THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF HAWAII'S

CARBON REDUCTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

St. John's is located in an isolated, almost remote, corner of Upcountry Maui and the local community we serve considers St. John's as its de facto community center. Its annual Kula Festival (on September 16 this year), rummage sales, monthly free Community Dinners, and weekly Food pantry distributions are always well-attended and provide much needed support to community members.

St. John's Food Pantry program receives food items from the Maui Food Bank, in effect acting as a local distribution point for their program. Taking from the Maui Food Bank whatever they provide that suits its needs, St. John's maintains a highly variable inventory of food. In addition, the monthly Community Dinners, which have doubled in size over the past few years to well over 100 persons served per month, sources many ingredients from the Maui Food Bank.
For more than a decade, these ministries and other gatherings at St. John's have been supported by two overworked refrigerators, one of which has a small freezer compartment.

With the growth of its community outreach programs, St. John's Vestry decided to replace its two old refrigerators with Energy Star models and add a new Energy Star upright freezer. The new freezer gives St. John's more flexibility to accommodate the variable supply (Maui Food Bank) and demand of its Community Dinner ministry.

St. John's very active Green Team, led over the past 2 years by Environmental Coordinator Zoe Mounts (a junior at Seabury Hall), is particularly excited about upgrading the vintage kitchen appliances to more efficient Energy Star models. This year, St. John's received a national "Cool Congregation" designation for its reduction in electrical energy use of over 40% as a result of 2017's solar panel installation. The additional energy savings from the new appliances will hopefully increase St. John's future Cool Congregation scores.

St. John's is extremely grateful for the grant recently received from the Diocese's Carbon Reduction Assistance Program, which covered one-third of the cost of the new appliances. Delivered in August 2023, the new appliances will not only help St. John's to better serve its community members, they will substantially reduce St. John's carbon footprint over many years to come.

Submitted by Trip Lynch