

# St. Christopher's Episcopal Church Kailua, Hawaii



St. Christopher's Church watercolor made by Anne Waters

80th Annual Meeting of the Church  
Friday, January 31, 2025  
(Reviewing the Year 2024)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

History of St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church, Our Mission and Vision.....	3
Our Mission and Vision, Staff, Vestry, and Wardens .....	4
Agenda for Annual Meeting: January 31, 2025.....	5
St. Christopher’s Annual Meeting Minutes: February 5, 2024 .....	5
Report of the Nominations Committee.....	7
Report of the Rector, Priest Associate, and Postulant .....	8
Report of the Treasurer.....	9
Report of the Senior Warden .....	9
Report of the Junior Warden and Care of Property .....	9
Care of Parish .....	10
Worship	
Altar Guild	
Flower Guild	
Intercessors & Lectors	
Acolytes	
Bread Bakers	
Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors	
Ushers	
Tech Team	
Counters	
Music	
Christian Education .....	11
Nursery, Godly Play	
Christmas Pageant	
Middle Kingdom Faith Adventure	
Youth	
Weekday Bible Study	
Education for Ministry	
Lenten Series	
Care of Community .....	12
Outreach Grants	
Community Service	
Charles’s Game Nights	
Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies	
Beach Mass and Picnic	
Staycation at Camp Mokulea	
The Diocese .....	13
The National Church .....	13
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2024 .....	14
Budget Approved by Vestry on January 16, 2025,.....	15
Designated/Restricted Funds .....	18
Commissioning Service .....	19
Evening Devotion .....	19
Closing Song “New Beginnings” .....	20

# A brief history of St. Christopher's Church

On April 22, 1945, six “founding members” of St. Christopher’s met in Classroom 8 of Kailua Elementary School for worship. The Rev. William Arthur Roberts, missionary from England and vicar of St. John’s-by-the-Sea, presided. St. Christopher’s itself was dedicated on November 18, of that year. The Rev. Richard Trelease succeeded the Rev. Roberts, who, sadly, returned to England with his young daughter upon the unexpected death of his wife. The Rev. Trelease, stepped in as vicar thereafter and became our first rector when we became a parish in 1950.

The Rev. Trelease returned to head up St. Andrews Cathedral, in 1951, ultimately became the Bishop of the Rio Grande. The Rev. Richard Upshur Smith was called from California to become our second rector.

In 1958, the Rev. Claude DuTeil arrived as St. Christopher’s rector and served until 1977. Upon retirement, he founded the Institute for Human Services (HIS). Originally known as “the peanut butter ministry,” it is now the largest island program serving Hawaii’s hungry and houseless.

The Rev. Robert Brown was rector from 1979 to 1987. During his tenure, the parish hall and choir room buildings were built, and the Senior Center further developed. In 1988, the Rev. Daniel Smith arrived and served until 1996. He helped found Kailua’s Spousal Abuse Center. The Rev. Cass Bailey became rector in 1998, serving until 2010. Pat Bixler, Mary Lou Lufkin, and Cass helped bring Family Promise, whose home was our house at 60 N. Kainalu, to the island.

In April, 2011, the Rev. Dr. Giovan King became the seventh (and first woman) rector. She helped to bring us Kahumana (our outreach to special needs young adults) and KidzArt (an after-school program), which has recently outgrown our campus and moved to larger space. Over the years, St. Christopher’s has established itself as a church of long- standing service to the community. St. Christopher’s is a parish in the Diocese of Hawaii and part of the Episcopal Church in the United States. We are also part of the world-wide Anglican Communion of Churches, which recognizes the Archbishop of Canterbury as its spiritual leader.

**We will welcome the Bishop on Sunday, May 18, as we celebrate St. Christopher’s 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We hope to welcome and celebrate with you as well.**

*Our mission:  
To know and share God's love*

*Our vision:  
To do God's work in our world  
as a church without walls*

## **St. Christopher's Staff**

**RECTOR:** The Rev. Dr. Giovan Venable King  
**PRIEST ASSOCIATE:** The Rev. Preston Lentz  
**POSTULANT: DR. ROBERT BLEY-VROMAN**  
**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:** Sandy Sojo-Paredes  
**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST:** Timothy Cubero, Jr.  
**SEXTON:** Danny Garcia  
**ACCOUNTANT:** Sandra Montalvo  
**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS:** Christina Lee and Joanne Parker

## **2024 Vestry and Wardens**

**SENIOR WARDEN:** Lisa DeLong & Tom McGrew  
**JUNIOR WARDEN:** Larry Stamey  
**CLERK:** Caroline Cruz  
**TREASURER:** Colleen Kendig-Sullivan

**SENIOR CLASS: (TERM ENDING JANUARY 2025)**  
Hank Bruckner  
Christina Lee  
Ronald Wong

**MIDDLER CLASS: (TERM ENDING JANUARY 2026)**  
Walter Beh  
Colleen Kendig-Sullivan

**JUNIOR CLASS: (TERM ENDING JANUARY 2027)**  
Caroline Cruz  
Karen Gifford  
Launa Pasen

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:** Charles Mueller

## AGENDA FOR ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 31, 2025

1. Call to Order, Opening Prayer & Appointment of the Clerk
  2. Presentation and approval of February 5, 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes
  3. Election of incoming vestry, 2025 Diocesan Convention delegates and  
Convention Alternate
  4. Rector's Remarks, including thanks to outgoing wardens, vestry and delegates
  5. Commissioning Service
  6. Treasurer's Report  
Report on 2024  
Presentation of the 2025 Budget approved by the Vestry on January 16, 2025
  7. "Evening Prayers"
  8. Adjournment
- 

**LAST YEAR'S ST. CHRISTOPHER'S ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
St. Christopher's Church Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 4, 2024

**Call to Order:** The Annual Meeting was called to order at **10:45am** by Rev. King; Rev. King led the opening prayer.

**Appointment of Recording Secretary and Quorum:** Rev. Preston Lentz was appointed Recording Secretary for the Annual Meeting and declared a quorum to be present as defined by the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii.

**Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held of February 5, 2023:** The Minutes having been distributed, on the Motion made by Hank Bruckner, and seconded by Colleen Kendig-Sullivan, and there being no discussion, by unanimous vote the Minutes were approved.

**Election of Incoming Vestry, 2024 Diocesan Convention Delegates and Alternate:** On a motion made by John Harris and seconded by Mary Bennett Smith, Charles Mueller was nominated as Youth Member of the Vestry. On the Motion made by Larry Stamey and seconded by Wylie Nash, the slate of candidates (Walter Beh, Caroline Cruz, Karren Gifford, and Charles Mueller) was then elected as the Vestry Class of 2027 by acclamation; On the motion made by Jean Compston and seconded by Colleen Kendig-Sullivan, Walter Beh, Jean Compton, Christina Lee, and Larry Stamey, with Wylie Nash as Alternate, were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention by

acclamation. **Rector's Remarks:** Rev. King thanked Tom McGrew, Wylie Nash, and Jessica Perez-Mesa, the outgoing members of the Vestry, for their three years of service to St. Christopher's. She then presented lei to various members of the staff for their work over the course of 2023. She presented Marilyn and Fred Smith with a St. Christopher's icon in thanks for their faithful service to St. Christopher's for more than 50 years, commenting that Fred Smith was the very first person she talked with at St. Christopher's about the position of Rector. In response to a question about the Outreach Fund donations in 2023, Ms. Nash drew attention to the organizations listed in her report for 2023 as Chairman of the Outreach Fund Committee. She then reminded those present that the Committee was still receiving the names of organizations to consider for 2024 contributions. Rev. King commented on how COVID had diminished the traditional opportunities for "hand's on work" with local organizations and asked those present for ideas of community projects with which St. Christopher's could become involved. Rev. King led those present in blessing the banners made by JR Embree Harris and in thanking Ms. Harris for her wonderful support of St. Christopher's in so many ways. **Commissioning Service:** Rev. King led those present in the Commissioning Service for new Vestry members, the Delegates and Alternate to the Diocesan Convention, and all present as leaders in the parish. **Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Kendig-Sullivan reviewed her report as presented in the Annual Meeting report commenting on the Budget surplus for 2023 versus the budgeted deficit. She explained that a conservative budgeting process used to create the 2024 Budget approved by the Vestry shows a slight surplus for 2024. **Prayer for Mid-Day:** Hank Bruckner led those present in the "Mid-Day Devotions" which were followed by all singing "New Beginnings." **Adjournment:** Rev. King declared the 2024 Annual Meeting adjourned at 11:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Preston Lentz, Recording Secretary

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE – LARRY STAMEY, HANK BRUCKNER, CHRISTINA LEE, RON WONG, MARJI HANKINS, PAULA STERLING**

The nominations committee would like to announce these proposed candidates for upcoming vestry vacancies. This year's nominees who have graciously agreed to serve are Daryl Cazinha, Eric Mueller, Jon Myers, and Lisa DeLong as Junior Warden. Christina Lee, is a vestry member who accepted an appointment to fill someone's second and third year and is eligible to serve another year, she has graciously agreed to serve in the Senior Class until the end of May, when her family will be moving. All are very experienced, short biographies for these candidates appear below. The current and proposed 2025 vestry roster consists of a blend of experienced individuals and new contributors, uniting people with diverse durations of engagement in our community. We are confident that this varied composition will foster both continuity and innovative perspectives within the vestry. The committee included the three outgoing senior vestry members, and we express great gratitude to them. We also thank Marji Hankins and Paula Sterling, our at - large members. They were also part of this committee. We trust that the nominees will be received by enthusiastic acclamation.

**SENIOR WARDEN: LARRY STAMEY (CHOSEN BY RECTOR)**

**JUNIOR WARDEN NOMINEE: LISA DELONG**

I have been at St. Christopher's for more than ten years and would be happy to serve as Junior Warden to continue to build community and fulfill the mission of our church. I have been a member of the Diocesan Council, served on our Vestry before, am in Altar Guild, and am a Counter. I've also completed the Education for Ministry course and am now a mentor. I have served on the Diocesan Commission on Ministry and am a licensed lay minister. I am a school leader in the Department of Education. I can apply the skills I've learned from my work with the Episcopal Church and in schools to support a viable Vestry.

**SENIOR CLASS (TERM ENDS 2026): CHRISTINA LEE**

Married to a "Local Boy" she found wandering around in Washington DC and who has brought the family back home, Christina is the mom to Jessica and Jennifer, acolytes and altar guild groupies. When not doing Mom and family stuff, Christina is a teleworking federal employee who supports technology initiatives to improve Veteran's care and services. Prior to the VA, Christina worked with the DOD, HHS, DOJ, as well as private and non-profits in the health and biotech sectors. Before the Internet became a life-sustaining nutrient, Christina worked in the hotel industry. She offers up her mixed bag of experiences to help St. C continue to thrive.

**VESTRY JUNIOR CLASS NOMINEES (TERM ENDS JANUARY 2028):**

**DARYL CAZINHA:**

I've been a member of St. Christopher's Church for 35 years and served on the vestry several years ago. I believe in St. Christopher's mission to serve the community and its members. I have also been an usher at the 7:15 service for 20 years and participate in preparing and barbecuing for the beach services. I have worked for JBPHH here on Oahu for more than 28 years. I have overseen the budget for three of the golf courses at JBPHH. In addition to managing the yearly budget, I manage the department that oversees maintenance of the golf courses. It would be my honor to rejoin the vestry and do my best to serve our community and members.

**ERIC MUELLER:**

Eric Mueller was born in Arizona but grew up in Wisconsin, Germany, and Pennsylvania. He graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1995 with a B.S. in Marine Engineering and a minor in German. He received a Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Maryland College Park before entering the Submarine Officer training pipeline in 1996. Eric spent the next 21 years in various roles as an Active and Reserve Naval Officer. He has served at Pearl Harbor, in Korea, and volunteered for two tours in Iraq before retiring from the Naval Service in 2015. Eric continues to serve the US Pacific Command as a civil servant. Eric lives with his wife Melissa (from Mililani) and their children - Megan, Rachel, Charles, and Wade. Together, Eric and his family continue to transform their yard into a miniature railroad, raise countless tropical fish, explore all O'ahu has to offer, and make the most of living in Kailua!

**JON SETO-MYERS:**

Jon is a former Wall Street trader and serial Silicon Valley entrepreneur who has been married over 40 years to Bonnie Seto, a Kailua native and Kamehameha Schools grad who was a regular at St. C's in her childhood. Bonnie's parents and Bonnie were active at St. C.'s during Bonnie's childhood. Jon and Bonnie have twin 25-year-old sons and have attended St. Christophers for at least 30 years. Up until recently, Jon and family had two homes – one in Marin CA and one in KaoHao. Now they live in KaoHao full time.

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES MUELLER:**

Charles Yoshiki Manfred Mueller is a Kailua Native that has been attending St. Christopher's as long as he can remember! He has actively helped on word days, and he suggested the popular "Charles' Game Night," a quarterly event that the whole parish has come to enjoy. Since entering Kailua Intermediate School, Charles has expanded his service to the Church, serving as a chorister, acolyte, Youth Group Member, and Youth Representative to the Vestry. Outside of parish life, Charles enjoys rocketry, gaming, history, and lacrosse. Charles looks forward to another year representing St. C's youth as their vestry representative.

**DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION: JEAN COMPTON, WYLIE NASH, JOHN HOLZACH, LARRY STAMEY**  
**ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION: TDB**

**REPORT OF THE RECTOR – GIOVAN KING**

I will take this opportunity to remember my ministry at St. Christopher since 2011, as Tom and I prepare for our expected departure in the fall. Our worshiping community has heard at least five hundred sermons from me; I will have baptized over forty individuals, sponsored confirmations of over thirty-five, and married over twelve couples. For all such sacramental acts, it remains a blessed opportunity to gather with candidates as we discuss the meanings of the rites. It has also been my honor to preside at over fifty funerals, most of which have been for cherished parishioners and friends, but many also for non-members (always a great evangelical opportunity). I love teaching and learning about the Bible, and we have had active sessions that gave me that opportunity. Our Lenten series has taken us into the world of the Benedictines and Franciscans, and we have read several books focusing on the presence of the divine, found in the way of walking, mindfulness, and prayer, just to name a few paths. I have also ministered as a musician at St. C's and enjoyed the honor of training three, probably four, clergy on their way through ordination.

**And, let's not forget all the great parties at my house. Pool parties, Newcomer parties. Epiphany parties. Parties just to party. And, who can forget those great vestry training retreats?**

I did not forget our physical plant. Mary Ann Knerr remarked often that Claude duTeil had focused so much on outreach that, through the years, our campus became a bit neglected. I hope no one will forget Claude: it is he who brought us the Institute for Human Services, began our relationship with the mental health hospital; and created "A Short Course in Christianity," invaluable to so many. (I borrowed it to prepare our 21st Century version.) A few priests back, there was an announcement at St. C's that the new rector feared members had the mistaken idea that he would become the property manager. I understand. A priest is not ordained to take on the tasks of deferred maintenance and property. Unfortunately, it is a common issue in our era and, with much prayer, I jumped in. It is a most important aspect of both stewardship and evangelism (you always want guests to know that you care about your sacred space). In less than a year, we had paved our parking lot for half the price originally quoted, with the Senior Center pitching in. We created actual sidewalks on our property. We installed new sliders campus-wide, indispensable during COVID. We fixed ceilings, and floors. We brought in air conditioning. We never stop. Recently, we refurbished our long-neglected kitchen and have taken steps to assure that our foundation remains solid, in more ways than one. My beloved wingman, Tom, jumped in wherever needed. He volunteered in worship until his sight began to go. He continues to be the first one in and last one out of our kitchen every Sunday. Through a 2015 grant he brought us Godly Play, setting up the entire room himself, and he continues to tell the beloved Bible stories. He became a co-mentor of EfM. He is the best Christian I know and I am truly blessed by him. We have given St. Christopher our all, and loved you all. We have felt the tremendous love for and appreciation as we have ministered here. God bless us all as we continue to walk in the ways of our Lord, knowing that the gossamer strands of the Spirit will always connect us, forever be one in the Spirit.



### **REPORT OF THE PRIEST ASSOCIATE – PRESTON LENTZ**

Pastoral calls, deep involvement with our liturgical life, and just being part of the 'ohana' continues to be energizing and uplifting. More specific details are to be found in the various other reports of activities and work. As always, my sincerest appreciation for all at St. Christopher's.

### **REPORT OF OUR POSTULANT – DR. ROBERT BLEY-VROMAN**

Bishop Fitzpatrick assigned me to fieldwork with Mtr. Giovan at St. Christopher's beginning in March, 2024. Since then, I have been able to serve and learn in a much wider range of capacities than is common in a postulant's fieldwork experience. I've assisted in administrative duties during a transition in office staff, have led Sunday Morning Prayer services during a period that no ordained clergy were present, and have prepared the Sunday bulletin and the Friday eBlast. Mtr. Giovan has encouraged me to attend meetings of Vestry and of the Budget Committee, and to participate actively in weekly staff meetings, including dealing with property management and care of buildings and grounds. I attend and have occasionally led weekly Bible study. I lead weekly online Friday Morning Prayer. I've been able to assist in the Eucharist in various roles. And, recently, I've been privileged to be included in the preaching rotation. Throughout, Mtr. Giovan and Fr. Preston have treated me as a full colleague. And, the whole St. Christopher community has been extraordinarily open, accepting, and supportive.

### **REPORT OF THE TREASURER – COLLEEN KENDIG-SULLIVAN**

With great thanks for God's blessings and careful management of expenses in the face of variability with our income sources including our rental unit and rental offices, we were able to end 2024 with only a deficit of \$27,551. It is noteworthy that we finished 2024 in a better financial position than most Diocese Churches. Nonetheless, we will be able to share with all churches in a significant reduction of the assessment this year.

St. Christopher's continues to maintain a healthy cash balance of over \$520,000 and an endowment reserve of \$388,000 as of 9/30/2024 (when last reported by the Diocese). Pledges and offerings represented 51% of the budgeted revenue, while rental and other income being 49%.

We conservatively project that the 2025 pledge and offering income will be \$2000 more than it was in 2024. Your generosity remains an example of St. Christopher's strong ongoing commitment to stewardship. Thank you for your continued financial support of St. Christopher's and its important ministries and outreach programs.

We want to express our deepest gratitude for the incredibly generous donation by, Mary Knerr. Her support will leave a lasting impact on our community, ensuring that St. Christopher's continues to thrive for generations to come. Her legacy will live on in the lives we touch.

We thank all of you for your continued financial support of St. Christopher's Church and its important ministries/outreach programs to our Windward Oahu communities and beyond.

### **REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN – TOM MCGREW**

Psalm 84:1 'How lovely is your dwelling place oh Lord Almighty'

St Christopher is just that. A beautiful house in which to see "his" love poured out of his people. I've had the pleasure this past year to be Senior Warden and see how much the Holy Spirit works. All the people who contribute time, treasure and talent in the service of God. In our vestry alone, you see young (Charles) working with everyone, no matter the age. It was my second Christmas to be present for the pageant. Seeing old and young, giving honor and glory to our Lord, Jesus Christ. I believe this parish is in great hands, because every member is mindful of that.

### **REPORT OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN & CARE OF PROPERTY – LARRY STAMEY**

During 2024, we made several general and particular improvements, including but not limited to: replacing air conditioning units, installing new locks, completing major door repairs throughout the campus. Efforts are underway to restore our photovoltaic system to full functionality. We are pleased with the company we have chosen to work with and optimistic about. We ultimately expect to reduce HECO energy costs by 50% through the Shift and Save program. We are also planning installation of a new security system, which will include four cameras, and be monitored 24/7 by a professional company. We are investigating installation of dedicated water and electric meters to better monitor our tenant use of utilities and compute more fairly and accurate rental rates for tenants and manage our own overall costs. These projects are priorities as we continue to build a safer, more efficient and sustainable

environment for our church community. These improvements reflect our commitment to being good stewards of our resources while addressing current needs and planning for the future. Thank you for your support, prayers, and trust as we carry out these important efforts. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

## **CARE OF PARISH: WORSHIP**

### **ALTAR GUILD - PAULA STERLING**

Service in the Altar Guild is not only rewarding but is an important part of our worship together. Twice each Sunday we set, and then clear, a table in preparation for a banquet, for our Lord's Supper. Care is given to ensure the candles are filled with oil, altar and communion linens are properly maintained, and seasonal banners are placed according to our calendar year. During the year, we meet to care for the vessels used, polishing silver and brass when necessary. As with any banquet preparation, many hands make light work. If you think you might like to join this ministry, please speak to an altar guild member or Mother Giovan or Father Preston for any questions you might have. Grateful thanks to continuing members Lisa DeLong, Emily Hawkins, Sharon Billingsley, and Jennifer and Jessica Lee. Many thanks always to Linda and Hank Bruckner, J.R. Harris, and Sheryl Seaman who provide welcome and much appreciated support.

### **FLOWER GUILD – PAULA STERLING**

The ladies of Les Dames des Fleurs, the Flower Guild at St. Christopher's, enjoy preparing arrangements for our Sunday services, and for other occasions such as weddings and celebrations of life. Grateful thanks, always, to the loyal members of this ministry: Nicki Foster, Meg Takahama, Susan Martin helped prepare flowers in 2025, and we thank our anchor and guide, Mary Bennett Smith, as we continue this rewarding ministry to our Lord and to our church. We welcome anyone who enjoys working with flowers and creating arrangements to join us in 2026. We provide guidelines (suggestions, not rules) so please consider coming along with any of us on a prep day to see if this ministry might be a fit for you. We could not do our work, especially at seasonal events such as Easter and Christmas, without the generosity of the members of St. Christopher's. Your contributions, whether in honor or in memory or in celebration of friends and loved ones, help make our service possible. Thank you all!

### **LECTORS AND INTERCESSORS – PRESTON LENTZ**

It has been pleasing in all regards to watch the ranks of our Lectors and Intercessors, of all ages, grow in number and expertise. The commitment of all to preparation and presence has benefited all of us in coming to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of the Scripture that informs and gives meaning to our Sunday services. An additional benefit has been the enthusiasm of Lectors and Intercessors in participating in the distribution of the Eucharist. They make our liturgy lively and exciting.

### **ACOLYTES – PRESTON LENTZ**

2025 was a great year for our Acolytes. They served as Crucifers (toting from time to time both the large and small Cross) and as Torchbearers. They are also beginning to learn the role of Server helping Mo. Giovan and me at the Credence Table as we prepare the "Table" (the Altar) for Eucharist. They have dealt wonderfully and flexibly with recalcitrant torches and lighters. They have also filled in as Eucharistic Distributors when and as needed. We are fortunate indeed by their faithfulness.

**BREAD BAKERS:** In 2021, St. Christopher was the first church in our Diocese that the Bishop allowed to return to serving blessed wine at Communion. In 2024, we felt comfortable having people sip from the cup, plus we returned to having baked bread! We thank Anne Waters, Sharon Pang, and the Youth Group for the bread we receive during communion!

### **EUCARISTIC MINISTERS AND VISITORS – GIOVAN KING**

We are blessed by our Eucharistic Ministers! I want to thank also the lectors, intercessors, acolytes & crucifers who have helped clergy distribute communion this year. There are so many of you, I hesitate to name folks, for fear of leaving someone out. We are most grateful to all who have served in this way. As far as our Eucharistic Visitation goes, this continues to be done primarily by the clergy and our Postulant. Thank you again to all who participate in these important ministries.

### **USHERS – REV. GIOVAN KING & REV. PRESTON LENTZ**

St. Christopher's ushers remain an important and active part of our Sunday liturgical ministries. The group has added new members at all ends of the age spectrum. We are indeed fortunate. We give sincere thanks for all these servants of God and we ask that others seriously consider joining our usher team. Let the office know if you are willing to serve in this way (808-262-8176)

### **TECH TEAM MINISTRY – MARYALICE WOODY**

We need you! Our tech team, Ron Wong, Wylie Nash Holzach, Larry Stamey, Mary Ann Lentz, and Maryalice Woody, continues to live stream the 9:30 service. These streams go out to Facebook and You Tube. We are still hoping to increase our committee both in personnel and donated iPhones in the coming year. Any volunteers?

### **COUNTERS – LINDA BRUCKNER**

Eight members of the parish serve as counters and recorders for the weekly pledges and other contributions given by parishioners as well as funds received from rentals and other sources of income. Team members include former wardens and treasurers, who form four teams of two to complete and record the count on a weekly basis and then deposit the funds in a church bank account. The counters' records are reviewed annually by the church auditors to ensure compliance with recommended practices and procedures. My thanks go out to Gail Windle, Dudley Foster, Maryalice Woody, Lisa Delong, Mary Bennett Smith, and Susan Gall. Bill Carpenter replaced Sheryl Seaman in January. Mary Smith is moving away this summer. Joanne Parker has volunteered to replace her. Special thanks to all who help with this important task! *Keep calm and count on*

**CHOIR AND ORGANIST – TIMOTHY CUBERO, JR.** It is a privilege to play our Walker & Sons Tracker Organ, one of the top organs on Oahu. I am also humbled to lead the church's liturgical music with our choir. The members are quick learners and truly ministers in their own right, with veterans and relatively new members uniting to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. I have appointed Eric Mueller, our most senior choir member, as Honorary Artistic Director. Megan Mueller is our Organ Scholar and has shared her many musical talents that extend far beyond her excellent ministry on the organ. I study the weekly scriptures to match the music with the scripture message each Sunday. I truly enjoy communicating to our congregation through music that God is real and God is near.

## **CARE OF PARISH: CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**NURSERY** – For several months now, we have relied on church volunteers to provide care in our nursery, as well as for the children whose parents arrive at 8:30 on Sundays for meetings or choir practice. We have been looking for at least one person to serve as our paid nursery staff. Please let us know if you have any ideas.

### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH: NURSERY, GODLY PLAY, CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD – MARY ANN LENTZ**

Godly Play helps children enter into a relationship with God using a Montessori style of telling Bible stories, parables and liturgical action about religious traditions with simple materials. Your help is needed and encouraged: We welcome anyone interested in working with the youth at all levels to speak with Mother Giovan. We were delighted to welcome Caroline Cruz to the team this year and hope to train one or more worship leaders for Godly Play this spring. Come visit a classroom and join the explorations of our children. Thanks to Tom King, Jean Compton, Giovan King, Caroline Cruz, and Mary Ann Lentz for storytelling and to assistants Morgan Barnes, Launa Pasen, Theresa Valadez, Lillie Holzach, Jessica Lee, Josie Holzach and Jennifer Lee.

### **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT-GIOVAN KING**

We were blessed with a full crew of children and youth participating in our pageant this year. If you've caught the pageant in the last two years, you may notice a few changes. Nonetheless, the beginning of the greatest story ever told still has all of its vital elements and is filled with wonder. We thank Jean Compton and Mary Ann Lentz for helping with the 2024 pageant.

### **MIDDLE KINGDOM FAITH ADVENTURE – PRESTON LENTZ**

2025 marked a continuation of MKFA, the Sunday program for our 10-12 year olds. The first year we studied WHERE we worship, the various parts of the church and the meaning for each one. We also learned about the four symbols of the Evangelist which are Angel (Matthew), Lion (Mark), Ox (Luke), and Eagle (John). In 2025 we considered WHAT we believe and WHY. . . . .They are truly an engaging and fun group with whom to work.

### **YOUTH – PRESTON LENTZ**

During 2025 our Youth Group continued to participate in the life of the parish in our monthly meetings, by participating in Parish Work Days, by serving a meal during the Adult Lenten series, and by continuing the Banana Bread Ministry baking Banana Bread for members of the parish who might be unable to get out or need some support. Their work with the Youth Service in November was dedicated and impressive. We are truly blessed by such a dedicated group of young people.

### **WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY – GIOVAN KING**

Bible Study meets weekly on Thursday mornings. This past year we studied select books of the Bible, as well as “God is Not One,” by Boston University Professor Stephen Prothro. The group decides what it will read, and there is no homework or advanced preparation necessary. If you’d like to join us any Thursday, you are very welcome. We begin at 10 am in the Rector’s office, and frequently go to lunch together after Bible Study.

### **EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY – TOM KING**

Education for Ministry is a program put out by Sewanee Theological Seminary. St. Christopher’s has participated in this program for over twenty years. This year we have seven members in Education for Ministry, who meet on Saturdays from 2:00 to 4:30 pm in the library. This is a class that one signs up for in the fall. It is a four-year program but members do not have to take it every year. You make a one-year commitment at a time. Year One covers the Old Testament. Year Two covers the New Testament. In Year 3, members study about History of Christianity, and Year Four engages folks in the study of Theology. There is considerable reading and an opportunity through sharing autobiographies, discussion and other activities to get to know one another very well and grow in one’s faith

**LENTEN SERIES – THE REV. PRESTON LENTZ** - The Lenten Class for 2024 was "In the Grip Of God" which focused on how the fundamentals of Golf aligned with the fundamentals of Faith. The group worked on grip, swing planes, course management, all relating to how the "grip" of God enables us to manage the round of our life. The final class involved hitting practice balls all over the parking lot (with only one into a neighbor's yard) and ended without injury. In the Grip of God, indeed!

## **CARE OF COMMUNITY**

### **ENDOWMENT OUTREACH GRANTS – OUTREACH COMMITTEES**

The outreach committee continues St. Christopher’s support of these organizations that support our community and beyond: World Central Kitchen (feeding those in need worldwide, including Maui), Camp Mokuleia, Windward Boys & Girls Club, G.A.P.S. of Aloha Council (Gifted and Physically Disabled Scouts), Aloha Diaper Bank, 808 Cleanups (clean up projects the Youth group have participated in), Maui Food Bank, Inc., and A Cup of Cold Water (the Episcopal outreach to the Maui houseless) Thank you to all who nominated these wonderful organizations! Gift requests may be made at any time on our website, under “Share God’s Love.”

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Over the course of the second half of 2024, St. Christopher's participated in the Community Service program sponsored by the Circuit Court which enables individuals to reduce the number of community service hours apportioned by the Circuit Court. Two selected individuals spent several hours a week at St. Christopher's cleaning, polishing silver and brass, vacuuming the Nursery and classrooms, and providing other physical assistance to our grounds. The program was very successful both for us and for the individuals. We are looking forward to continuing our participation in the Community Service Program.

### **CHARLES' GAME NIGHT– CHARLES AND ERIC MUELLER**

This St. C's tradition, a product of a rainy Family Camp, involves multiple families and their guests rolling dice, playing cards, and laying dominoes! Charles looks forward to continuing to host this fun but competitive event in 2025 as a way to bring multiple generations from both services together for fellowship and to offer all of us a chance to invite a friend to church!

### **HEALTHY MOTHERS/HEALTHY BABIES – GIOVAN KING**

We are so grateful to Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies for once again visiting our campus and offering the newest COVID vaccine, flu shots, and shots for RSV. They are a wonderful organization.

### **BEACH MASS AND PICNIC - REV. GIOVAN KING**

We are so blessed to live where we can enjoy a beach mass and picnic every fall. This past year was another great one. We all heard a Godly Play story about Jonah's adventures in a boat, a large fish, and finally following God's direction that Jonah bring God's message to the Assyrian city of Ninevah. Food after the service, most of it potluck, was excellent and it was a great day for the beach, which many of us enjoyed, too. Thank you all who were in attendance!

### **STAYCATION AT CAMP MOKULEIA – TOM KING**

We shared our May Staycation weekend with St. Clement's, another church that has a long history of enjoying Family Camps up at Camp Mokuleia. 2024 marked our fourth year experiencing one of the camp's Staycations. It is run entirely by the staff. They handle registration. We continue to have angel funds available, thanks to the generosity of our parish. And folks were able to sign up for all kinds of things, like kayaking, zip-lining, movies, swimming in the pool, art projects, and more. We also enjoyed s'mores at the campfire and had great entertainment there! Giovan led our worship on Sunday with a Godly Play story, in which the kids seemed quite engaged. This next year, we are looking forward to at least one baptism in the ocean!

## **THE DIOCESE AND NATIONAL CHURCH**

We thank Walter Beh, Jean Compton, Christina Lee, and Larry Stamey for serving as our delegates to Diocesan Convention this past fall. Preston Lentz and Bill Carpenter are on the Investment Committee, and Sharon Billingsley continues to volunteer with the Diocese. Mary Ann Lentz helps head up "Spice," a gathering of clergy spouses and partners. Tom King remains on the Board of Directors for Camp Mokuleia. M. Giovan was recently invited to join a National Board that works with the canons of the Episcopal Church.

**St. Christopher's Balance Sheet  
December 31, 2024**

ASSETS					
			Current Assets		
Total	10100 Checking - FHB	139,391			
	10200 Checking - FHB	1,984		Other Current Assets 500	
	10600 Pacific Century Endowment Fund (as of 09/30/2024)	388,035		Total Current Assets	
	Total Checking/Savings			529,410	
	Other Current Assets				<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>
	11300 Accounts Receivable				\$ 529,910
	12200 Prepaid Expenses				<u>529,910</u>
	19900 Other Asset (69N Kainalu Prop. Mngmt Reserve)	500			
LIABILITIES & EQUITY LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities					
	20000 Accounts Payable	1,402			
	21500 Security Deposit - Rentals	8,055			
	24500 Salaries Payable				
	23000 Prepaid Rent				
	25000 Pension Fund Payable	2,542			
	26000 GET Payable	619			
	Total Current Liabilities			16,858	
Long Term Liabilities					
	Total Long Term Liabilities				
	Total Liabilities			16,858	
NET ASSETS					
Funds					
	31000 Unrestricted Funds			(7,171)	
	Total Funds			540,014	
	Net Income			(26,962)	

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S 2024 BUDGET  
AND 2025 BUDGET APPROVED BY VESTRY JANUARY 16, 2025**

	A	B	C	D
1		2024 Approved	2024 Actual	2025 Approved Budget
2	<b>Income</b>			
3	<b>Pledges &amp; Offerings</b>			
4	Pledges	\$ 152,000	\$ 129,582	\$ 152,000
5	Donations (non-pledge)	\$ 25,000	\$ 12,068	\$ 25,000
6	Prior Year Pledge	600	-	550
7	Seasonal Offering	2,500	2,532	4,500
8	Plate	<u>4,000</u>	<u>3,288</u>	<u>4,000</u>
9	<b>Total Pledges &amp; Offerings</b>	184,100	147,470	186,050
10				
11	<b>Other Income</b>			
16	Misc. / Other Income	-	274	-
17	Facility Use Rental	113,000	98,100	113,000
18	Less: Repairs & Property Tax	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>
19	Total Facility Use Rental	111,500	98,374	111,500
20				
21	<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>111,500</u>	<u>98,374</u>	<u>111,500</u>
22	<b>Total Ordinary Income</b>	295,600	245,844	297,550
23				
24	<b>Property Income</b>			
25	Senior Center	15,300	14,376	16,400
26	Less: Repairs & Property Tax	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>
27	Total Senior Center	15,000	14,076	16,100
28				
29	69 North Kainalu	34,020	31,185	34,020
30	Less: GET, Repairs & Property Tax	<u>6,000</u>	<u>8,180</u>	<u>6,000</u>
31	Total 69 North Kainalu	28,020	23,005	28,020
32				
33	Apartment 93A North Kainalu Drive			
34	Rent Income	26,000	18,535	28,600
35	Less: GET, Rep. and Prop. Tax, 93A North Kainalu Drive	<u>2,000</u>	<u>1,134</u>	<u>1,500</u>
36	Total Apartment 93A North Kainalu Drive	24,000	17,401	27,100
37				
38	<b>Total Property Income</b>	<u>67,020</u>	<u>54,481</u>	<u>71,220</u>
39	<b>Total Operating Income (Ordinary + Net Rental Inc.)</b>	\$ 362,620	\$ 300,325	\$ 368,770
40				
41				
42				

## (2D PAGE OF BUDGET, ETC)

	A	B	C	D
1		2024 Approved	2024 Actual	2025 Approved Budget
43	<b>Expense</b>			
44	<b>Care of Parish</b>			
45	<b>Worship</b>			
46	Guilds,Acolytes,Ushers,Greeters	\$ 50	\$ 256	\$ 250
47	Director of Music	25,000	18,419	25,000
48	Payroll Taxes	2,964	1,429	2,800
49	Music Materials	500	40	500
50	Supply Priests	200	-	200
51	Soloist	100	-	100
52	Vestry Expenses	<u>200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
53	<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>28,814</b>	<b>20,144</b>	<b>28,850</b>
54				
55	<b>Christian Education</b>			
56	Children,Youth and Adult Education	500	325	400
57	Nursery,Childcare Expense	2,600	1,395	2,000
58	Payroll Taxes	240	39	200
59	Continuing Education Expenses - Clergy	<u>500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>
60	<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>3,840</b>	<b>1,759</b>	<b>2,700</b>
61				
62	<b>Total Care of Parish</b>	<b>32,654</b>	<b>21,903</b>	<b>31,550</b>
63				
64	<b>Care of Community</b>			
65	Diocesan Assessment	30,491	27,950	29,454
66	Theological Education Offering	1,000	-	600
67	Convention	700	880	900
68	Fellowship & Hospitality	1,100	1,412	1,300
69	Family Camp	<u>50</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50</u>
70	<b>Total Care of Community</b>	<b>33,341</b>	<b>30,242</b>	<b>32,304</b>
71				
72	<b>Care of Sacred Space</b>			
73	Utilities (Water,Sewer,Elect, Trash)	17,000	21,830	23,000
74	Telecommunications	3,000	2,566	2,800
75	Maintenance & Repairs/Sexton Supp	13,000	8,576	10,000
76	Alarm System	1,200	872	1,200
81	Insurance	33,000	33,692	37,000
82	Sexton Salary	24,000	21,091	24,000
83	Payroll Benefits, Sexton	<u>2,448</u>	<u>2,133</u>	<u>2,400</u>
84	<b>Total Care of Sacred Space</b>	<b>93,648</b>	<b>90,760</b>	<b>100,400</b>
85				



## (3D PAGE OF BUDGET, ETC)

	A	B	C	D
1		2024 Approved	2024 Actual	2025 Approved Budget
86	Care of Parish, Cty & Sacred Sp			
87	Advertising	250	100	200
88	Leased Equipment	4,699	6,469	6,700
89	Technology Equipment	1,000	1,037	1,000
90	Office Supplies & Postage	2,500	3,001	2,500
91	Bank Charges & Other Fees	200	139	150
92	Rector Salary/Housing	107,471	98,515	111,119
93	Rector SECA	8,222	7,537	9,205
94	Clergy Pension	20,825	19,089	21,658
95	Rector's Auto Allowance	8,561	7,848	8,561
96	Clergy Cell	600	306	350
97	Clergy Health Insurance	2,500	2,116	2,200
98	Parish Administrator	25,000	25,194	26,000
99	PA Tax and Benefits	7,250	3,656	2,000
100	Workers Compensation	2,300	2,406	2,000
101	Directors & Officers Insurance	360	266	300
102	Bookkeeper	6,000	9,461	8,000
103	Unemployment Taxes	150	(151)	50
104	Payroll Expenses	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,839</u>	<u>5,000</u>
105	Total Care of Parish, Cty & Sacred Sp	202,388	191,828	206,993
106				
107	Total Ordinary Expense	<u>382,031</u>	<u>334,732</u>	<u>371,247</u>
108	Total Net Operating (Ordinary + Net Rental)	\$ 589	\$ (34,407)	\$ (2,477)

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED FUNDS SUMMARY**

	Type of Fund	Balance as of 12/31/2023	Income	Expenses	Balance as of 12/31/2024
	Designated Funds				
31200	Altar/Flower Guild, Usher Fund		4,241	\$ 943	\$ 3,883
31250	Outreach Endowment Interest Distribution	8,544	4,502	5,300	7,746
31255	Outreach Supplemental Distribution Fund				
31300	Family Promise Fund	500			500
31350	Music Fund	3,366	2,551	1,411	4,505
31400	Organ Repair Fund	2,075	7,675	9,565	185
31450	Memorial Fund	6,058	755	998	5,815
31550	Birthday Thank Offering	1,215	2,587	1,715	2,087
31600	Youth Group Savings	154	1,058	313	899
31625	Priest Associate Fund	1,907	150	637	1,420
31650	Technical/Equipment Fund	4,411		938	3,473
31750	Capital Improvement Fund	(20,600)		13,217	(33,817)
31775	Mary Ann Knerr Fund		137,775	531	137,244
31800	Angel Fund (Camp Ministry)		400	1,615	2,809
31825	Gen Endowment Interest Dist.	11,906	9,322		21,228
31850	Pastoral Care Fund	4,065	500	4,065	500
31875	Rector Housing Endowment Interest Fund		6,169	6,169	
31880	Godly Play	266		150	116
31895	Anniversary Fund	555			555

**Notes**

**General Endowment Fund:** established by Vestry in 2003, with unrestricted gifts from members. It's principle and interest, may be used for any purpose, at the discretion of the Vestry. Note: some Capital Improvement Funds are currently held in the General Endowment Fund.

**Outreach Endowment Fund:** established during a Capital Campaign in the 1980s. Income generated is to be used to assist non-profit organizations for outreach purposes.

**Rector's Housing Endowment Fund:** a restricted fund established in 1991 to help the Rector with the purchase of a home, mortgage and/or rent.

**COMMISSIONING SERVICE**  
**(for incoming leaders of the Church)**

- LEADER Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Bless us as we commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to the special ministry to which they are called.
- LEADER (to elected leaders) You have been called to the ministry of leadership in this congregation. Will you perform that ministry with diligence and love of the Lord?
- CANDIDATES I will, with God's help.
- LEADER (to all) Do you accept these persons to be your leaders in the coming year and promise to do all you can to aid them in representing you to the best of their ability?
- CONGREGATION Yes, we accept these persons as our leaders.
- LEADER Let us pray. Lord, enlighten with your grace the Wardens, Vestry members, and Diocesan delegates of this congregation, and so rule their minds that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
- (Taken from the **Book of Occasional Services**)
- 

**Evening Devotion (BCP 139)**

*O gracious light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!*

*Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

*You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.*

A Reading

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake.

For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

*Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others*

The Lord's Prayer

The Collect

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: NEW BEGINNINGS

1 Come join us now as we dream and plan our lives,  
Seeking ways to serve the ones we love.  
There are so many things we want to do  
And with God's grace we can share the world anew.

And it's a new beginning when the Lord begins to call,  
It's new beginnings for us all.  
And it's a new beginning, time to worship, time to pray.  
There are new beginnings ev'ry day.

2 Sometimes the pressures of the world collide,  
Jealousy and hatred divide,  
But then the power of our faith comes in,  
When we're called to new beginnings once again.

3 Let's come together and we will all begin  
As we look ahead, beyond, within,  
Receiving strength, abiding in God's Word,  
For ourselves, for one another, for our Lord.

(Text: ©1984 Giovan Venable King, Tune: ©1984 Parker McDonnell)

