

Grab your tool belts! Work Day at Christ Church on Saturday, June 26! It's time to spruce up our beautiful campus. Contact Bob Foerster @ 328-7345 for details.

Heidi Edson Reflects on Seminary Experiences, the Future

Aloha!

It's hard to imagine that three years of seminary has come and gone. Even though there were stretches of the road that seemed unreasonably long and straight, much of this part of my spiritual journey was exciting with winding roads and some ups and downs. My classmates and I came to CDSP expecting to learn the answers to questions about Christian ministry and faith in God we all professed to have. However, instead of the clear-cut answers to our questions, we received something much better: an ever-increasing curiosity about God and God's work in the world. Through our professors plus the rigorous learning environment at CDSP, many of us left CDSP with even more questions than those we started with. Life and study at CDSP challenged our existing perceptions of God and of the Church in general. Reflecting back on these past three years, I am awed at what the Lord has done for me and for others in my class. As a result of my study and worship there, I feel I have acquired a deeper and more rounded Christian

faith despite the uncertainties that presented itself at times.

At the Baccalaureate dinner on the night before Commencement, all of us graduating students were given the opportunity to say a few words about our time at CDSP. When I was given the microphone, I shared my story about how, at my arrival at CDSP, I felt I already had some answers. But now that I am getting ready to leave, I take with me some questions. In fact, the more things I learned, the more the questions popped up. I also shared that I thought this was a good thing and that it was probably where God wanted me to be at this juncture. I think it takes faith to live the questions. To have moments of doubt is a very human quality, I believe. But God asks us to go a step further and to ask the questions that are lodged in our heart. God stands ready to listen and to engage us in our quest for a better understanding.

I leave CDSP with some nostalgia knowing that I will not be returning in the fall. Doug and I arrived back in Kona on the 27th of May and I am

still in the process of replanting my feet on Hawaiian soil. We are excited about what lies ahead for both of us. Actually, we're not one hundred percent sure what the Lord has in store for us after my ordination to the transitional deaconate, but even this uncertainty is exciting in itself. What is certain in this transitional phase is that God is present with us on this exciting journey of faith. I am grateful to each one of you for your prayers and support for us in this adventure.

In the meantime, I am thrilled to be home again at Christ Church where I feel I can relax a bit and be myself among you. I'm having a grand time catching up on the news and worshipping with my church family. Here's to looking forward to more wonderful times together (at least until we leave).

Blessings,

Heidi Edson

ECW Notes...

The ECW met at the Queen Emma Community Center on May 11th. The meeting was opened with a prayer read by Beryl. Susan Lee read the minutes from the April meeting. Glenda gave the Treas-

urer's report and we collected for the Periodical club.

Under Old business we discussed the upcoming rummage sale, the delightful picnic held at Green Gecko Farm to welcome Father Dick and Pam, the pot luck

for Heidi to be held after the 2nd service on June 13th and sign ups for Refreshments and flowers.

New Business was the resignation of Susan Lee as Secretary and the election of Connie Zahalka to that office. Susan's email address is susanruthlee@gmail.com

There will be no meeting in June or July and we will meet again on August 10th.

Beryl Spalding
President.

Christ Church
Episcopal

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Father Dick's Reflection (continued from page one)

called to the extraordinary work of the Church.

This is the time when, in the absence of major feast days (and their accompanying secular distractions!) we are free to go forth into the world intentionally "to love and serve the Lord."

It is during these days of summer and early fall that we forge the strong bonds of fellowship in our congregation. Although we often look to this time of year for a respite from the flurry of activities that comes with the return of our snowbird friends, a quick look at the calendar reveals a host of events. In the coming weeks, Christ Church will host a *Murder Mystery Dinner*, *Taize*, and *Choral Evensong*, to

name but a few. Additionally, several special programs for young folk are in the planning stages.

Though we may think of Christmas and Easter as times when we are especially called to reach out in Christ's name, we must remember during Ordinary Time that we are called to reach out at all times. Those special gifts of food and clothing are certainly welcome during the major holidays, but hunger has no sense of the calendar, and the homeless seek shelter every day of the year.

Ordinary Time? Maybe so. But certainly not ordinary people!

Blessings to all,

Fr. Dick

Notes from the Church Mouse...

Hello from Roland and Hildi Vieira. We will be on the mainland for a few weeks celebrating a grandchild's high school graduation, our 50th wedding anniversary, and four family birthdays plus a family 4th of July. We will miss Heidi's special celebration, and the Mystery Dinner, and so many things. However, you will be in our prayers. See you when we return.

Aloha, Roland and Hildi

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