



Christ Church Cathedral Catedral Iglesia de Cristo

The Grapevine April 2015

Easter Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On Tuesday of Holy Week Episcopal clergy from across the state gathered at the Cathedral with our Lutheran counterparts to renew our ordination vows. We began the day in the Cathedral “annex” known as Bushnell Park. There we celebrated the Eucharist, Church by the Pond-style. We then divided into four groups, and set off in four different directions in search of God at work in the neighborhood. Our travels took us to Hartford Hospital, Hartford Public Library, Capital Community College, and the Manna feeding program that is housed at the Cathedral on weekdays. At each of these sites, we offered a public witness to the ways in which these institutions help people of every station grow into the fullness that God intends for them. We then spent time learning about some of the particular ways in which lives are being transformed by these wonderful neighbors of ours.

At noontime, we reassembled on the front steps of the Cathedral, entered singing *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*, reflected on our morning travels, renewed our ordination vows, and then gathered in the auditorium for lunch. As we dined together, the Cathedral Discernment Committee led the assembly in a lively conversation about the purpose and nature of cathedrals in the 21st Century.

We share this with you because the events of Holy Tuesday so perfectly reflect what it means to be a cathedral, a spiritual and mission center that assists the whole church to step out in faith, connect with the world beyond its red doors, encounter God

anywhere and everywhere, and unashamedly follow Jesus wherever he leads.

During Holy Week we as a Cathedral parish followed Jesus straight to the Cross. On Palm Sunday, at Tenebrae on Wednesday, and again on Maundy Thursday, we tried in various ways to wrap our minds and hearts around the suffering that Christ would endure on our behalf. Then, on Friday we walked the Way of the Cross at noon, and then knelt at the foot of the Cross on Friday in the afternoon and evening. Through it all, we hung together as a community of faith, the broken yet ever hopeful body of Christ.

At the Great Vigil of Easter and again on Easter Sunday morning our Christian Hope was rewarded. The light of Christ returned to the world. We gloried in the Resurrection. We “got our praise on.” And we did so with panache.

What an amazing journey! Our hearts are full of gratitude for the extraordinary contributions that so many made along the way: The Altar Guild; our Music leaders and Choir members; the Hospitality Team; ushers and greeters; acolytes; vergers, chalice bearers and lectors; our Cathedral staff; our indefatigable Parish Committee chair; and countless others who saw a need and stepped up to fill it. We are especially grateful for the wonderful teamwork that was displayed time and time again, and without which none of this would have been possible.

As we enter fully into the Easter Season, we want to share with you the first several lines of a prayer authored by Walter Brueggemann.

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Clergy's message continued from page 1

It is entitled *A Habitat of Newness and Goodness*.

**Through this day we have named your name in gladness,
we have pondered the world you have called "good"
we have relished your gifts and your tasks,
we have marveled in amazement,
yet one more time,
at the wonder of this Easter Jesus,
who died and is alive among us.**

**Now we are homeward;
and when we arrive there,
it will be as it was this morning,
with anxiety and demand and conflict and inconvenience.
Except that all things will be – yet again- made new.**

Eastertide Blessings.

Lina+ and Harlon+

Exciting Program Begins for Infants

As part of its expanding outreach to the Hartford community, Christ Church Cathedral is helping fund an exciting new free program aimed at the development of our youngest citizens—infants who are not yet walking.

A new Parent/Infant Montessori Class will be offered by the Charter Oak Cultural Center of Hartford, a multi-cultural arts center doing the work of social justice through the arts. The aim of the class is to build the confidence of parents by providing positive, practical techniques they can use at home to support their child's intellectual, sensory and motor development. The only requirement, in addition that the child is not yet walking, is that the parent is a Hartford resident. There are no fees.

The idea for support for the program began with a connection by the Rev. Harlon Dalton, the Cathedral's Priest-in-Charge, to Rabbi Donna Berman, Executive Director of the Charter Oak Center. Subsequent meetings were held by Harlon and our Vicar, the Rev. Lina Howell, with Donna and Susan Mazer, Director of Music Programs at the Center. Also involved from the Cathedral were Lucy Groening, Parish Committee Chair, and Marnie Mueller, Chair of the Mansfield Education Committee. Other ideas for collaboration by the Cathedral with the Charter Oak Center are being explored.

Classes with up to 10 infants will be held on Fridays at the Charter Oak Center on Charter Oak Avenue in downtown Hartford. They will run from April 24 to May 29, 9-11 a.m. More classes will be announced at a later date.

The Charter Oak Center is building on its success with its Youth Arts Institute, which serves more than 1,000 inner-city youth with free classes in the arts. The focus for the infants program will include language, movement and brain development through exercises using music and art. Teachers will be from the Montessori School of Greater Hartford.

Additional support for the new infants program is provided by the City of Hartford and the Capitol Region Education Council.

If you and your infant meet the requirements, or you know of a parent who does and would like to register for the class, call Susan Mazer at 860-310-2590 or email her at

susan.mazer@charteroakcenter.org

April Calendar

*See separate listing for Holy Week
And Easter*

6	Office closed
13	Cathedral Crafters, 10 a.m.
14	Cathedral Chapter
19	Cathedral Task Force Discernment Forum, following 10:30 combined service
21	Soup & Services, 5 p.m.

Important Memo to Parishioners: Your Voice Is Needed

What is the role of a cathedral in The Episcopal Church in Connecticut?

What is the role of Christ Church, Hartford, in fulfilling God's mission?

On Sunday, April 19, you will be able to offer your thoughts and opinions on both questions when the Cathedral Discernment Task Force holds a forum in the auditorium at noon. To make it more convenient for you to attend, that day there will be a combined bilingual service at 10:30 a.m.

At the request of the Rt.Rev. Ian Douglas, Bishop Diocesan, the Rev. Harlon Dalton, the Cathedral's Priest-in-Charge, took on leadership of the Task Force to explore the purposes of cathedrals in light of 21st century challenges and opportunities facing the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. Two of its six members are Cathedral parishioners: Tim Cole and Pat Wrice. In recent months the Task Force has held conversations with laity and clergy across Connecticut on the two main questions cited above. It has also explored the history of cathedrals and reviewed reflections by various church leaders.

The forum on April 19, the third to be held at the Cathedral, will update you on the Task Force's findings. In November the Task Force will present a resolution to the Diocesan Convention based on its work.

Before then, however, the Task Force wants to be sure that the voices of Christ Church Cathedral's parishioners have been heard. You have that opportunity on April 19. Don't let it go by. Mark your calendar now.

Both Tim Cole and PatWrice welcome comments. Reach them at tim@westwindsonsluting.net or at patriciawrice@gmail.com

Women's Global Mission Group Is Making Strides

On March 1, the Cathedral's Women's Global Mission (WGM) Group hosted a forum led by Matthew Miller of Love146, an organization that seeks to address the issue of human trafficking of women and girls in the United States and other parts of the world. A group of more than 30 persons from our congregation participated in the program.

As a follow-up to that event, the WGM has connected to a Love146-sponsored Task Force in West Hartford that has been dealing with the issue of sex trafficking in Connecticut. The Task Force currently has three major efforts: 1) meeting with

high-risk girls living in a safe home in Hartford; 2) working on legislation affecting such girls; and 3) fund-raising to support the work of Love146.

The WGM will meet with the West Hartford Task Force to determine ways of working together to maximize the effectiveness of our response to a great need.

The WGM group has also decided to support Women for Women International, a humanitarian organization that offers practical help to women affected by war and conflict. More information will be coming throughout the year as we seek to raise funds for this agency.

For more information on the WGM and how you can become an active part of it, contact Amy Beveridge at amyknits.ab@gmail.com

Hospitality.....again!

In my nearly 18 years at Christ Church Cathedral it seems to me that the subject of Hospitality gets re-visited from time to time. 2015 is one of those times. In order to explore and target overall hospitality needs, not just coffee hour, the Parish Committee is reading *Radical Welcome: Embracing God, The Other, and the Spirit of Transformation*. A previous Parish Committee has also read this book.

Times change. Congregations change. Demographics change. In times of transition and demographic change, people tend to pull into themselves and forget about reaching out, inviting, welcoming. In the first discussion about *Embracing God*, the Parish Committee read the following about a parish in New York City: "Perhaps most remarkable – especially for the Episcopal Church –

is the leadership of the homeless and poor members, many of whom came for the community meal program downstairs and, thanks to the genuine and explicit welcome, made their way upstairs for Sunday worship." "Does that sound like Christ Church Cathedral?"

There is about to be the first usher-in-training from the Church Street Eats guests, some that are regulars at our Sunday worship now.

A couple of suggestions here:

1. Remember to welcome and invite the people that sit around you, especially ones you don't know, to coffee hour, to a forum, a concert, any special event, and introduce them to others.
2. Email Lina, lina.howell@cccathedral.org or me, lucyg712@sbcglobal.net, and share your thoughts on the subject of hospitality, any ideas, suggestions, etc.

--- Lucy Groening, Chair, Parish Committee

April Happy Birthdays

Kathleen Adams	Eleesia Hill
Janet Belval	Bonita Jones
Luke Belval	Cynthia Mellon
Whitney DeClaybrook	Melissa Mokel
Rose Fichera-Eagen	Diane Noyes
Camryn Fisher	Donald Richey
Carol Gilbert	Helen Ross
Arden Giligian	Terence Tinker
Theresa Greaves	Jacqueline Twible
Paige Hanson	Charles Ward

Holy Week and Easter

April 1, Holy Wednesday

6 p.m. Tenebrae

April 2, Maundy Thursday

6 p.m. Agape Meal

7 p.m. Service

April 3, Good Friday

12 noon, Stations of the Cross

4 p.m. Veneracion de la Cruz

6 p.m. Veneration of the Cross

April 4, The Great Vigil of Easter

7:30 p.m. Service of Light and Lessons,

Christian Initiation, Holy Eucharist

April 5, Easter Sunday

8 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist

10 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist

12:30 p.m. Choral Holy

Eucharist in Spanish



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