



# Talk Story



*St. Jude's Episcopal Church—Where Jesus talk is a daily walk.*

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Original artwork by Debbie Johnson

## Through Christ we are made anew!

By Debbie Johnson

At first our faith is often small, a seed, really, with infinite possibilities, but still hardened in its shell, unconvinced of its power. Life gives us no relief and we become smaller and smaller in our minds, withdrawing our potential from the risks of life. Then clinging to the possibility of faith, the possibility of Christ's presence, we slowly unfold and arise from our despair. Each day we commit to Christ, letting go of our delusional control, we release ourselves to His plan. His will be done. With this commitment we are magnified and opened. We bloom into fuller humans at peace with a world that is both challenging and miraculous.!

## Camp Mokule'ia—Summer Registration is Open!

Camp Mokule'ia started offering summer camp opportunities in 1947. Since then, thousands of children and youth have participated and had their lives changed as a result. At camp, children and youth can make new friends, learn new skills, become more independent, experience living in Christian community, and discover God's abundant love. See "Mokule'ia" continued on page 15



# EPIPHANY

BY CORDELIA BURT, BISHOP'S WARDEN

**EPIPHANY** from  
A New Dictionary for Episcopalians

The Feast of the Epiphany is January 6, and the Epiphany season runs from January 6 until Ash Wednesday, (March 6 this year) the beginning of Lent. The liturgical color is white, until after the First Sunday after the Epiphany (January 13 this year), when it becomes green.



Epiphany means “revealing” or “showing forth,” and the Epiphany season begins with the showing forth of Jesus (the extension of his ministry) to the Gentiles, specifically to the wise men of Matthew’s Gospel, who are the first to know of his divinity.



Epiphany thus proclaims Jesus as Savior of the whole world and prepares for the proclamation that the church is the new people of God, with God’s promises of salvation now applying to all the peoples of the earth.



## Around the church yard

By Contributing Editor Don Hatch

**Keiki Christmas Party:** St. Jude's annual Keiki Christmas party took place on Saturday, December 15 in the lower parking lot. At the same time the community was also hosting a free Christmas event for children and we had a much better turnout this year with the two events happening at the same time.

As we were getting ready to start our party, one of the coordinators from the party in the park came to our party and asked what we had planned for the kids. I told him and he said I'll let the folks know what is happening at St. Jude's.

It was a great success! We had 108 children join our party and many of them were with their parents; so, we were busy and crowded, but everyone had a wonderful time. Our event was organized into four stations.



**Admission was free at the Keiki Christmas ticket office.**



**Two-year old, Geneva didn't want anything to do with Santa, but her big brother George was ok with him.**

At the first station, each participant received a book containing three tickets and they got a flower stamp on their hand.

The first ticket was entry into **Rudolph's Reading Room** where they each picked out three books to take home with them. We gave away 324 books at this party.

The next ticket let them visit **Santa and his elves at the North Pole**. Santa and

**See "Church Yard" continued on page 19**



## Groovin' with the Grazing Girls

By Karen Pucci

**Another trip to California.** And yes we ate like piglets the entire time. This was an extended trip for us of almost 4 weeks. Besides grazing, we also visited museums and saw a live show featuring Leonard Bernstein's music. We had rain, unseasonably cool weather, sunny days, an earthquake (same day as the Alaskan 7.0 er), a defective rental car and just a lot of chaos. We almost missed our plane to come home. Long story. We met with friends, some of Anna's family, some of my family, some work buds I had not seen since before we left California and a newly wedded couple whose wedding we had to forego. We're exhausted from our vacation.

And did I tell you we ate like piglets the entire time? We returned to old faves and found a few new good ones.

I almost burned down our condo cooking on a crappy BBQ. Meat kept catching fire, serious fire, and flames were shooting up everywhere. As it happened, there was a Christmas parade going on down the street. We entertained-and likely scared-the passer-bys with our flambé. I gave up after a few near misses with the roof and into the oven it went. Worked out just fine.

We celebrated another lovely Thanksgiving Day hosted by **Dennis and Nancy Maynard**. Their children handled most of the cooking again and they do dishes too! Cuisine was outstanding! We ended up having a couple of meet ups with them that were just plain fun. They send their Aloha to us all.

We did not find any decent Mexican food but we were not really on the hunt. However, we found some great margaritas at this place in Palm Desert called **Armando's**. We have eaten there before and it was so so, but their drinks will get you to kick off your shoes and dance on the table top! We also tested Pacifica's, an upscale seafood restaurant in Palm Desert. Food is wow!

One of the highlights of the trip was this pizza joint we found in Indio, called **Your Pie**. They have adopted the Chipolte model of allowing customers to choose their toppings as they move along an assembly line. They give you a choice of several doughs including a gluten free one, base sauces besides tomato, toppings. Because the pies are all no more than 10 inches and thin crusts, they bake up pretty fast. All that for less than \$10 a pizza. Pizzas were quite decent. Lots of young families there besides us old coots. I have heard that other pizza places are doing this as well. I don't see it working here but it sure piqued our interest.

Our other find was the **Napa Bistro** in Napa, of course. This was a delightful discovery, compliments of our pal who lives near there. They do a nice breakfast. They have a varied menu that would please just about anyone and they were fairly busy when we were there. I had a Dungeness crab egg scramble and there was a lot of the real thing crab in it. In fact, I stuffed myself silly with the **Copia** complex is now run by the Culinary Institute of America (CIA). They are changing the emphasis from wine to food. We think it will work in the long

**See "Winterfest" continued on page 23**



Talk Story

# Sports

by Cynn timer Salley, Talk Story Sports Correspondent

## FOLLOWING THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

Editor's Note: *Max Unger, #60 plays Center for the NFL New Orleans Saints. He is the grandson of Cynn timer and Ray Salley. Max grew up on the Big Island and lives here during the NFL off-season.*

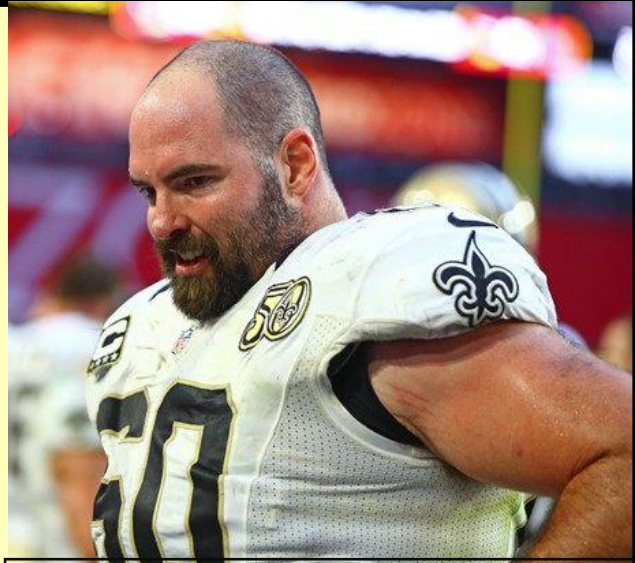
### FOLLOWING THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD - WEEK 14

11/19/18 & 11/20/18 & 11/21/18

Recovering from the joy of winning so handily yesterday. A great game! These have been days of relaxation and rest. Cyn timer and Keith arrived on Tuesday along with a slew of friends...Cyn timer's running group. So they have been busy seeing N'Awleans and eating and drinking in the French Quarter. Ray and I laid low...not only because we can't keep up with them but also because we were in the middle of a puzzle...got our priorities straight! Tomorrow is a big game!!

11/22/18

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL! Because of the game, we were not going to have a Thanksgiving groaning board...in fact, no Thanksgiving dinner at all. The kickoff was at 7:20 pm...what a horrible time to have a game. So, I hightailed it to the Deli and bought some sliced Turkey, some stuffing, some cranberry sauce and some soft squishy white bread just for me, as none of the others were interested!! I already had the mayo, which was



**Max Unger, #60 Center  
New Orleans Saints**

***Oh when those Saints,  
Go Marching in....  
To NFL Playoffs!***

the other necessary ingredient for my day -after-Thanksgiving sandwich! And, that's how I started my day...coffee and a turkey sandwich...giving thanks for my many families and friends...those I love so

**See "Saints" continued on page 17**



# FEELIN' GROOVY

BY BUFFY HITES

I seriously thought this article would never come to be. It's been a whirlwind month and today is actually a day I've not been looking forward to. It's very sad and yet filled with great possibilities. My dear friend, Michelle is leaving for California this afternoon and I am so gonna miss her.

I met her via Vin. I've brought Michelle to St. Jude's on several occasions and she and I had fun. Vin referred to Michelle as LBFH which basically is and nicely put means Little Brat From Hell. Which for a bit I didn't understand. Vin and Michelle go way back while I only had a couple of years. I'd have never thought she and I would build such a beautiful friendship.

Michelle turned out to be one of my best friends and my biggest fan. She was there while I was writing my "Showered story," crying right along with me and telling me how great it was. We shared many tears. Good or bad she was there and I knew I could count on her.

The nickname, LBFH did not sit well in my head and at first, I didn't think we'd hit it off. She had a reputation of takin' no crap and not being afraid to say what's on her mind whether folks want to hear her or not. But it seemed to take forever before I saw her pitch a fit. I think she was easy on me cause she knew I'd had heart surgery. She didn't think my heart could talk her attitudes.

She may have been right as I truly never saw her act anyway near what I'd heard tell of. I questioned her roommate as to where this name LBFH came from because frankly I just wasn't seeing that chic. I'd met the heart ap-

proved version but her roommate guaranteed I'd understand soon enough. My thought was whatever and that the roommate probably deserved it.

As God would have it, I got to see what happens when one tries to pull a load of crap on my little friend Michellikins. Wowsa! I do however, believe she was just speaking the truth where others let it go. I was proud of her and her tantrum.

I've wanted to have the nerve many times to say what's on my mind. I've always been kind of a sissy when it comes to confronting folks on bad behavior or their mistreatment of people including myself. I actually kind of admired the way Michelle spoke up; although sometimes she did get carried away with reading people the riot act.

Michelle was always so willing to chill when I asked or begged. She and I are both bull headed but I was older so yeah me. If I needed her, she was right there building me up and pointing out my merits rather than my failings. Michelle's energy has been described as that of a spider monkey with which she agrees suits her. I have noticed a chill girlfriend when we've hung out. Sometimes the three of us talk the night away on many occasions. Actually no occasion was needed we just dug each other and music and life as it was for the most part. At any rate this friendship has been such a positive experience I feel so very blessed by the opportunity God gave me when he sent her to me. She has been my angel for sure.

**See " Groovy" continued on page 16**





# NEW BEGINNINGS

BY CINDY CUTTS, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As I sat down to begin laying out the pages of this issue of Talk Story, I was stunned to realize this is our 61<sup>st</sup> issue! Five years, twelve issues per year, and with this issue we begin a Volume Six. When I look back at the early issues of Talk Story, I'm so proud of how our editorial staff has grown as writers and how their contributions have developed into a following. We have received many positive comments about the variety of topics and monthly columns shared and how our guidelines keep the publication positively reflecting on the church. Five years ago, I designed the first issue of Talk Story; a new beginning for St. Jude's.

When I created the masthead for this issue of Volume Six and the year 2019, I paused to think about the drama of the past year here in Ka'u. I had heard that those in the District of Ka'u were historically known for being a rugged group, but as I reflected over 2018 I had to chuckle at just how rugged we all have been, living here on the southernmost region of the U.S for the past few months.

We started in January 2018, with an official notice of a nuclear missile about to hit our state. That turned out to be a hoax, but it did test the psychological mettle of most of us. By spring we had a volcano

erupting less than 100 miles away, which also handed us a 5.9 and a 6.9 earthquake, just to be sure we were paying attention. The folks of Ka'u managed to not become "all shook up" with all the ruckus, remained calm and endured the ash and gunky air that occasionally polluted our sky.



Ash dusted flowers quickly wilted.

But being passionate about gardening and wildlife, that event was tough for me.

See "New beginning" continued on page 9



## Flavor of the Month The Rev. Tom Eklo

Serving St. Jude's through February is  
The Reverend Tom Eklo.



### **St. Jude's Annual Women's Bible Study Brunch**

Women's Bible Study's annual Christmas brunch was December 17th. A festive gathering filled with joy, silly games, sparkling bracelets, great food and wonderful fellowship was hosted by Beverly Nelson.



# New beginning

## Continued from page 7

Plants died, bees and birds left and butterflies disappeared from the garden. As I was grieving the loss of my potted plants along the lanai, weather forecasters offered an advisory of major hurricanes headed our way. I was asking God, "What happened to our little piece of Paradise?" This was not the Hawaii I signed up for!

And then, the volcano died, the air cleared, the hurricanes skipped by without a breath and almost instantly, we had our old Hawaii back. Clear, clean skies, quiet nights of stars so bright I could reach out and touch them. Flowers began thriving, fruits and vegetables growing heartily, and the bees, birds and butterflies returned to the garden. It was glorious to watch plants literally rise from the ashes to grow again, and to hear that annoyingly cheerful cardinal sing his incessant song early in the morning.

It was a new beginning that exploded a cacophony of color in my garden, with bright red geraniums, tender hot pink impatiens and bold purple petunias, cobalt blue lobelia, sunshine yellow marigolds, hibiscus in a rainbow of colors to complement the fragrance of orange and yellow roses and fluffy white alyssum. It was all woven together with vivid forest green vines, ferns and bushes on the carpet of soft lime green grass. Bordering it all was a large stand of green and white milkweed plants, strategically planted to bring back the Monarch butterflies. Wild

"balloon plant" milkweed, along with domestic milkweed and Hawaiian Crown Flowers all recovered to be host to several Monarch butterflies, who graciously trusted me to watch over the eggs laid on the milkweed leaves. By the end of November I had hatched over 50 butterflies on the garden milkweed plants.

It was a new beginning in summer, much the same as the new beginning we have ahead in 2019. A new year offers an opportunity to grasp on to the hope of new or better things to come and to move forward. It's a time to fully trust God with those things that I can't change, and cling to the mystery of faith.

It's also a time to think about what I can change in my circumstances and make a plan to make those changes. And much like my flowers or butterflies who had new beginnings this past summer, I too can regenerate my attitude, my energy or even my purpose as I begin 2019. I can resolve to be kinder, more intentional in service, less selfish, more open minded and seek ways to focus on the abundance of what I have, and not on what I lack. It's time to begin, anew.





## WHAT'S COOKIN' AT ST. JUDE'S?

*For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. Matthew 25:35*

### Coco & Lulu's Cutout Cookie Recipe

#### Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups butter, softened
- 2 cups white sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract,
- 1/2 teaspoon butter extract and 1/2 tea  
spoon almond extract
- 5 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt

#### Directions

1. In a large bowl, cream together butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Stir in the flour, baking powder, and salt. Cover, and chill dough for at least one hour (or overnight).

2. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Roll out dough on floured surface 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick. Cut into shapes with any cookie cutter. Place cookies 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheets.

Bake 6 to 8 minutes in preheated oven. Cool completely.

#### NOTES:

If you want a more level frosting surface, omit the baking powder. Cookies will not rise or puff up.



#### Cookie Frosting

This frosting will harden, even in the tropical climate of Hawaii.

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 teaspoons milk
- 2 teaspoons light corn syrup
- 1/4 teaspoon almond extract
- Assorted food coloring

#### Directions

In a small bowl, stir together confectioners' sugar and milk until smooth. Beat in corn syrup and almond extract until icing is smooth and glossy. If icing is too thick, add more corn syrup.

Divide into separate bowls, and add food colorings to each to desired intensity. Dip cookies, or paint them with a brush.



## Chief Justice appointed

Ron Wolff has been appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Hawaii Islands. Ron is a practicing attorney from Skagit County, Washington.

Ron was born in Berlin, Germany after WWII and at age six, crossed the Iron Curtain, eventually immigrating to Manitoba, Canada. He graduated from University of Washington, and earned his law degree at the University of Oregon. His career has included serving as a city attorney, attorney general and in private practice.

Later in 2019, more information will be available regarding Ron's position. Congratulations Ron; we wish you great success in your new position.

## In our prayers...

We offer thanksgiving for the many answered prayers we have received at St. Jude's.

### This month we pray for:

**Kindness, tender-hearted forgiveness and love** in our relationships.

**Healing:** Steve, Phyl, Tammie, Halley, Bishop Elect Kym Lucas, Frankie, Max, Austin, Thom, Brian, Stella, Richard, Pastor Constance, Rev. Doug Coil, Britney, Labra, Chuck, Naomi, Ray, Cynn timer, Amy, Sam .

**Strength and comfort** for all who suffer loss.

**Healing and restoration** of broken hearts, families and relationships;

**Safety for all who are traveling.**

**Safety, wisdom and courage** for all those in protective or public service (law enforcement, firefighters, emergency responders, military personnel, teachers, administrators, clergy, civic leaders);

**For protection from natural disasters, violence and tragedy** and restoration of lives forever impacted.

**For those who have vandalized our church, stolen our resources and harmed our outreach missions**, turn their hearts toward more positive choices and give us wisdom to minister to them and offer better solutions to their problems.

**For more volunteers**, willing hearts to support the shower ministry, the Saturday soup kitchen and the computer lab.

**Blessings and encouragement** for the leaders of St. Jude's and for the many volunteers who keep our church operating.



	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Noon	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM
<b>Monday</b>		<b>Senior Nutritional Program</b>							<b>Hula Practice</b>		<b>NA</b>		<b>AA</b>	
			<b>Women's Bible Study @ Bev's 10:00 am</b>											
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>Food Bank</b> (setup & Divide food)			<b>Food Bank</b> Monthly Last Tue.									
<b>Wednesday</b>		<b>Senior Nutritional Program</b>							<b>Brownie Meeting</b>				<b>NA</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>		<b>Hula Practice</b>								<b>Al-Anon</b>		<b>AA</b>		
<b>Friday</b>		<b>Senior Nutritional Program</b>							<b>St. Jude's Events</b>					
		<b>Men's Bible Study @ McKinney Place</b>							<b>Band Practice</b>					
<b>Saturday</b>		<b>Free Hot Shower</b>									<b>AA</b>		<b>NA</b>	
		<b>Free Hot Lunch With Shower</b>												
		<b>Computer Lab</b>												
<b>Sunday</b>		<b>St. Jude's Eucharist Services &amp; Aloha Poluok Social After Services</b>						<b>Marshallese Full Gospel Church</b>					<b>Marshallese First Assembly of God</b>	
	<b>Indicates this is a St. Jude's Function</b>													
	<b>AA = Alcoholics Anonymous NA = Narcotics Anonymous</b>													

# St. Jude's Weekly Schedule



## *ST. JUDE'S O'HANA SUPPORTS RECOVERY*

BY PHYL LAYMON

I started a three week journey on October 30 that now has no end in sight! Or at least the journey has been extended indefinitely. I couldn't have made it this far without my wonderful O'hana here at St. Jude's!

Don't they say when we humans make plans, God laughs? My "plans" included a simple 3-week shoulder replacement on my dominate left side—so I stocked the pantry, hired a house sitter for three weeks and checked myself into Kona Hospital. It all unraveled from there.

When the block came out of my arm and my mind was back from la la land I discovered my wrist and "writing" hand were totally paralyzed. No one had mentioned that possibility so it was one heck of a shock.

I cried! Buckets! And fear made a painful knot in my gut! Still there! The surgeon's face was not reassuring as he told me that the radial nerve was stretched during the surgery and that it would take awhile for that nerve and some other nerves to regenerate. Like one 16th of an inch a day! That quoted "awhile" keeps getting pushed out further and further with each doctor visit! As the suggested deadlines of; one day, one week, one month have passed it has

been harder and harder to keep my spirits high! Now, they are saying it could take six months.....

It is a major challenge to learn to do normal everyday chores without your dominate hand — and many many things are impossible. That is where my St. Jude's O'hana has stepped into the gap.

Mother Cordelia has been a saint. Beverly has cooked me a dinner every night and Don has delivered it— piping hot— at 5 pm — along with my mail. He patiently opens every envelope and package before he leaves. And also what ever jar or bottle has defeated me during the day. Cindy Cutts turned my roughly one finger typed Christmas letter into something worth sending—and printed them out — all in the middle of packing for her Mainland flight the next day. While creating that magic, she was baking a week's worth of custard cups in my oven for my breakfasts — and organizing my life so I could survive on my own!

Our Women's Bible Study group brought my 83rd birthday party to me— with cake and all. The best present was our Tammie, climbing my back stairs to participate! Her first steps since her ALS diagnosis. She is a survivor!

**See "Recovery" continued on page 22**

# Shower Day



The last Saturday of the Month

The next Bingo Day is January 26th  
9 a.m. to 11:00 am.

## January Dates To Remember

5th Lemonade Party

6th Bishops Committee

11th Spaghetti Feed

26th Shower Bingo 9 to 11 a.m.

27th Annual Church Meeting

29th Ka'u Food Pantry

### Happy New Year

May every  
moment of this  
year would be  
unique, filled with  
pure pleasure  
and each day  
comes out like  
exactly what you  
want...  
Happy New Year.

**2019**





## Keiki Christmas 2018

108 happy keiki  
Dozens of happy volunteers  
One exhausted Santa



## Camp Mokule'ia

### Continued from page 1

We are already excited about our 2019 Summer Camp season! In addition to 3 weeks of camp at Camp Mokule'ia on Oahu we are offering two weeks of camp on outer islands (one on Maui and one on the Big Island). We are expanding the activities we offer at Camp Mokule'ia to include paddle boarding and outrigger canoeing. We are hiring 8 summer camp

counselors that will be here all summer and will spend a whole week in training before campers arrive.

We hope to see your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighborhood children, or anyone else you think would benefit from a week of fun on the North Shore at Camp Mokule'ia in 2019!

Registration is open so don't hesitate to go ahead and register to secure your spot!

<https://www.campmokuleia.org/>

## January Birthdays

7th Beverly Nelson

13th Cynnie Salley

16th Brian Stewart

17th Brian Marsh

20th Tina Fowler

27th Deborah Johnson



## January Anniversaries

1 Thom White & Bud Sherfield

19th Gabe & Yolanda Morales

21st Richard & Cordelia Burt



## Groovy Continued from page 6

We spoke in lyrics from time to time. Michellikins rocks at song lyrics and loves to belt out her tunes. She's not half bad vocal wise; always full of energy with something to say. I'm gonna miss these moments as she is at this moment boarding a plane headed to a new adventure in her life. She needs this adventure although it's not near me. She's been a staple in my life. I cannot stop my stream of tears just yet. It would be selfish to keep her here where I can see she's a bit stifled. Michelle is ready to live and share her spirit with others and so I must share her. I am really sad that she's leaving me but I know she's bound for doing her thing and who better than her family to do it with. She looking forward to spending her time with the folks that love her, although I have no doubt that she's never gonna have a groovier friend than Buffywood.

O Lord this is so hard for me. Please heal the loneliness as I wait to hear from her. Great things are out there and I hope she finds them all. All I can say Michellikins, we're gonna miss you little buddy, mahalo and God bless!

Keep me in prayer folks, as I readjust to life without her close by.

Aloha,

*Buffy*



Volunteers are always needed in the St. Jude's kitchen. Join the fun and get involved!

## **Saints** continued from page 5

much...and for the bounty that allowed me to have a turkey sandwich and for the wonderful things that have come my way and for all of the little things that fill my heart...I am so blessed and so grateful!...

We went off to the game...Ray and I decided to have "dinner" in our seats at the stadium before the game started...so we got that out of the way before the team marched on to their 10th victory in a row!! Wow !! Again, Max played so very well and it was a nice win. We didn't get back to the Condo until after 11:00...I had taped the game, so we watched part of it before I crashed...Keith watched to the end.

11/23/18 & 11/24/18

Well, we didn't go shopping on this most horrendous shopping day of the year!! In fact we didn't do much of anything except watch the game again on TV!! Went out to dinner with Cynda, Keith and all of their friends as it is their last night in N'Awleans. Max and Leah joined the group as well and a good time was had by all.

The gang all left at the crack of dawn. Only one of them was staying with us in the condo. Cynda and Keith decided to change rooms, so there was lots of laundry happening here. Then in the early afternoon, we went over to babysit while Leah and Max went Christmas shopping. Cynda took over all of the makings for a gingerbread house. So, the gluey icing and the various candies were flying around. Cameron's mantra seemed to be "one for the house and one for me"!

By the time it was finished, it was well covered!! After naps, the rest of the group went out walking in the neighborhood until Leah and Max came home. We had dinner there and then came back and went to bed

11/25/18 & 11/26/18

Two days of cleaning up and packing to go to Dallas.

11/27/18

We were up early to do the last minute jobs and then we schlepped our bags out to the car. Thank goodness for Cynda and Keith!! Then, over to Leah and Max's to pick up Leah and the two girls. Into the car went their bags, including travel snacks, books and other entertainment paraphernalia.

Then the two car seats, then the babies into their car seats and then the five adults. And then...we were off and running!! We thought it best to break up the drive to Dallas, so we headed for Natchitoches (pronounced Nak' a Tish) which is half way. It was a five hour drive, which included potty stops and a lunch stop. We checked into our hotel, a really sweet little Inn in the middle of town.

Natchitoches is a wonderful Louisiana town; quaint with that old time feeling. During the Christmas season, the river front street and bridges are lit up to the nines...the kids were enthralled. We took a horse and buggy tour of the town, which again, was really fun for the kids...and us as well! It was time for bed

**See "More Saints" continued on page 18**



## More Saints

### Continued from page 17

when we returned to the Inn. Unfortunately, they didn't have cribs...so Elliott wandered around crying for half the night. Poor Leah!!

11/28/18

Had breakfast at the Inn; it was included with our room and then loaded up again for the second leg of the trip. Again, it was about a five hour drive with stops here and there for various reasons. We found our Hampton Inn and checked in. We actually were in Arlington which is between Dallas and Ft. Worth. Discovered that there was a shuttle service to the stadium, so we were set for the next day/night. Leah ordered our dinner via Uber...a new experience for me and very handy. Hampton Inn did have cribs...so it was to bed early for all of us, except Cynda and Keith who went to the airport to pick up Laysan.

11/29/18

GAME DAY !! We all did various things after breakfast. There was a pool at the hotel which of course was a magnet for the kids. And down the street was a playground. Ray and I took it easy. Keith went off to do business and then after lunch, we waited for the shuttle. In the meantime, Ray woke up with gout...not a good thing considering the walking that is necessary at stadiums, but he toughed it out. We were there before the gates opened, so we waited patiently. Finally we could go in. Entry is worse than going through TSA at the airport. We found our seats and scoped out "Jerry's Palace". It is quite a piece of architecture. They opened the roof and the glass doors which are 180' wide and 120' tall after we were seated. Well, as you all must know, the game was horrible. Our offense just didn't have it together. They had played three games in eleven days, which is extremely taxing. Cynda, Ray and I left early so we could get the stadium shuttle to the stop where the hotel shuttle was to meet us. What a great service!! Made it back and cried ourselves to sleep...LOL!!

11/30/18

Keith left for Kona early in the morning and we

had an early exit from Dallas as we all decided that we were going to go all the way to NOLA. We dropped Laysan at the airport on our way and headed out on our 10 hour drive...actually more like eleven. It was hard on the babies, but they were really good, considering. We stopped often, to stretch, then back in the car seats. The last few hours, Elliott was very cranky and she finally was allowed to escape her strap down and sit on her Mom's lap. We made it in one piece. Everyone was happy to see Max. We unloaded and then came back to the condo, where we schlepped our bags back in and crashed into our comfortable beds.

12/1/19 & 12/2/18

Laundry, laundry, laundry...at least it seemed to be that much. We unpacked. Ray and I went to Urgent Care to try to deal with his gout and his cough. Chest is fine and gout takes time...so there it is. Cynda went with Max and family to pick out their Christmas tree and a tiny one for the condo...I mean tiny...maybe two feet tall including the stand. Cynda and I went to Walmart, where she bought craft things to make ornaments with Cameron...like lots of glitter. We spent some time at Leah's and then came back to get Ray, as we went back to Max and Leah's for dinner. Max cooked stuffed pork loin...yummy! I have had mail order Christmas Presents sent to Leah's, so we brought them over to the condo and schlepped them in. Now to store them, wrap them and schlep them back!!!

Went to church today...Annunciation...a small parish with a diverse congregation. Not only was it the first day of advent, but it seemed to be stewardship Sunday and we listened to a good presentation by one of the members. Cynda took me and picked me up. Ray is laying low until the swelling goes down and the pain goes away in his ankle! He's getting better.

Cooked some soup, watched football, cheering for the Buccaneers...they won, which kept the Panther's behind us still, in the division standings and then to bed!

END OF WEEK FOURTEEN AND FIFTEEN.

See "More Saints" continued on page 24

## Church yard

### Continued from page 3

his elves gave each visitor a Christmas stocking stuffed with gifts. There were also head bands, bracelets, and pencils that they could select as gifts.

This year there were several young children and many of the parents were taking pictures of their children with Santa.

The last ticket was for admission into **Mrs. Cringles' Kitchen** for Christmas cookies and something to drink.



Santa photo opportunities were a big hit at the Keiki Christmas party.



In addition to something to eat and drink I noticed that some of the elves in that booth were also providing baby sitting services, but were reluctant to give them back to their parents.



Christmas bracelets were fun.

**Computer Lab:** Since I was busy helping Santa I wasn't available to help with

See 'More church yard' continued on page 20

## More church yard

### Continued from page 19

the computer lab last week. But our Computer Lab Intern Jasmine Arguello did a great job of running the lab by herself.

One of our regulars in the computer lab is Daden Mello and I have mentioned several times about how he likes to help people in the lab. Last Sunday I asked Daden if he would help Jasmine in the Lab and he said yes. When I arrived at the church on Saturday I started unloading things for the Keiki Christmas Party he and his brother Dashon Mello were waiting for me. They unloaded the Computer Lab supplies. So, our Computer Lab Intern has begun training two future lab interns, ten year old Daden Mello and twelve year old Dashon Mello. We are so grateful for the way the youth have embraced ownership of the lab and how they have become stewards of the computer lab and its resources.

**Advent:** Usually in the Episcopalian church you don't sing Christmas carols until Christmas Eve, but this year, during Advent, Cindy Cutts or Dan Garrett have been singing a solo Christmas carol while the offering plate is being passed around. Although, it isn't always solo because the congregation sometimes sings the carol with them. Both Dan and Cindy welcome the additional voices to the Christmas carols.

**Mobile Spay and Neuter Clinic:** The Hawaiian Humane Society had their mo-

bile working in our lower parking lot on Monday, October 8th. They are open from 7:30 am until 4:00 pm.

The Mobile Spay & Neuter Waggin' will be at St. Jude's Episcopal Church on Mon. **7th Jan, 2019 (7:30 am - 4:00 pm)** Hawaii I Humane Society strives to make spay and neuter accessible and affordable for the Big Island, Hawaii residents. Low-income pet parents and those with limited transportation qualify for their free spay neuter service in their new, state-of-the art **Mobile Spay & Neuter Waggin'**.

Services they provide are spay or neuter surgery, nail trim for an additional \$5 per animal with spay/neuter surgery, Microchip for an additional \$10 per animal with spay/neuter surgery, Hawaii County dog license, available for \$2.10 per animal with spay/neuter surgery.

Surgery is done by appointment only.

You can make an appointment at [www.HIHS.ORG](http://www.HIHS.ORG)

If you don't have access to a computer, or don't have the computer skills needed to make an online appointment, **NO PROBLEM.**

Every Saturday from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm we have an open computer lab at St. Jude's where you can make an appointment. If you need help understanding how to make the appointment, we can help you with that.

See "More yard" continued on page 22



## Ka'u Food Pantry Distribution January 29th

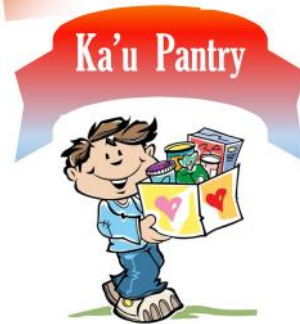
Ka'u Food Pantry, Inc., next distribution is **TUESDAY, January 29, 2019** at St. Jude's Episcopal Church on Paradise Circle-Mauka, from 11:30a-1:00p or until the food runs out, whichever comes first. We ask all of our participants to respect the grounds where this will be held. All dogs, including service dogs, must be on leash and out of the way of foot traffic. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed, beginning at 8:30 a.m. on that Tuesday. For more information or for emergency food, please call Dave Breskin at 808 319 8333.

We are expanding our services to include [based on availability] free clothing provided by a non profit, Big Island Giving Tree, pet food provided by the Hawai'i Humane Society. These items are donated to the Food Pantry, free of charge.

The Ka'u Food Pantry, Inc., is staffed entirely by volunteers and is a nonprofit agency whose mission is to feed the hungry of Ocean View. We are currently feeding up to 120 families. Our program is designed to provide 1-3 days worth of nutritious food to help people who run short of money, benefits and/or food by the month's end. As a nonprofit, the Pantry is

Feeding the Hungry

21



Last Tuesday of each Month  
St. Jude's Episcopal Church

able to purchase food from the Hawaii Food Basket at 18¢ per pound. One dollar can buy a half of a case of food to help your community.

Donations of non-perishable food items and funding are welcomed. You may donate funds via St. Jude's-just write Food Pantry in the memo area of your check. Checks maybe written directly to the Food Pantry as well. Make the checks payable to the Ka'u Food Pantry, Inc., P.O. Box 6184, Ocean View, HI 96737. Your monetary and food donations may be deductible pursuant to I.R.S. Code §501 (c) (3). Mahalo nui loa for all your support.



## Recovery

Continued from page 13

That's where I am today—in survival mode. Therapy is my newest challenge and my hardest — not just physically — but humility wise. I have to ask people to drive me two times a week— taking 3 hours out of their day! For I don't know how many weeks! That is so hard for me to do. So, I am learning far more important lessons than just being proficient without a very important limb. I am learning to be humble. I am learning to be patient. I am learning to trust that St. Jude's will always have my back.

There are so many people to be grateful for: the many who went out of their way to visit me those lo-o-o-ng 28 days in LifeCare, the ones who pop in for a cuppa and a chat now that I am home, for everyone who calls on their way to town to see if there is anything I need. I

love you all! You are my angels here on earth! Mahalo and Aloha! Phyl

## More yard

Continued from page 20

### Upcoming Events:

**Spaghetti Dinner:** Our January fundraiser is a Spaghetti Dinner which will be held on Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

Doors open at 5:30 pm and we will start serving dinner at 6:00 pm. Dinner includes Spaghetti, Spaghetti Squash, your choice of Red Sauce or White Sauce, Meatballs, Salad, Drinks, and Dessert.

Prices are \$8 for a single, \$15 for two, and \$20 for a family.

This has become one of our favorite fund raisers for the community and for the folks preparing and serving the food, and you can't beat the price for a great meal. For the folks making and serving the food, it is a fairly easy meal to prepare.

We cook the spaghetti and spaghetti squash and add the sauces as it is served. The only ingredients that take much time to prepare are the sauces and meat balls.

See you there!

**Mardi Gras** dinner is usually our February fund raiser. It is normally held on the first Friday after Ash Wednesday, which is March 6<sup>th</sup> for, which means Mardi Gras should be on March 8<sup>th</sup>. If there are other community activities on the same night we have been known to shift our events to the prior or next Friday. We'll let you know as soon as the date has been set.

Dinner including Jambalaya, Red Beans and Rice, Cornbread, Drink, and Dessert. Doors open at 5:30 pm and dinner will be served from ~6:00 pm until 8:00 pm.





**Thom & Santa make a good team.**



## Winterfest

Continued from page 4

run. We were treated to a eclair baking class. Interesting but don't get any big ideas about us doing deserts. We're sticking to Jell-O. We stumbled upon chef Julia Davison from the America's Test Kitchen TV show on PBS. She was doing a kids cooking class at Copia. About swooned. We love that show, Julia and her cooking partner, Bridget. Always learn something new and interesting.

We did return to our mecca, **D's Giant Burgers**, in Rodeo. When we lived in the west Contra Costa County, that was our go-to burger place. Never failed us. Ever. So we went back. The son whom

we watched grow up over the 30+years we lived out there now manages the place and it is still the bomb. It is the best burger on the West Coast. And everyone remembered us too!

And one last thing. This something you can only obtain in the Bay Area during the holidays, **Bud's Eggnog**. OMG! It is so thick, rich and creamy, you can hear your arteries slamming shut when you have a slosh of it. I have yet to have had anything even close to this product. We also made a quick trip to **Napa Valley Olive Oil Co.** up in St. Helena. We got a year's supply of their olive oil.

So that is our Winterfest Tour in CA 2018.



## More Saints

Continued from page 18

### FOLLOWING THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD- WEEK 16

12/3/18 - 12/6/18

It's been a nice week to catch up and take a deep breath before heading out again. Max had 5 days off, although he did go to the facility several mornings for treatment and film viewing. It was Christmas cookie baking and decorating time for Cynda and the babies. Their tree is only half decorated....the top half...the rest will stay bare.

12/7/18 - 12/15/18

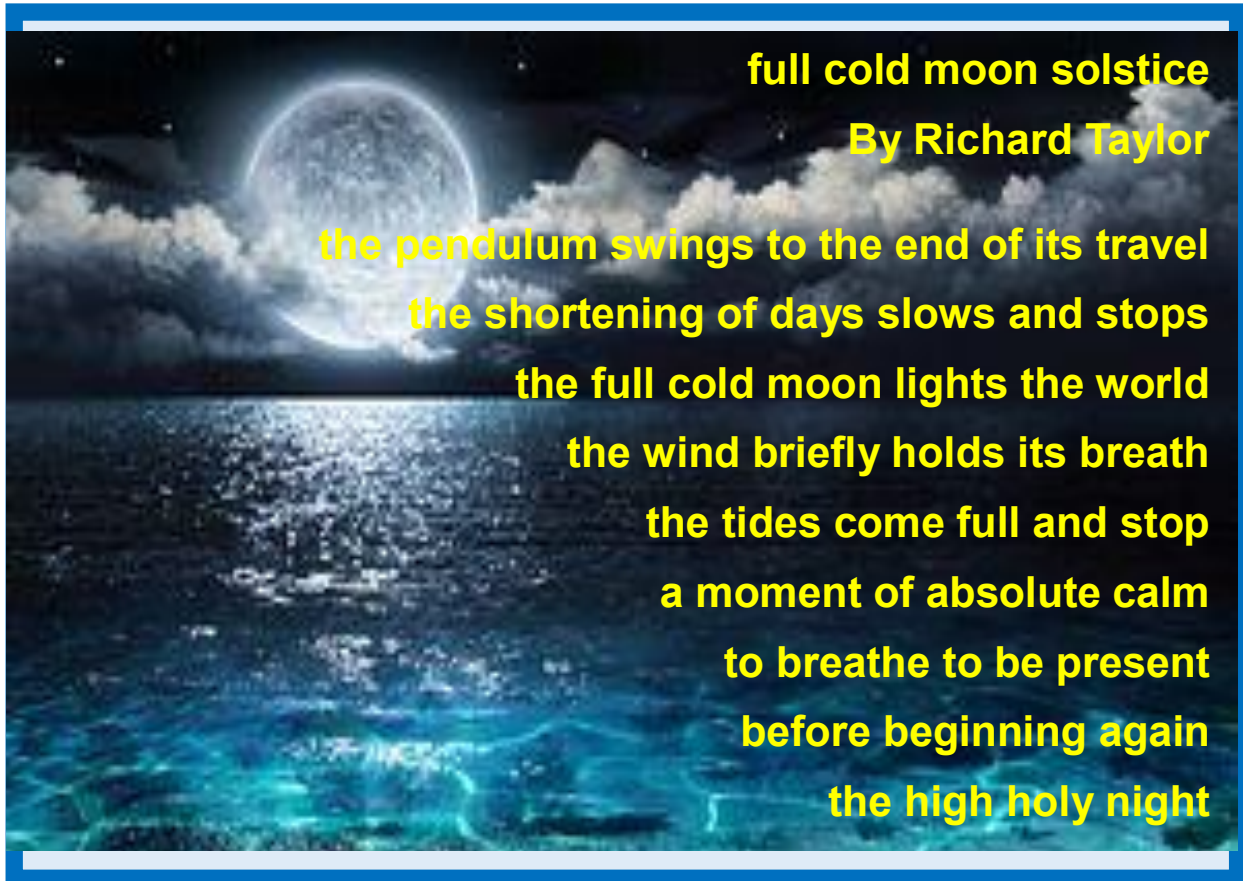
We are on the road again, headed to Tampa Bay. Today, we will go until we're ready to stop...probably Tallahassee... Well, Tallahassee is where we stopped. Had dinner and turned in. It has been a day of reflection on Pearl Harbor, realizing that there aren't too many of us that can keep the memory alive. Off to Tampa Bay the next day. Checked into our hotel and found out how we could best get to the game the next day. Went down the street for dinner and then back to bed. On GAME DAY, the shuttle service worked very well and the second half of the game went well, as well!! We met Max by the busses along with a whole crush of people. Once he came out, we could go on the other side of the fence. We met old time friends there, who came down from VA to see the Saints play. It was the daughter of Alice Babin, who had been the Rector at Christ Church. She was there with her wife and it was wonderful to see her again. It had been much too long, and to meet Susan, her wife. They had their pictures taken with Max and were thrilled to be there. We

caught the shuttle back to the hotel and then met Kai and Susan for dinner, down the road. On Monday, we drove down to Naples to see Ray's sister, Marilyn. Hadn't seen her since we went to a Tampa game two years ago. We had a wonderful time with her. Had dinner at the diner and spent the night not too far away. Had breakfast with her at another diner and then headed up to St. Augustine, the oldest city in America. The city goes all out at Christmas time with little white lights everywhere, so we jumped on the tourist shuttle and took the light tour which was quite impressive! It's another quaint southern town so we stayed two nights there before heading off to Savannah. Two nights there as well. We stayed in a wonderfully renovated old hotel. Friday, it rained all day, but we braved the storm with our umbrellas and walked around town. These historic cities are so interesting and have such depth surrounding the beginning of our nation. Charleston was next and it too is so full of American history; very much the "George Washington slept here" feeling. We spent one night in Charleston before heading out for Charlotte. We needed to get there by noon, as Keith was arriving there then. As it turned out, his plane was late leaving Kona and so the rest of his connections were discombobulated...however he finally did arrive.

12/16/18 - 12/17/18

Our hotel in Charlotte could not have been any closer to the stadium...right up my alley! We Ubered to a few good restaurants and then walked to the "Monday Night Game." It was, a horrible game on many counts...the first and foremost was Max's mild concussion. And then, the

**See "Concussion" continued on page 25**



## **Concussion**      Continued from page 24

offense didn't play well...thank goodness for the defense, who saved the game and it was just plain and simple, an ugly win...however, a win is a win and it gave us home team advantage in the playoffs. Also, the previous day, there had been a lot of upsets which worked in our favor. Keith and Cynda went to see Max after the game and Ray and I walked back to the hotel and went to bed...these night games don't get over until almost midnight...END OF WEEK SIXTEEN.

Our next few weeks will be interesting, football-wise, as the play offs begin. The Saints have a bye week the first week...that is when the wild cards play. The following week, we will have home field advantage and will play one of the wild card winners. The other wild card winner will play the #2 team. We also have home field advantage for the second playoff game against the winner of the other NFC leg. The winner of that game will go to the Super Bowl...and play the winner of the AFC.

**Editor's note:** *Week SEVENTEEN - On December 23, Max was cleared by the NFL concussion protocol to play. The Saints won the game against the Pittsburg Steelers, which secured the Number One Seed in the NFC playoffs and a home field advantage. YEAH!*



*Cynn timer and Ray will head to Southern California for a family birthday and then back to New Orleans for the playoffs. Good luck to Max and **Go Saints!***

## The Bishop's Christmas letter 2018

My dearest Sisters and Brothers in Christ Jesus,

There is a meme floating about the internet with variations of the following theme:

Want to keep the Christ in Christmas,

Feed the hungry,

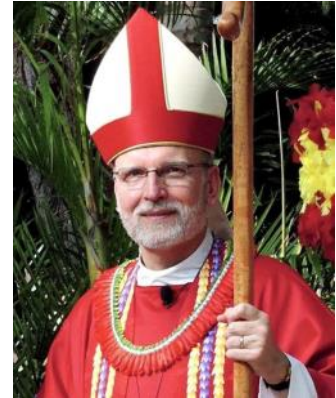
Welcome the stranger,

Comfort the afflicted,

Care for the outcast,

Forgive your enemies,

And share with all love, joy, and peace.



The words are often shared with a picture of a Nativity scene or an icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The point is to debunk both the foolhardy notion that there is a “war on Christmas” in 21st century America and the materialistic focus of the season. It is a call back to the teaching and very person of Jesus Christ, the Incarnate One.

My reading of the Christmas story in Luke’s Gospel this year reminded me just how radical we Christians are called to live. The late William Stringfellow (1928-1985) – Episcopalian, attorney and insightful lay theologian – suggested that:

The manger scene itself is a political portrait of the whole creation restored in the dominion of Jesus Christ in which every creature, every tongue and tribe, every rule and authority, every nation and principality is reconciled in homage to the Word of God incarnate. Amid portents and events such as these, commemorated customarily in the church, the watchword of Christians – “peace on earth” – is not a sentimental adage but a political utterance and an eschatological proclamation, indeed, a preview and precursor of the Second Coming of Christ the Lord, which exposes the sham and spoils the power of the rulers of the age. [William Stringfellow: *Essential Writings* (in the *Modern Spiritual Masters Series*), edited by Bill Wylie-Kellerman (Orbis Press, 2013), pages 52-52]

The political nature of our Christmas faith that Stringfellow suggests is not an endorsement of a party, a politician, or nationalism. At its core, in fact, it is the rejection of faction or party, a rejection of the power of the rulers of our age as a source of salvation. We yet live in a limited and broken age. As Christians, however, we

**See “Bishop’s letter” continued on page 27**



## **Bishop's Letter - continued from page 26**

see the world through the eyes of Christ Jesus and strive to live – in our limited ways – in the world as Jesus describes in Luke 6:20-26 (during the “Sermon on the Plain”):

Jesus raised his eyes to his disciples and said: “Happy are you who are poor, because God’s kingdom is yours. Happy are you who hunger now, because you will be satisfied. Happy are you who weep now, because you will laugh. Happy are you when people hate you, reject you, insult you, and condemn your name as evil because of the Human One. Rejoice when that happens! Leap for joy because you have a great reward in heaven. Their ancestors did the same things to the prophets.

“But how terrible for you who are rich, because you have already received your comfort. How terrible for you who have plenty now, because you will be hungry. How terrible for you who laugh now, because you will mourn and weep. How terrible for you when all speak well of you. Their ancestors did the same things to the false prophets.”

Because at Christmas we know God as a displaced infant born in a stable (Luke 2:1-7) who is driven from his homeland by the oppression of a wicked ruler (Matthew 2:13-18), we see the world differently. In the story of that first Christmas, we see that all – like the shepherds – are welcome in the presence of the “Prince of Peace.” In our Christmas celebrations, we have a hint of the joy of sharing and possibility of love. It is limited and it is partial, but it is a beginning. It is a hint of the world as it should be, and a foreshadowing of God’s realm of justice and peace.

It is in Jesus Christ that we personally know the God described in Psalm 146:6-9:

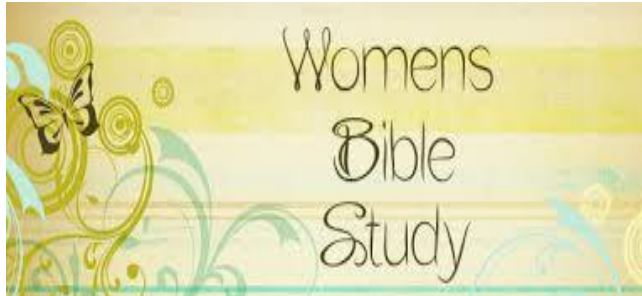
God: the maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, God: who is faithful forever, who gives justice to people who are oppressed, who gives bread to people who are starving! The LORD: who frees prisoners. The LORD: who makes the blind see. The LORD: who straightens up those who are bent low. The LORD: who loves the righteous. The LORD: who protects immigrants, who helps orphans and widows, but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn!

By knowing God in Jesus Christ, we can live into that vision of the world. Each Christmas, we are invited to kneel at the manger and live into the promise of “peace on earth.” In our celebrations, we can learn again to share and to care for others.

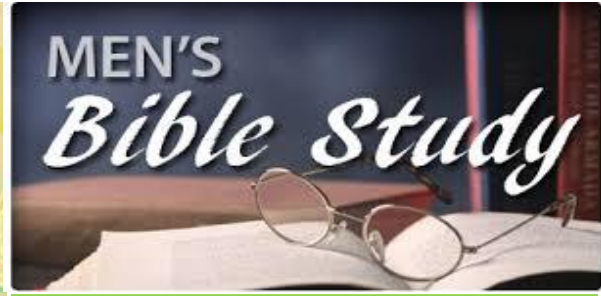
I pray that we all have a joy-filled and peaceful Christmas!

Mele Kalikimaka!

+Bob



**Mondays at 10 a.m.  
Beverly Nelson's Home**



**Fridays at 9:00 a.m.  
McKinney Place**



## Lemonade Party

January 4, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Monthly Church Clean up

## Talk Story

A monthly news magazine published by St. Jude's Episcopal Church  
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Uplifting, informational and reflective stories, news,  
recipes, photos, memories, etc.

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Photos must be submitted as jpgs & emailed as attachments.

Submit via email to: [cynthiaanncutts@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiaanncutts@gmail.com)

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