

Christ Church Cathedral Catedral Iglesia de Cristo

The Grapevine
November 2015

A message from our Dean-Elect All things new...

It is with awe and gratitude that I look back and meditate on the gatherings, conversations, questions and decisions that our Cathedral congregation has engaged in during the past few months. The Cathedral Discernment Task Force did a remarkable work outlining a vision for a Cathedral in the 21st century. The Cathedral congregation was invited to digest, meditate and respond to this vision and its ability and willingness to embrace this vision as a way forward. The congregation responded affirmatively. The Chapter received both reports and is commending the work of the Task Force and the Parish Committee as the Task Force presents a resolution to Convention.

The discernment period has ended. It is now in the hands of our Diocesan Convention to make a final decision of supporting Christ Church Cathedral in words and deeds to be a cathedral in Hartford, serving God's mission in the 21st century as the seat of the Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut and as a place to engage and model apostleship.

With the end of the discernment period, we have entered into a new season. It is a season of new life and renewed vision. The Scripture quoted in the TREC-CT report (Task Force for Re-Imagining the Episcopal Church in Connecticut) evokes in me that sense of newness we have been experiencing since our October 13 Chapter meeting. It is Revelations 21:5 which says "*And the One who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."*"

As you may observe, this process of discerning a new life has not been exclusive to the Cathedral. The Episcopal Church in Connecticut has embraced in the past two years a journey to re-imagine our governance and structure in order to facilitate our participation in God's mission as apostles and disciples through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Task Force hosted a gathering on October 3 at the Cathedral. Approximately 70 members of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut attended to learn and inquire about the TREC-CT proposals. It was a life-giving event. It was evident to me that as a body of Christ in this state, we are ready and eager to open ourselves to new possibilities, to open ourselves to the creativity of the Spirit as we work collaboratively to make a difference in the world.

In a nutshell, the TREC-CT proposal seeks to reconfigure the state-wide structure, provide space for effective collaboration, networking and growth. The current governing bodies (Executive Council and the Missionary Society Board) would be replaced by a Mission Council; the Deaneries, of which only a few are active, will no longer exist as we knew them. We will be organized by 6 Regions. Each region will be blessed by the support of a Missionary, recruited and selected by the regions and funded by resources from the Missionary Society.

These are exciting times. These are times when everyone is invited to participate in shaping how we can faithfully participate in what God is up to among us.

Please pray for our 231st Annual Convention to be held November 13-14 at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell. Please pray for our Bishops, Ian and

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Laura, our Cathedral delegates, Lucy and Rose, and for the wider community of ECCT as they engage in holy work.

Once Convention votes on the TREC-CT proposal and the Cathedral Discernment Task Force's resolution, it will be our time to invite everyone to fully participate in shaping what God is up to in our midst. I look forward to working under the leadership of our Bishop Diocesan, Ian T. Douglas, and in collaboration with the Chapter, Parish Committee, Mission Council and all God's faithful

people of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut as we respond to God's call to live as a cathedral in the 21st century.

Faithfully,
Lina

The Rev. Miguelina Howell
Dean-Elect

***The following letter was sent to
Cathedral members on October 14,
2015***

Dear Cathedral Congregation:

I am delighted to announce that at the Cathedral Chapter meeting on Tuesday, October 13, the Cathedral Chapter voted unanimously to accept the Cathedral Discernment Task Force Report and to pass it on to Diocesan Convention in November for adoption.

The Chapter also received the report of the Transition Team, which unanimously recommended the nomination of our Vicar, the Rev. Miguelina Howell, to serve as Dean. Bishop Diocesan, Ian T. Douglas, proceeded to nominate Lina to serve as Dean. The Chapter voted unanimously to call Lina as the Tenth Dean of Christ Church Cathedral effective January 1, 2016, pending the signing of a Letter of Agreement between the Bishop, Chapter, Congregation and Clergy.

In response to her election as Dean, Lina said, "I am both humbled and overjoyed to accept the call to be the next dean of Christ Church Cathedral

and look forward to working collaboratively with the Bishops, the Cathedral congregation, the Chapter and ECCT in the years to come."

Lina has been ordained for 13 years. Before ordination, she received her License as a Clinical Psychologist. Prior to arriving at the Cathedral to serve as Vicar in 2013, she served as the Seventh Rector of Church of the Epiphany in Orange, New Jersey. Lina is married to Daniel Howell and they are the human parents of two wonderful dogs, Tallulah and Paddington.

As Vicar, Lina has helped us to engage in God's mission. With her fresh new perspective and contagious enthusiasm, we look forward to serving with Lina and the lay and ordained leadership of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut to realize our new vision of the Cathedral in the 21st Century.

On behalf of the Chapter, the Parish Committee and our congregation, I congratulate our Dean – Elect.

Faithfully,

Lucy Groening
Parish Committee Chair

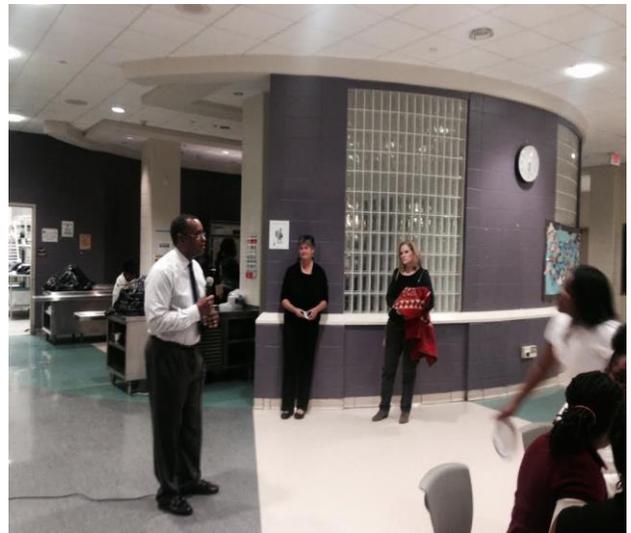
New Programs for Support of Youth Education Announced

Service to the Hartford community and support for youth education are two longstanding areas of concern for Christ Church Cathedral. Both are being brought together in new ways through the work of the Mansfield Youth Education Committee. The committee is named in honor of former Dean Richard Mansfield who in 1996 preached a sermon in reaction to the Connecticut Supreme Court's ruling on educational inequality in Connecticut. In the past a key Cathedral response involved providing college scholarships.

In recent months, our clergy leaders, Priest-in-Charge Harlon Dalton and Dean-Elect Miguelina Howell, have worked with the Charter Oak Cultural Center on initiatives to help children in Hartford. The April 2015 issue of *The Grapevine* announced the Cathedral's funding of a new free program at the Charter Oak Cultural Center for our youngest-infants not yet walking. The aim was to build the confidence of parents by providing techniques for use at home to support a child's intellectual, sensory and motor skills development. The newest effort by the Mansfield Youth Education Committee is a partnership of the Cathedral and Charter Oak Cultural Center for an after-school vocal music program at the Rawson School in northwest Hartford. The program is designed for students in grades 4 and 5 and will run four days a week for a total of 28 weeks. Students will receive instruction in general music /theory, vocal training and ensemble performance.

The second initiative by the Committee is scholarship-like funding for post-secondary education for Cathedral youth. Depending on available funds, awards of \$500-\$1000 will be made per student. Any child of an active Cathedral member is eligible. The awards will be as gift cards which can be used for purchasing textbooks or other needed items.

The new programs have been approved by the Cathedral Chapter. Members of the Mansfield Youth Education Committee are Marnie Mueller, Chair; Jilda Aliotta; Marva Giles; Lucy Groening; Everton McCalla; and the Rev. Miguelina Howell, Dean-Elect.



Commitment to God the Giver: Stewardship in Our Spiritual Journey

Stewardship is living out our lives with the belief that all we are and have is God's, entrusted with us to share.

Though autumn is the time for the Cathedral's dedicated annual stewardship effort, stewardship is a concept that is not limited by calendar dates. To help us in our own personal spiritual journeys, the experiences of other Episcopalians can be inspiring for us. Here is a reflection by Mary M. MacGregor, Canon for Evangelism and Congregational Development for the Episcopal Diocese of Texas.

"It was Saturday afternoon. I was taking a solitary walk in the historic area of Philadelphia when I encountered a handicapped beggar on the street. I tried to ignore him, hoping not to be noticed. But that was not to be. He yelled out, "Sister, stop and talk to me!" I paused, knowing God was watching and waiting for my response.

I reluctantly approached him to look squarely in his face. As I bent down he grabbed a cross hanging around my neck and asked, 'Are you a Christian?' Stunned, I replied 'Yes.' I asked if he too was a Christian and he replied, 'Oh yes and let me tell you everything God has done for me.' What flowed out of his soul was a litany of blessings, healings, provisions and gratitude for never being without the necessities of life. He then asked my name and for my prayers. I reciprocated. I put money into his cup and said goodbye. But he wasn't finished with me. As I walked away he yelled out 'Mary, I love you!'

I stopped dead in my tracks. This broken gentle man was a messenger from God! It was as if God were directly speaking to me and saying, "Mary, can't you see that I am the source, the giver of every good and necessary thing in your life? You have cried out many times asking for mercy and blessing and I have granted them to you. And above all, I love you.'

This profound encounter 17 years ago changed me. No longer do I give or serve out of obligation or duty, but out of a deep gratitude for God's

generosity. Giving of my life and my resources has become pure joy. Let us be bold and cry out to God when we are in need! For God's other name is Giver. Our new name will be Thankful." *Provided by The Episcopal Network for Stewardship.*

If you have responded to the stewardship call, we thank you. There is still time to send in your pledge card. If you do not already tithe, we urge you to consider it this year.

Organ Recital and Memorial Evensong on November 8

On Sunday, November 8, you are invited to an afternoon of beautiful music in the Cathedral. At 3 p.m., Simon Jacobs will give an organ recital. He is Director of Music and Organist at St. Thomas's Episcopal Church in New Haven.

Following the recital, at 4 p.m., there will be a Memorial Evensong service honoring all our military veterans.

Jacobs began his musical education as a boy chorister at Truro Cathedral in England. He later became an Organ Scholar at Christ's College in Cambridge, England and toured with its Chapel Choir in the United States, Australia and Canada. He is a graduate of the Yale Institute of Sacred Music where he received his master's degree in choral conducting. His notable career has included playing for services and directing the choirs in England at Salisbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

At the Memorial Evensong, the Rev. Robert Stocksdale, a member of the Cathedral Chapter and a U. S. Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, will be the preacher.

The Cathedral Choir will be directed by Music Director Joshua Anand Slater.

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS...

Marcia Barnett
Stephen Brathwaite
Natalie Best
Scott Calloway
Hayley Carusone
Derek Chmielorz
Lindsay Chmielorz
Clarence Coleridge
James Cooke
Vernelle Davis
Emily Dingee
Jennifer Dingee
Claire Fonseca
Kari Ann Greaves
Courtney Hansen
Daniel Howell
Elizabeth Jenkins
Inez Hales
Sidney Mokel
Andrew Nelson
Orfa Ocampo
Lucy Ossa
Nathan Rawlins
Juan Rivera
Sherry Senior
Shyann Sinclair
Thomas Wassell

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

If you wish to remember loved ones or to express thanksgiving for a special blessing, the procedure for giving Christmas Altar Flowers is easy to do by mail:

- Print the name(s) of the person(s) being remembered or a note if it is for a thanksgiving (reason optional)
- Enclose a check payable to Christ Church Cathedral with "Christmas Altar Flowers" on the memo line. Suggested donation: \$25.
- Print your name, mailing address, email, and telephone number

Mail the information and check to Christ Church Cathedral, 45 Church St., Hartford CT 06103, Attn: Altar Guild, for receipt no later than December 15 to allow for listing of names in the Christmas service bulletin.

November Calendar

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| 1 | Bible Study, 9-9:45 a.m. (<i>see separate item</i>) |
| 8 | Bible Study, 9-9:45 a.m. |
| 8 | Organ Recital, 3 p.m., and Memorial Evensong, 4 p.m. (<i>see separate item</i>) |
| 15 | Bible Study, 9-9:45 a.m. |
| 17 | Soup & Services, 5 p.m. |
| 22 | Harvest Sunday (<i>see separate item</i>) |
| 27 | Holiday – Cathedral Office closed |
| 29 | Bible Study 9-9:a.m. |

From the Register

Wedding

August 15 ~ Christine Elizabeth Lunde and Brian Elliot Blumenthal

Funerals

August 30 ~ Milton Lewis Howard

September 9 ~ Amy Margaret Anderson Beveridge

Celebrate Harvest Sunday on November 22



Mark your calendars to celebrate Harvest Sunday at the Cathedral on November 22 during the Fellowship Hour following the 10 a.m. service. Our Spanish-speaking congregation will join prior to their service.

In the tradition of America's first Thanksgiving when the Pilgrims and their neighboring Wampanoag tribe members brought a variety of food, we're looking forward to sharing a delicious potluck meal put together by all. Every kind of dish is welcome!

Our Harvest Sunday potluck will start a week of thanksgiving for the blessings the Cathedral and its family have known during the past year and for the good things that lie ahead.

Come to Bible Study on Sunday Morning

If you are interested in Bible Study, you'll be pleased to know it is again available on Sunday mornings between the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in the Child Care Room opposite the Choir Room. For the next few sessions, the readings will relate to matters of healing. A clergy member usually facilitates the session. At times a lay person will co-facilitate or be the facilitator.

Here are the readings for November:

November 1: Peter's mother-in-law: Matt.20:30; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43

November 8: Lepers: Matt. 8-3-17; Mark 1:30-35; Luke 4:38-4:42

November 15: Gadarene Demoniac: Matt.8:28; Mark 5:1; Luke 8:26

November 22: no session

November 29: Jairus' daughter: Matt. 9-18; Mark 5:22; Luke 8:41



For more information, speak with Tom Smith, Christian Formation coordinator, or contact him at uqfqfm@yahoo.com



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/
November 2015Grapevine.pdf](http://www.cccathedral.org/documents/November%202015Grapevine.pdf)

Deadline for December issue: November 15