings and can't wait for them to resume.

We temporarily moved out of the church and into Memorial Hall for our services.

The Organ project has moved forward and we have met our financial obligations and pledges to pay for the project. We are almost finished with the last stretch.

Thank you all for being RESILIENT and FLEXIBLE. Thank your for continuing to pray for our best ways forward, to be creative and think outside the box.

Buildings and Grounds 2020

Made significant improvements to our B&Gs this year

- **Church**
 - Fiber Optic High-speed wifi in all buildings
 - Labyrinth construction
 - Driveway drainage and gravel installation
 - Stained Pews
 - Organ installation
- **Rectory**
 - New roof
 - Replaced refrigerator and dishwasher
- **Preschool**
 - Removed several tree stumps
 - Installed sidewalk for kids tricycles



Pipe Organ Installation

