

# Christ Church Cathedral Catedral Iglesia de Cristo

*The Grapevine*

JULY/AUGUST 2014

## FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

The Cathedral Chapter meets quarterly to review the ongoing ministry of our Cathedral and its Parish, and to oversee our finances. At the most recent Chapter meeting, held on July 8, we once again reported on how God's people at Christ Church Cathedral are responding to God's mission in the context of our renewed engagement with the City of Hartford and the Diocese as a whole, and in the context of the ongoing life of our Cathedral Parish.

Our reports included updates on recent connections with Capital Community College, I-Quilt Partnership, Inc., the Urban Alliance, and other organizations with an investment and interest in the development and well-being of the City of Hartford. We also reported on recent events in the life of our congregation including the Canon Jones Award celebration, International Day, the 10th anniversary celebration of Church Street Eats and the 130th anniversary of the Cathedral's choir. Finally, we updated the Chapter on the work of the recently appointed Youth Education Committee and Clergy Housing Committee.

As we shared the accomplishments of the past three months, and all that is on the near horizon, it became evident that we are on a new path. A path described by Bishop Ian as "From Strength to Strength."

The Bishop then laid out for the Chapter some recent changes in the Cathedral's staffing pattern that require financial support in order to be implemented. As noted in a previous article in *The Grapevine*, we have been engaged in a process of recalibrating our portfolios in order to better accomplish our calling to serve God and God's mission in our midst.

As a result of that recalibration and the related reassessment of staff roles and responsibilities, it has become clear to us and to Bishop Douglas that additional administrative support is needed for a discrete period of time. This is because two wonderful things are occurring simultaneously. We are experiencing a remarkable renewal of parish life, and we are poised to launch a series of initiatives that model what it means to be a Cathedral in this day and

age. Our current staffing configuration is sufficient to support one of these purposes but not both.

You have already witnessed the amazing renewal of the Cathedral Parish, which is evident in all areas of our common life, and is marked by increased activity, participation and commitment. One of the consequences of this deepened engagement is that the Cathedral's administrative staff is being pushed to the limit on a daily basis. And we have only begun the exciting work of reconnecting with the City of Hartford, re-engaging the arts, fostering interfaith and inter-religious dialogue, facilitating common mission, and exploring new and exciting ways to serve as a gathering point for the entire Diocese. These outward-looking initiatives fall within the Priest-in-Charge's portfolio, but he cannot be expected to pursue those effectively without administrative support.

It is for this reason that we as the Cathedral's leadership team sought Ian's support for a request that the Chapter approve funding for a new half-time staff position of Executive Assistant to the Priest-in-Charge. Ian readily signed onto the request, and at its July meeting the Chapter approved the funding. This new position, like that of the Priest-in-Charge, is best seen as an investment in the Cathedral's future. The Executive Assistant position is not intended to be permanent. It will sunset at the end of the Priest-in-Charge's tenure in January 2016.

Now that the Chapter has approved the funding, Harlon, as Priest-in-Charge, has offered this position to Leslie Jones and she has accepted it. This is a perfect fit, given Leslie's manifest gifts and her passion for mission. As you may know, for the past five years, she has served as our Cathedral Administrator. Thus, her acceptance of this new position creates a vacancy. Lina, who as Vicar is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Cathedral, including supervision of staff, has posted the position, and is actively seeking to hire a new Cathedral Administrator.

Now that this transition is well underway, we are hopeful and excited about the coming months and the opportunity we will have to fully devote our time and

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## FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

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talents to support the mission and ministry of God in this place and beyond.

As is evident in all that we have described, we are living into an unusual but fruitful model of ministry—a Clergy Team comprising a Priest-in-Charge who oversees our renewed engagement with Diocesan and City life while remaining deeply connected to the worship life of the Cathedral Parish, and a Vicar who oversees the pastoral, programmatic, administrative and liturgical life of this corner of the Kingdom of God. This practice of shared ministry is something we are intentionally modeling for our lay leadership. We are all in this together, to the glory of God and the well-being of this wonderful place in God’s vineyard called Christ Church Cathedral.

An organization chart showing the current

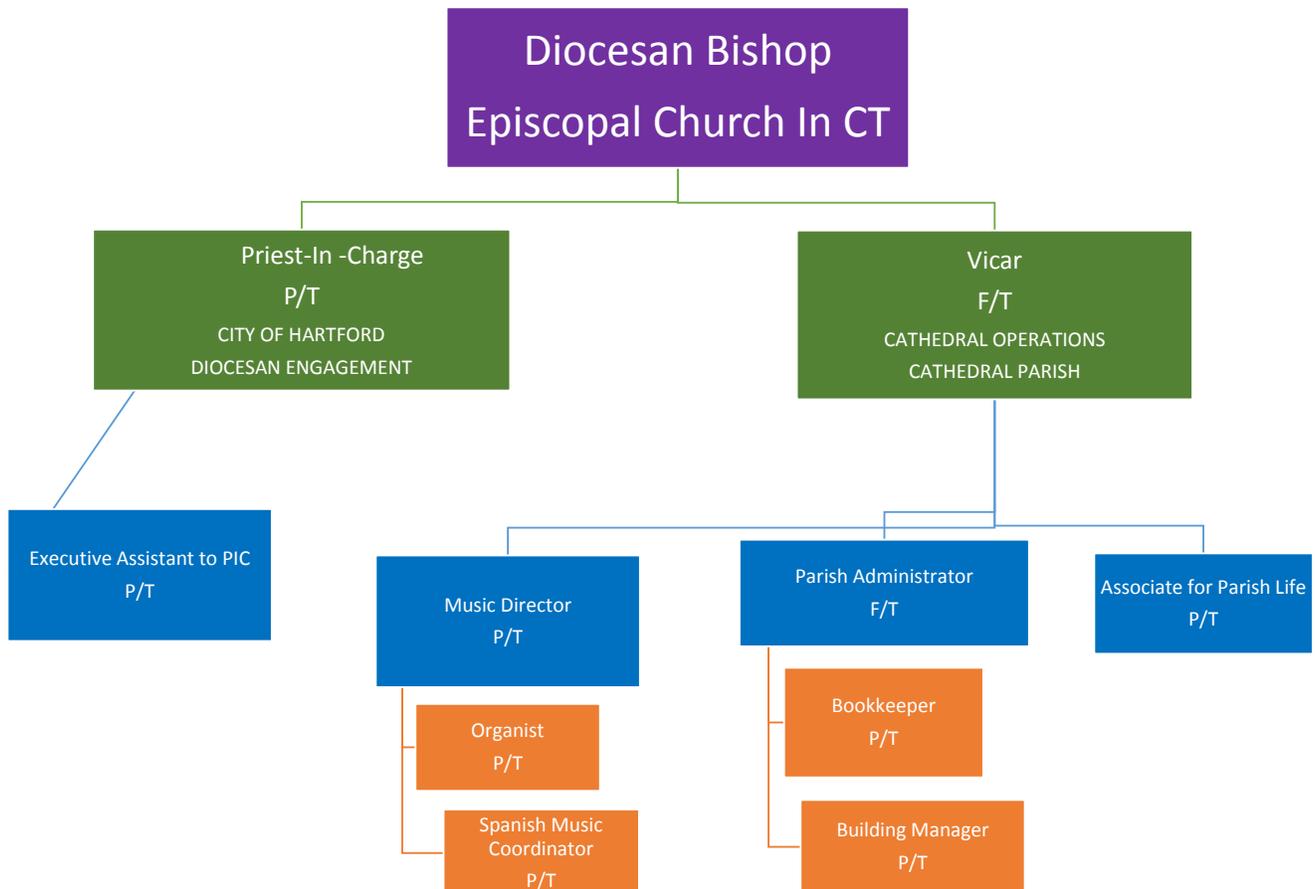
structure of our clergy and lay staff is shared elsewhere in this issue of The Grapevine. Should you have a question about the current shape or the progress of our ministry, please contact us; we will be happy to share the amazing stories of hope and growth God has blessed us with.

Our invitation to you is to be open to the Spirit and trust that God is at the center of our ongoing discernment as we discover and embrace what it means to be a Cathedral in Hartford, in the 21st century, in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

Faithfully, Your Clergy Team

The Rev. Harlon Dalton, Priest-in-Charge  
The Rev. Miguelina Howell, Vicar

### Clergy Leadership Team- Transitional Model



## A Half-Century in God's Service: Meet the Rev. Thomas Beveridge

"I felt the call quite early, certainly by the time I was in high school." For the Rev. Thomas Beveridge, the calling to ministry was true: in June, he was recognized for the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a deacon of the Methodist Church. In 1966 he was ordained an Elder, equivalent of Priest in the Episcopal Church. Since 2006, he has been an Ecumenical Associate at Christ Church Cathedral.

"I am here as associate clergy, able to do anything that clergy do here except to preside at the sacraments. That's because the Episcopal and United Methodist Churches have yet to enact a Full Communion," Tom notes. "I assist in every way possible as a way of bearing witness to the brokenness of the Church and the hope of healing for that brokenness. Healing ministry is one of my roles here—I minister to anyone who comes asking for prayers and anointing for healing."

Tom was born and grew up in Middletown, Connecticut. He is a graduate of Grinnell College, has a Master of Divinity from Drew University Theological School, a Master of Arts in Counseling from the University of St. Joseph, and a Doctor of Ministry in Psychology and Clinical Studies from Andover Newton Theological School. Before becoming ordained, he held a variety of jobs as a student, including as an operating room orderly at Middlesex Hospital in Middletown. "That experience was formative for me in learning to work with people under pressure, and with people who were facing difficult and sometimes scary circumstances."

He served at a number of Methodist churches in Connecticut and New York, including those in Bloomfield, East Windsor, Avon and Rocky Hill. He was also a Resident Chaplain at Hartford Hospital and has spent many years in Pastoral Counseling.

He and his wife Amy became connected to the Cathedral after an invitation from member Rose Fichera-Eagen who knew them. "I have a background as a church musician so in retirement looked for a church where I would find sacramental liturgy in a musical setting of excellence. Amy was a cradle Lutheran and daughter of an Episcopalian mother. After many years in Methodist churches, it seemed fair that it was her turn to make a choice."

"Amy and I have been richly blessed with friends including from the GLBT community. One of them benefitted from the ministry of Canon Clinton Jones who was still with us when I retired. I already deeply respected him as a man, a priest and a counselor."

For Tom, participating in Church Street Eats

has meant being part of a community of faith that connects what happens at the Lord's Table upstairs in church with what happens at the tables in the downstairs dining room.

Among other activities, he is a member of The Order of Saint Luke, a religious order whose calling is to liturgical/sacramental scholarship teaching and practice. "For several years, I served the Order as its first Pastoral Care Officer. Other than my passion for ecumenical and interfaith ministries, my life in the Order with continuing reflection on its Rule of Life and Service is what defines my life. I hope to share this with the congregation in more detail in the near future."

Tom and Amy met at Drew University when she was an undergraduate and he was a seminarian. They have a son, Tom, who lives in Wilmington, North Carolina, where he is a familiar figure at the waterfront on summer evenings as a juggler. They live in Bloomfield.

The "melting pot" concept for Americans fits the background of Tom and Amy whose combined ancestry is Dutch, English, Scottish, Native American, Swedish and Irish. "My Scottish forebears were undoubtedly Presbyterians who became Methodist through settling in a Connecticut River Valley town with no Presbyterian church but a Methodist church nearby. In Barnet, Vermont, close to the Canadian border, in the churchyard of a little Presbyterian church, there is an 18th century headstone of one Rev'd Thomas Beveridge—whose exact connection with us is unknown. He was born in Edinburgh, not far from Paisley where my own Grandpa Tom was born. I come from a longer line of Tom Beveridges that I once realized."

At Christ Church Cathedral, we're glad a member of the line found a home with us.

### ***Faith Chests: A Unique Ministry***

If you have witnessed a baptism at the Cathedral, you will likely remember that following the liturgy, the person who has been baptized (child or adult), receives a Faith Chest, a beautiful wood box for holding lifetime keepsakes starting with mementos of the christening service. The practice was begun by Tom and Amy and involves quite a bit of work. The boxes are obtained in a raw state and require sanding and finishing. They welcome any persons who know how to do that, or are willing to learn, to help them continue this important ministry. Contact either Tom or Amy at [tandaos@yahoo.com](mailto:tandaos@yahoo.com)

### Happy July Birthdays

Isaiah Amaro-Dixon  
 Evan Ayiku  
 Barbara Belden  
 Thomas Beveridge  
 Roberto Burgos  
 Karen Bussiere  
 Zoe Casey  
 Euna Coleridge  
 Yahir Colon  
 Nagda Echevarria  
 Jean Gould  
 Lucy Groening  
 Beverly Moncrieffe  
 Yasmin Nelson-Berry  
 Viola Mullin  
 Susan Reinhart  
 John Robinson  
 Donald Romanik  
 Melissa Scinto  
 Joseph Seltzer  
 Thomas Smith  
 Jill Strawn  
 Jennifer Taylor  
 Tina Thomson  
 Paulette Ward  
 Alexander Wells  
 Thomas Woodward  
 William Yebram

### Happy August Birthdays

Emhart Aziz  
 Joslin Barnett  
 Yaneisha Benjamin  
 Yondel Benjamin  
 John Brewer  
 Nehemiah Brown  
 Maggie Alston Claud  
 Alvin Colon  
 Matthew Dinging  
 Theodore Dunn  
 Harry Fine  
 Ana Ortiz Flores  
 Sarah Ingram  
 MK Mokel  
 Sylvestus Nelson  
 John Quiroga  
 Delano Romano  
 Sonia Ruddock  
 Lisa Scarola  
 Ardyce Spence  
 Muriel Spooner  
 Michel Victor  
 Natalie Wells  
 Patricia Wrice  
 Jervis Zimmerman

### July Calendar

- 12 Women's Global Mission,  
 12 noon  
 15 Soup & Services, 5 p.m.  
 20 Annual Jazz Mass, 10 a.m.  
*(see separate item)*  
 29 40th Anniversary of Women's  
 Ordination, 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.  
*(see separate item)*

### August Calendar

- 9 Parish Picnic at Vicar's Home,  
 4 p.m.  
 19 Soup & Services, 5 p.m.  
 29 Soup Kitchen sponsored by  
 Church by the Pond, 4-7 p.m.

### Celebrating 40 Years of Women in the Priesthood

On July 29, 1974, an "irregular" ordination took place in the Church of the Advent in Philadelphia. For the first time, eleven women were ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church. A day-long celebration of that momentous event will be held at Christ Church Cathedral on Tuesday, July 29, with the Eucharist, story-telling, fellowship and a panel discussion on "Clergy Women: then and Now." Events start at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m.

Celebrant at the Eucharist will be the Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens. The Rev. Ellendale Hoffman will be seated as a Canon of the Cathedral.

All interested persons are welcome to attend. There is a \$10 fee for lunch. For further information and to register, go to [https://www.ctepiscopal.org/Content/40th\\_Anniversary\\_Wom](https://www.ctepiscopal.org/Content/40th_Anniversary_Wom)

### Congratulations to Graduates

Five young members of the Cathedral family were recognized on Sunday, June 22, on their graduation from high school and presented with gifts. They are Yaneisha Benjamin, Tom Ingram, Sydney Mokel, Kerry Rodriguez, and Kevin Rodriguez. Congratulations and best wishes to each of them!

### New Select Committee on Education Named

In April the Cathedral Chapter endorsed the creation of a Select Committee on Education. Its purpose will be to explore and discern ways in which the Cathedral may better serve its young people by providing support in the area of education. Members of the Committee are: Marnie Mueller, Chair; Jilda Aliotta, Marva Gilkes, and Everton McCalla. Ex-officio members are the Rev. Harlon Dalton and the Rev. Miguelina Howell. The committee held its first meeting on July 1.

### Calling All Artists

The National Episcopal Church is inviting submissions of original artwork to be used for the 2014 Episcopal Christmas card. The design should express a local understanding of God's incarnation for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has noted, "This is an invitation to share your understanding with the wider Church.... We all want to see Jesus—shows us the birth of God in human flesh."

The deadline for submissions is August 15. For further details go to <http://episcopalnmn.org/news/original-artwork-invited-for-2014-episcopal-church-christmas-card/>



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**The Grapevine** is a monthly newsletter for the Christ Church Cathedral audience. Copies are available in the Cathedral, in the Cathedral House, via e-news and online at [www.cccathedral.org/documents/JulyAugust2014Grapevine.pdf](http://www.cccathedral.org/documents/JulyAugust2014Grapevine.pdf)

**Deadline for September issue:** August 15

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