SEEKING PRIEST-IN-CHARGE (PART-TIME)

The Episcopal Church on West Kaua‘i is one congregation worshipping on two sites, St. John’s in ‘Ele‘ele and St. Paul’s in Kekaha. For the past several years, the church has relied on a system of temporary clergy who stay for two months at a time. They are now seeking long-term leadership and wish to engage a Priest-in-Charge part time, approximately 19 hours weekly.

Expectations

- Celebrate and preach two worship services on Sunday, 8:00 at St. Paul’s and 10:00 at St. John’s. (The two churches are about 10 miles apart).
- Celebrate additional services scheduled for Christmas and Holy Week.
- Call on elderly members and those in need of pastoral care
- Prepare candidates for marriage, baptisms, and confirmation.
- Periodically lead small group series for Christian formation. This can be done via teleconference.
- Preside at monthly meetings of the Bishop’s Advisory Committee.
- Stay in contact with the Diocese of Hawaii to help us fulfill our Diocesan obligations, with appropriate participation in Diocesan committees and events.
- Involvement in the local community: potential organizations include The West Kaua‘i Ministers Association, Habitat for Humanity, feeding programs with Salvation Army and Kaua‘i Economic Opportunity and the KANAKA Hawaiian Charter School in Kekaha.

Congregation

There are about thirty pledging families. Average Sunday attendance in normal times is about forty people, split between two services, one service at each site. Parishioners represent a broad range of cultural and ethnic backgrounds.
History

The work of the Episcopal Church in ‘Ele‘ele began with the ministry of Captain Henry Hamilton, a Church Army worker who was sent by Bishop Littell in 1933. Services were held in the community hall, on the site of the present parish hall of St. John’s. In 1940 the church was built out of stones from McBryde Sugar Plantation with labor by the boys of the Kalaheo Vocational School and their instructor and principal, Mr. Frank Pugh. Later, the Vicarage was built by the same boys. The founding members of St. John’s were mostly Japanese American workers in the sugar industry. Some of these families are still active in the church.

St. George window honoring WWII veterans

During the mid-20th century, sugar companies began to recruit more workers from the Philippine Islands, particularly from the province of Ilocos Norte. Many of these Ilokano-speaking families currently attend the Episcopal church on West Kaua‘i. Up until the Covid-19 epidemic of 2020, an Ilokano language Eucharist has been held monthly at St. John’s.
Episcopal services were held in homes in Kekaha as early as 1916. Land was granted by the Territory of Hawaii in 1928 for the purpose of building a church and/or school. St. Paul’s Church in Kekaha was consecrated November 10, 1946 and became an established mission in 1948.

**Annual Salary & Benefits:**
Compensation will be commensurate with Diocesan norms for part-time work. Housing is included as part of the compensation package. Please contact Canon Sandy Graham for more information.

*St. Paul’s Vicarage*
Housing
The vicarage at St. Paul’s, Kekaha is a large, one-story building with three bedrooms, two baths, laundry and storage rooms and a couple of “bonus” rooms. The house was built in the 1940’s. The interior has been remodeled recently and has up-to-date appliances and furniture. A covered lanai provides an airy space for meeting, dining and entertaining.

A virtual tour of the vicarage and churches of West Kaua‘i can be found at https://youtu.be/LMqR7etiMv0

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