



# Christ Church Cathedral Catedral Iglesia de Cristo

*The Grapevine*

NOVEMBER 2013

## From The Rev. Harlon Dalton, Priest-in-Charge

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Now that the Rev. Miguelina Howell is on board as the Cathedral's Vicar, several of you have inquired about our respective roles. The short answer is this. As Priest-in-Charge, I have ultimate responsibility for the spiritual life of the Cathedral and for its administration. However, the Vicar and I are truly a ministry team. This means that we share responsibility for overseeing staff, working with the elected lay leadership, designing and leading worship, and communicating vision and shaping strategy. At the same time, we have a division of labor that reflects the classic Vicar/Dean distinction found in many cathedrals. Put simply, Lina has primary responsibility for the day-to-day life of the parish whereas my focus will be on how we engage with Hartford and the Diocese as a whole.

As anyone who has been around Lina can attest, she has hit the ground running and is already in full stride. However, the Cathedral is a truly complex organism, and every story has a back story. Therefore, much of my time for the rest of this year will be spent assisting her in her transition. Then, come January, I will turn my attention to the larger question of what it means for us to be a Cathedral responsive to God's mission within our Diocese in this day and age.

Before putting down my pen, I would like to update you on a couple of financial matters. At its October meeting, the Cathedral Chapter authorized the creation of a Budget Priorities Committee. (Its members are Robert Coykendall, Linda Spiers, Scott Lee, Pat Wrice, Melinda Robidoux, Miguelina Howell, Harlon Dalton, and an additional parishioner to be named.) The purpose of the Committee is to discern and prioritize the Cathedral's program needs for the coming year. Once those needs and priorities have been identified, the Finance Committee will draft a budget that reflects them.

Finally, I am pleased to report that in October we closed on the sale of the house in Bloomfield that was occupied by the previous vicar. It was placed on the market in the fall of 2012. From then until this fall, we did not have a single offer on the property. Following the July Cathedral Chapter meeting, we switched realtors and commissioned a new comparative market analysis. That analysis revealed that because of a declining real estate market in Bloomfield, we needed to lower the asking price to under \$200,000, a figure considerably below what the Cathedral paid for the property in 2004. We then set the asking price at \$199,000, and after a series of offers and counteroffers, sold the house in October for \$183,000. I am exceedingly grateful to Leslie Jones, our Cathedral Administrator, for all her hard work in making this possible.

Harlon+

## From the Vicar's Desk: How Can You Serve?

At Christ Church Cathedral, we are starting a new program year that, with God's help and your passion, gifts and talents, will make a difference in our Cathedral, the Greater Hartford area, and most important, in people's lives.

Our first step is to recruit members to serve on various initial ministry teams. **All members are invited to participate in a planning day on November 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** This will not be a strategic planning session but a time to identify our immediate programmatic, spiritual and formation needs. It will enable us to set a church event calendar from November 2013 to November 2014 to fulfill such needs.

On November 9, teams will pray together, discuss the scope of their work, as well as their mission, hopes and dreams. Please review carefully, pray and meditate for which of the following teams you feel God is calling you to serve.

### Ministry Team Descriptions

#### Stewardship

Stewardship is about being grateful, responsible caretakers of the gifts we receive from God. The tradition of giving back to God and to the church comes from the Biblical practice of tithing, which means to give back a tenth of our earnings (Numbers 18:26). In the Episcopal Church stewardship is more than simply contributing money; it's also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering

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### From the Vicar's Desk

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for ministry and mission. It's about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity.

- **The Stewardship Team** will coordinate the year-round stewardship life of our Cathedral. Its work will include the planning, designing and execution of the annual pledge drive and planned giving programs, among others.

### Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is a model of emotional and spiritual support found in many cultures, traditions and professional practices. In the context of the Christian faith, pastoral care refers to accompanying believers in times of trials, illness, tragedy, joy and success. In this sense, pastoral care can be listening, supporting, encouraging and caring for others in the church and the wider community.

- **The Pastoral Care Team** will ensure that our clergy is informed of any special pastoral need. This team, with the Vicar, will develop and coordinate visits to our homebound members, others with transportation difficulties, and to those who are ill, providing communion and a safe and holy means for them to stay connected to the Cathedral as their community of faith.

### Communications/ Evangelism

Communication is the exchange of information between two or more parties. As Christ's disciples, our mandate is to communicate the Gospel in season and out of season, sharing the Good News of salvation, God's love and the hope of the resurrection. In the 21st century, communication and evangelism work hand-in-hand, as we continue to evolve in a world in which fast-changing technology and social media affect person-to-person engagement.

- **The Communication/ Evangelism Team** will have the task of sharing with the congregation and the world the Good News of Jesus Christ and the many ways in which our Cathedral can live its faith through liturgy, outreach, ministry programs and music.

### Outreach Ministry

Outreach is defined in the secular world as "an activity providing services to populations that might not otherwise have access to those services." Through the lenses of our faith and Scripture, we define outreach as our practical response to God's call to love our neighbors as ourselves.

- **The Outreach Ministry Team** will support our current outreach programs (Church Street Eats, Partnership with Hands on Hartford, Church by the Pond) as well as expand our vision and mission to serve those in need. The team will also work with civic and business leaders and

organizations in collaborative efforts benefiting the greater Hartford community.

### Christian Formation

Christian formation is development "into the image of Christ" of all baptized, but it goes far beyond that. The 2009 General Convention of the Episcopal Church overwhelmingly adopted the Charter for Lifelong Formation, affirming the Church's belief in the importance of formation, in its broadest sense, throughout the lifespan.

- **The Christian Formation Team** will be responsible for shaping our formation process for all ages. The team will design programs and recruit volunteers for bible studies, book discussions and meditation series, among others.

### Hospitality

Hospitality is the art of extending a warm welcome to all who cross our Cathedral threshold—our membership, newcomers, visitors, strangers.

- **The Hospitality Team** coordinates the fellowship time after services and works with the Cathedral's greeters and ushers to foster a culture of radical hospitality. This team will also collaborate with clergy and the Cathedral Administrator in coordinating receptions for weddings, funerals, ordinations, and special events such as the Harvest Festival.

### Worship

Worship is the external expression through liturgy of our adoration to God. In the Episcopal Church, ultimate responsibility for coordinating worship lies with the clergy, which, at the Cathedral, are the Priest-in-Charge and Vicar. Our Priest-in-Charge invited a team of lay leaders to participate in the planning and designing of our collective worship. The Worship Team has been formed and is active. It is coordinated by Peggy Ornell.

All teams will work in consultation with the Vicar and will report to the Parish Committee.

*Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. John 12:26*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

## Planning Day

**November 9, 2013—10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Everyone is invited. Sign up on the sheet in the Cathedral House Auditorium.

## Stewardship Fall Campaign

As we engage in our Stewardship Campaign for 2014, we invite you to discern how you may be able to respond to God's love and generosity through supporting His mission at Christ Church Cathedral and beyond.

Pledge cards are being mailed and will be available in the Cathedral narthex. For more information, please contact our Stewardship Chair, Anne Bartholomew, at [bartholomew9123@aol.com](mailto:bartholomew9123@aol.com) or Vicar Miguelina Howell at [lina.howell@cccathedral.org](mailto:lina.howell@cccathedral.org)

*"For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."* II Corinthians 9:7

### Please mark your calendar

**November 17**  
**Stewardship Engagement**  
**Sunday**

**November 24**  
**Stewardship Commitment**  
**Sunday**

## Happy November Birthdays

Natalie Best  
Carol Bergeron  
Stephen Braithwaite  
Hayley Carusone  
Derek Chmielorz  
Lindsay Chmielorz  
Clarence Coleridge  
Vernelle Davis  
Emily Dingee  
Jennifer Dingee  
Claire Fonseca  
Courtney Hanson  
Ann Henderson  
Elizabeth Jenkins  
Andrew Nelson  
Paul Newport  
Orfa Miriam Ocampo  
Eve Paige  
Nathan Rawlins  
Shyann Sinclair  
Thomas Wassell

## Giving Altar Flowers

A beautiful way to remember loved ones or for thanksgiving for a special blessing is to give flowers to be placed on the altar for Sunday services except during Lent. The Altar Guild arranges them each week. With no endowment fund for such flowers, donations are needed to ensure they will be there every week. The recommended flower offering is \$25.

It's easy to arrange for flowers on a specific Sunday. Forms for doing this are available in the booklet rack in the back of the Cathedral. If you don't have a form, provide the following information in writing to the Altar Guild:

1. Name of the person(s) being remembered. Please print full names clearly.
2. Indicate if the donation is for a thanksgiving. Listing the reason is optional.
3. The Sunday date you are requesting. This information together with your check must be sent at least two weeks before the desired date.
4. Make the check payable to Christ Church Cathedral and write "Altar Flowers" on the memo line.
5. Mail your letter to Christ Church Cathedral, 45 Church St., Hartford CT 06103

Having altar flowers placed on an ongoing basis can be arranged. Send the following information in writing to the Altar Guild: name(s) of the persons being remembered and the Sunday(s) you choose. Here are examples for making an ongoing Sunday designation: the second (or other) Sunday in May; or, the Sunday in May closest to a particular date. A reminder will be sent to you in advance for making the payment. Remember, there are no altar flowers during Lent.

For further information, contact June Aziz, Altar Guild Chair, at 860-563-4028 or email [juneaziz@aol.com](mailto:juneaziz@aol.com)

## Calendar for November

- 9 Parish Planning Day, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
- 10 Uyeki Justice Forum, 11:30 a.m.
- 13 Parish Directory Sittings, 2 p.m.
- 14 Parish Directory Sittings, 2 p.m.
- 17 Stewardship Engagement Sunday
- 19 Soup & Services, 5 p.m.
- 22 Parish Directory Sittings, 2 p.m.
- 23 Parish Directory Sittings, 10 a.m.
- 24 Stewardship Commitment Sunday
- 28 & 29 Thanksgiving Holiday, Cathedral Office closed

## Uyeki Justice Forum Meeting

The renewed Uyeki Justice Forum meets on the second Sunday of the month following the 10 a.m. service. Its focus is topics of injustice such as economic equality, racism, public education and others. Currently the group is reading *Racial Healing* written by Harlon Dalton, Priest-in-Charge of the Cathedral. It's not necessary to have done the reading in order to attend a meeting. You can be assured that all opinions are respected as well as encouraged. If you have been looking for a safe place in which to talk about issues that trouble you as well considering actions to be taken, the Uyeki Justice Forum may be that place for you. For more information, contact Dolores Howard at [howarddynasty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:howarddynasty@sbcglobal.net)

## Cathedral Choir Welcomes Singers

Under the enthusiastic leadership of Joshua Slater, Interim Music Director, the Cathedral Choir is offering a variety of well-appreciated music at the 10 a.m. service. More singers are invited to join those already participating. They are: Erica Jeski, Olivia Miller, Enuma Mokel, Viola Day Mullin, Diane Noyes, David Finley, Hugh Jackson, Glenn Scanlan, Miguel Angel Vasquez, and J. Michael Wells. Also singing are Josh Slater and Deniz Uz, Organist.

Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays 7-9 p.m. in the Choir Room. The Choir also meets Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. Talk with Josh after a service or contact him at [Joshua.Slater@cccathedral.org](mailto:Joshua.Slater@cccathedral.org). All voice parts are needed.

## Helping People in Need

Autumn brings not only beautiful foliage but also colder temperatures, which means turning on the heat. For many low-income families, especially those with young children, having a warm house is not always an option. A report issued by Children's Health Watch notes that such families face a never-ending cycle of hardship. Basic needs such as heat, lights and nutritious food can be competing demands that are often traded off against one another. Research shows that not having enough nutritious food, inconsistent access to utility services and housing that is not stable can result in long-time poor consequences for children's overall health and development.

Not only families with small children suffer. Many seniors face similar risks. An AARP report notes that unaffordable home energy bills pose a serious and

increasing threat to the well-being of the elderly. Deep cuts have already been made or proposed for federal heating and food stamp programs. The challenge for organizations that provide emergency assistance is great, and they will increasingly need to look to individuals for donations.

*Pat Wrice*

*Chair, Parish Committee and  
Executive Director, Operation Fuel  
in CT*

## From the Register

### Marriages

August 2 – Cassandra Marie Douglas and Shawn Lamar Bailey

September 1 – Marleny Monsalve and Juan Pedro Rivera

October 12 – Kari Ann Erman and Terrence Michael Greaves

### Deaths

October 15 – Rosemary A. Fennell

## Harvest Festival at Christ Church Cathedral

A harvest festival traditionally marks the bringing in of crops and the successful ending of working in the fields. At Christ Church

Cathedral, which ministers to an urban society, our Harvest Festival is celebrated in the context of our liturgy, giving thanks to God for all the blessings we constantly receive. Among those blessings is our fellowship with each other.

Our 2013 Harvest Festival will take place on Sunday, November 24, at our 10 a.m. service. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable items to be donated to our Church Street Eats program. They will be presented during the offertory. Examples of needed items are canned or non-perishable packaged food, toiletries such as soap and deodorants, socks, t-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, blankets, and gloves.

A reception following the service will be held in the Cathedral House Auditorium. Our Hospitality Team is coordinating the reception and invites you to bring food to share with everyone. A sign-up sheet for donations will be posted in the auditorium. For more information, please contact Heather Jordan-Greaves at [hylady@juno.com](mailto:hylady@juno.com) or our Vicar, the Rev. Miguelina Howell, at [lina.howell@cccathedral.org](mailto:lina.howell@cccathedral.org) or 860-527-7231, ext. 104



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### Deadline for December issue:

November 15

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