



Christ Church Cathedral Catedral Iglesia de Cristo

The Grapevine

OCTOBER 2014

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK

"Mi Casa es su Casa" ... Homecoming 2014

The expression "Mi Casa es su Casa" is Spanish for "My house is your house," a common saying to invite someone into your house and make themselves at home. A home is not the bricks, the wood or the concrete that was used to build it, it is not the furniture or the beautiful treasured paintings passed from generation to generations... a home is completed by the people who inhabit the house.

Such is the reality with our spiritual home. We are blessed with a majestic and beautiful building on sacred ground, considered an architectural jewel in the city of Hartford. Our true and profound treasure is being the members of this Cathedral congregation.

Each one of you, and those who are yet to come, build the Kingdom of God in this place. By embracing one another, by lifting up one another, by carrying out God's mission with compassion, joy, honesty, generosity, dedication, this place has become and will be the spiritual home of many.

This October marks my first year of experiencing the Cathedral as my spiritual home. A year later, I continue to experience the warmth and unique sense of hospitality of our diverse community. For your love, support and welcome I am grateful.

Homecoming brings a special sense of excitement as we start a new program year. It is particularly exciting given that the activities and events planned for the Fall reflect who we are and where we are in our spiritual journey and our understanding of our role as baptized members of the body of Christ, as well as fostering and encouraging our identity as a Cathedral congregation. It is primarily exciting for me because our programs, events, interactions and time together provide us a constant opportunity to continue to grow in Christ, to learn from one another and to actively engage in making a difference in the world around us.

Our Homecoming Weekend activities are a foretaste of what I believe God has in store for us this upcoming year. Homecoming is an invitation to newcomers and seasoned members to open their hearts and minds to the movements of the Spirit. It is an invitation to celebrate community, to be thankful for our blessings and to continue working together, with God's help, to make this beautiful place a Spiritual home for many.

With a thankful heart,
Lina+
The Rev. Miguelina Howell, Vicar

From the Priest-in-Charge

As you know, one of my two remaining tasks as Priest-in-Charge is to stimulate a Diocesan-wide conversation about the ways in which this or any cathedral might help the Episcopal Church in Connecticut meet the challenges of the 21st Century. The underlying premise is that cathedrals exist for the good of the whole church and not just the sake of those who worship regularly in them.

My other key task is to guide the efforts of Christ Church Cathedral as we live ever more deeply into our best understanding of what it means to be a cathedral. This includes: devising new ways to convene the Episcopal Church in Connecticut in worship and in fellowship; expanding our efforts to engage widely-scattered communities of faith in shared mission; catalyzing new ventures in justice-seeking and in hastening the reign of God; providing common ground and safe space for public discussion of issues that divide civil society; engaging with people of different faith traditions; partnering with those who seek the welfare of the city of Hartford and its environs; and embracing and furthering the arts in their many manifestations. There is, of course, a connection between the upcoming Diocesan-wide conversations and Christ Church Cathedral's ongoing engagements, because the larger conversations inevitably will be informed and shaped by our lived experience.

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FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE*Continued from page 1*

In my September 2014 *Grapevine* essay I reported on some of the ways in which the Cathedral has been forging common ground, nurturing collaborations, seeking the welfare of the city, and engaging the arts. In this issue, I will outline the Diocesan-wide conversations that will be taking place over the next 12 months. In ensuing issues of *The Grapevine*, I will alternate reporting on these two parallel and overlapping ventures.

The Cathedral Discernment Task Force met for the first time in July 2014. Its members are Anne Watkins, Everett "Perry" Perine, Jack Gilpin, Pat Wrice, Tim Cole and Whitney Edwards. The Task Force realized, almost immediately, that the Cathedral conversations we will oversee are of a piece with the TREC-CT conversations that commenced this past Spring, and that will form the centerpiece of day two of the Diocesan Convention in October. Therefore, one of our first orders of business was to attend the TREC-CT listening sessions at the end of July, and to participate in the subsequent TREC-CT steering committee meetings leading up to Convention. We also covenanted to meet monthly from July 2014 through December 2015, and to make ourselves available for the Diocesan conversations that are the core of our work.

These conversations include: Deanery gatherings starting this Fall and continuing through the Spring; a gathering in December 2014 of the joint Diocesan leadership group (composed of the Executive Council, Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry, and Donations & Bequests board of directors); a Clergy Association meeting early next year; and gatherings of lay

leaders from across the Diocese in the Spring.

In addition, the members of the Cathedral Discernment Task Force will be very much in evidence on the second day of Convention this October, monitoring the TREC-CT discussions and listening for reflections, insights and ideas that have a bearing on our work. Based on where those discussions lead, Convention 2014 will issue a charge to the TREC-CT steering committee that is intended to guide its work over the ensuing 12 months. I anticipate that the Convention's charge will address the overlapping nature of the TREC-CT and Cathedral conversations, and suggest ways that the two conversations feed off one another.

In the Summer of 2015, the Task Force will review its findings and draft a resolution for presentation to the 2015 Diocesan Convention. The draft resolution will be shared with the Parish Committee and the Cathedral Chapter, and revised to take account of their feedback. A final version of the resolution will be presented to the Chapter for approval at its October 2015 meeting, and then introduced at Convention at the end of the month.

At every stage of the process, the Cathedral parish will be kept in the loop through a combination of parish forums, regular reports from Task Force members, and *Grapevine* essays. In addition, there will be regular opportunities for members of the congregation to provide feedback and offer guidance.

The next parish forum devoted to Cathedral questions is set for Sunday, November 9, immediately following the 10 a.m. service. We will explore what bearing, if any, the TREC-CT discussions have on the ongoing Cathedral conversations, and consider how best to respond to whatever charge emanates from Convention.

As you can see, there is a lot going on. I will do my best to keep you informed, and to solicit your input. However, given my closeness to the process, it may be difficult for me to assess how well information is flowing, so please do not hesitate to buttonhole me and ask "what gives." A certain level of anxiety is inevitable, but I do not want to contribute unwittingly to it.

Grace, peace, and continued blessings,
Harlon+
The Rev. Harlon Dalton
Priest-in-Charge

Meet Our New Cathedral Administrator

Carol M. Taylor became Cathedral Administrator in September and her new post gives her the opportunity to use her skills in a variety of ways. Her immediate charge is to review processes for maintenance and use of the buildings, vendors, management of supplies, building security and communications. She will collaborate with the Vicar and Accountant in providing oversight of the budget and day-to-day financial management. She will work with clergy, other staff and ministry team leaders in achieving overall goals.

Carol was born in New York City and attended city schools, including a business high school. Her first job, as secretary to the human resources manager of a large company, introduced her to a field in which she would steadily progress. While working, she took courses in business administration at the Bronx Community College. After getting married and starting a family, she worked at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in its nursing education department. In addition to learning about the health care field, she gained

valuable experience and skills as a media coordinator by helping develop and maintain self-learning modules for nurses in training.

Seeking a better environment for the children, Carol and her family moved to New Jersey. There she held two part-time jobs—one in a hospital similar to what she had done in New York City, and another as a legal secretary for a non-profit organization dealing with mental health advocacy and legal representation. It was during the period of moving persons with mental health conditions out of institutional settings into the larger community. “We were advocates for clients who needed representation regarding Social Security benefits and landlord/tenant actions.”

Her later experience in a litigation firm led her and a friend to start their own business called Secre-Services Unlimited. “We provided secretarial and administrative services for small firms, law offices, and sole proprietorships. Our office was located in an office building in Montclair, New Jersey, and we generated many relationships there.” Years later, Carol moved on to work for a Medicaid HMO and then at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, which later merged with Rutgers University. She was there for 12 years, until December 2010.

In late February, 2011, she left New Jersey for Falls Village, Connecticut. Though she was familiar with the town, she was a “weekender.” “I had no deep connections with year-round residents. I had to generate community.” She joined Christ Church in Canaan but the church had a small membership and had to close. She then went to nearby Lime Rock to Trinity Church, where she found a vibrant congregation. “I’m on the hospitality team and

the outreach committee, and have helped with stewardship. I was invited by the Rector to serve as Eucharistic Minister.”

Carol volunteers at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village. She is a member of the Board of Directors and its Treasurer.

In New Jersey, Carol had been active in an Episcopal church where the rector had retired. “I had been senior warden and was wearing different hats as we tried to hold things together with supply priests. Miguelina was called to serve at that parish, first as priest-in-charge, then as Rector. We were blessed with an opportunity to work together for a year before I moved to Connecticut. This summer I came to the Cathedral with my current Rector for the 40th anniversary of Women’s Ordination. We started talking, I learned about the open position, and the rest is history!”

In her leisure time Carol does a lot of reading, takes yoga at the Y and enjoys her dog Whitney. “She’s a rescue dog, a mix of yellow lab and Chesapeake Bay retriever. When I saw her online I knew she was the one.” She visits her family as much as she can. She has two sons, one in Connecticut and the other in New Jersey, a daughter in Maryland and seven grandchildren.

“I love the Episcopal church. When something needs to be done for the church, I can’t say ‘no’—it’s where my heart and soul are. I try to do what I can to make things better.”

Giving Altar Flowers

To remember a loved one or to give thanks for a special blessing, an easy and beautiful way is to give altar flowers. You can pick up a form from the booklet rack in the back of the Cathedral, or provide the following information in writing: full name, printed clearly, of the person being remembered, or your request for a thanksgiving (reason optional), and the Sunday date you are requesting. Send this information at least two weeks before the requested date to Christ Church Cathedral, 45 Church St., Hartford CT 06103. The suggested flower offering donation is \$ 25. Make the check payable to Christ Church Cathedral and put “Altar Flowers” on the memo line.

You may also have altar flowers placed on an ongoing basis by providing a written request to the Altar Guild. An example would be selecting the first Sunday in May each year for a particular person. A reminder will be sent to you to confirm the annual placement and for payment. Keep in mind there are no altar flowers during Lent.

Homecoming Weekend Join the Celebrations!

Friday, October 3 – Asylum Quartet

First Concert by the Cathedral’s Ensemble-in-Residence
12 noon, Cathedral House Patio – free

Saturday, October 4 - St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals

4 p.m., Bushnell Park at Jewell and Trumbull Streets

Sunday, October 5 - Homecoming Day Holy Eucharist

Single bilingual service at 10:30 a.m.

Ministry Fair and Youth Event

in the Cathedral House following the 10:30 service

Happy October Birthdays

Monica Best
 Melissa Best-McBride
 Sylvia Brown Rafaelina Burgos
 Walter DeClaybrook
 Sila Diaz
 Jonathan Dixon
 Ramon Echevarria
 Teresa Espinoza
 Martha Fine
 JaVaughn Fisher
 Norman Graf
 Michael Greaves
 Sheila Green
 Katie Ingram
 Thomas Ingram
 Katherine James
 Leslie Jones
 Laarni Lucero
 Everton McCalla
 Laura McCalla
 Thomas McGrath
 David Marcano
 Amber O'Brien
 Luisa O'Brien
 Michael O'Brien
 Peggy Ornell
 Sigifredo Ossa
 Ruth Marie Perry
 Elba Rios
 Marleny Rivera
 Roxana Rosario
 Gilberto Sanchez
 Michael Scinto
 Tyler Tinker



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

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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/September2014Grapevine.pdf

Deadline for November issue: October 15

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Enjoy Great Music on Bach Sunday!

On Sunday, October 19, you'll have the opportunity to enjoy special musical programs at both the 10 a.m. Eucharist and in a free recital at 2 p.m. Joshua Slater, Music Director, is working with the Choir, soloists and orchestra to provide wonderful listening to the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Bach, one of the "Three Great B's" of classical music—the others are Beethoven and Brahms—wrote an amazing quantity of music for the organ, other instruments and choirs, both for sacred and secular purposes.

On the 19th in the morning you'll hear organ music, hymns and service music from the German Lutheran tradition. The Choir will sing Bach's Cantata 106, *The time that God ordains is best*, accompanied by a period-instrument orchestra. A recital of Bach's music at 2 p.m. in the Cathedral House Auditorium will feature our organist, Thomas Whitestone, also playing the harpsichord, and Choir soprano soloist Olivia Miller, together with guest instrumentalists.

Keeping Up With TREC

In the past months, you have heard our Vicar, a member of TREC, share updates about the work of TREC-- Task Force for Reimagining the Episcopal Church. TREC has been charged to create a plan for reforming the Episcopal Church's structure, governance and administration. As TREC's work is coming to an end, a letter to the entire Church was issued in early September presenting some of its proposals. It may be found at <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/notice/trec-issues-letter-episcopal-church-0>

TREC is hosting a Church-wide event on October 2, 2014, at the National Cathedral in Washington, D. C. The event can be attended online and in person. To learn more about TREC and to register to attend the event, visit www.reimaginetec.org

October Calendar

- 2Spanish Home Bible Study, 6 p.m.
- 3Asylum Quartet free concert, Cathedral House Patio, 12 noon
- 4St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals,
Bushnell Park at Jewell & Trumbull Streets, 4 p.m.
- 5Homecoming Day Single Bilingual Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
- 6Crafters, Cathedral House, 10 a.m.
- 9Spanish Home Bible Study, 6 p.m.
- 13Office closed (holiday)
- 16Spanish Home Bible Study, 6 p.m.
- 18St. Barnabas Guild meeting, Cathedral House, 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 19Bach Recital, Cathedral House Auditorium, 2 p.m.
- 21Soup & Services, 5 p.m.

