



The Angelus

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral • Kansas City, Missouri

Vol. 84, No. 6 • Summer 2015

FROM THE DEAN Holy Habitat

The numbers are going down.

The news is widespread though you may have missed it. It's not, I suppose, the kind of news that most people would be concerned about or would like to hear. The number of practicing Christians in the United States is declining. The number of persons claiming no religious affiliation is rising. In the mainline Protestant churches, the shrinking of the church is taking place more noticeably than for Roman Catholics or evangelical churches. But, with few exceptions numbers are either in decline or stagnant.

You can find more information and statistics at this address or by searching "Pew Report on Religion in America 2015," www.pewforum.org/2015/05/12/americas-changing-religious-landscape/

With such trends and the statistics to back them up, it is easy to be drawn into a downward spiraling vortex. Such thinking is normal, but it is contrary to our tradition. Here it is better to declare with Paul when he writes about internal woes plaguing the first century church at Corinth, "We are treated ... as dying, and see, we are alive." 2 Corinthians 6:8, 9 Paul writes to the Corinthian church with which he has had problems. He encourages them in their life in Christ. In the midst of external and internal problems, grace is sufficient.

The numbers of the stately monarch butterfly are in decline. Habitat loss is the culprit. In North America the milkweed species critical to monarch reproduction has been severely reduced due to development and to chemicals used in farming. Forests in Mexico where the butterflies overwinter are being cut down and threatened by disease and erratic weather patterns. In response to this crisis scientists urge protection of existing habitat and taking measures to restore and enhance habitat.

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WELCOMING BACK STEPHEN MINISTRY

— Karen Kissinger

I am so grateful to be part of the team that is bringing Stephen Ministry back to Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. Recent training in St. Louis was excellent, and we were able to see how our community would benefit from having Stephen Ministers as part of our Cathedral Caregiving Ministry.



The mission for the program is "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." *Ephesians 4:12-13*

When I was in treatment for cancer last year, I was a care receiver. I experienced care and concern from this community. I received several ministries, including hospital and home visits, communion visits, intercessory prayers and healing prayers at church after communion. I received calls, cards and support from individuals that I really did know well, as I was new to the congregation. The people from this community who chose to care about me and offer support were instrumental in my healing. I felt the love and compassion of Christ through their ministries. I am so blessed and honored to be healthy enough to serve the community that served me in my time of need as a Stephen Leader.

The training that we will begin this autumn will enable us to enhance and expand care giving for our church community. A Stephen Minister is a caring volunteer who has received 50 hours of training, learning skills such as active listening, reflecting feelings, assertiveness and boundaries. Confidentiality is a core component of the training.

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Treasurer's Report

April saw lower pledge and plate payments than in 2014. The result was a larger monthly operating deficit than in 2014, even though expenses for the month were well contained vs. both the budget and last year. On a YTD basis, income was stronger than last year as better endowment income and higher user fees offset the sluggish receipt of pledge payments. With regard to expenses, this has been a good start to the year with lower expenses vs. both the budget and last year. Consequently, the deficit for the first four months of the year was in line with expectations and below last year.

April	2015 MTD	2014 MTD
Income	\$ 90,337	\$ 111,213
Expenses	\$ 134,691	\$ 138,659
Net Total	\$ (44,354)	\$ (27,446)

	2015 YTD	2014 YTD
Income	\$ 485,285	\$ 462,043
Expenses	\$ 559,007	\$ 565,145
Net Total	\$ (73,722)	\$ (103,102)

Pledge payments are very important in supporting the ministry of the Cathedral. As we approach the summer months, members are asked to remember that the Cathedral's expenses do not take a vacation. Therefore, please prayerfully remember to make timely payments of your pledge.

—Chuck Ritter, Treasurer

Welcome to the Cathedral: Newcomer Gathering

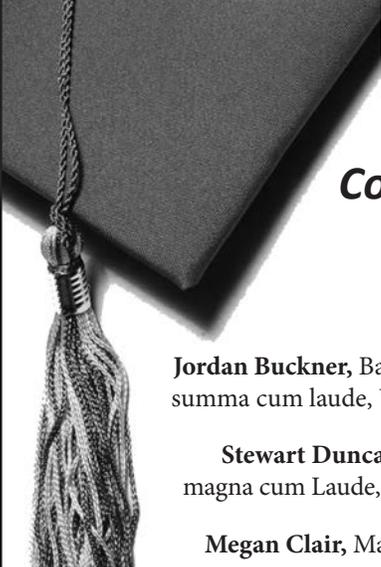
Sunday, July 12 • 11:45 a.m.

Are you new to Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral? Would you like to learn more about the Cathedral and the many ways you can connect with others? If so, please join us at our next Newcomer Gathering Sunday, July 12, following the 10:15 worship service. We gather for refreshments and conversation in a break-out room in Founders' Hall. You will have an opportunity to meet other newcomers, ministry leaders and clergy. Regardless of where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome. We look forward to meeting you and sharing more about GHTC. For more information, please contact the Rev. Christy Dorn, cdorn@kccathedral.org or 816-474-8260.

Summer Hospitality Hosts

Summer Hospitality Hosts bring food to share after Sunday morning services while our Holy Hands teams are on summer break. What you provide just needs to be something simple to go with a cup of coffee, like donuts/donut holes, fruit, brownies or cookies (homemade or from the store) or veggies. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the Nave and in Founders' Hall for you, your family, ministry group or small group to sign up for one or more weeks this summer (June 7 through Labor Day weekend). Questions? Contact Julie Toma, 816-214-9936 or jtoma@kccathedral.org.





Congratulations, Graduates!

Jordan Buckner, Bachelor of Arts in Music, summa cum laude, University of Saint Mary

Stewart Duncan, Bachelor of Arts, magna cum Laude, William Jewell College.

Megan Clair, Master's degree, UMKC

Madelyn Kretsinger, Liberty North High School

Josh Phillips, Bachelor of Science in Mass Media: Multimedia Journalism, NW Missouri State University

Hughes Ransom, Rockhurst High School

Jesse Schaaf, Bachelor's degree, Sweet Briar College

Nick Telep, Bishop Miege High School

Thanksgiving for the 125th Year of the Diocese of West Missouri

Sunday, June 7

Holy Eucharist 8 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 5 p.m.

We give thanks for 125 years of ministry as the Diocese of West Missouri. Excerpts from the sermon preached at the first convention of the new diocese, carved out of the western half of the Diocese of Missouri, will inspire our preaching that day. The first diocesan convention was held in the Grace Church, Kansas City, in our Parish House where the Common Room, Bookstore and Cathedral offices are located.

Choral Evensong, 2 p.m., Bishop Spencer Place

The Dean presides and an ensemble from our Trinity Choir directed by John Schaefer offers Evensong in thanksgiving for the Diocese. Bishop Spencer Place is an assisted living facility associated with the Diocese. Many of the senior members of our diocese make their homes at Bishop Spencer Place.

May Flowers, to the Glory of God ...

May 3

- in honor of our grandson, Lukas McLeroy
— Ron & Carolyn McLeroy

May 10

- in memory of Anne Augusta Morse — Richard & Anne Morse
- in thanksgiving — Premkumar & Caroline John
- in thanksgiving for the birth of great-grandson, William Trimble Kretsinger, III — Carolyn Trimble Kretsinger

May 17

- in thanksgiving for our daughter Betsy Leonard and in thanksgiving for our son & daughter in law, Brad & Kathleen McLeroy — Ron & Carolyn McLeroy
- in thanksgiving for the marriage of Ashley Albert & Christopher Haggerty
- in loving memory of The Very Reverend J. Earl Cavanaugh and in celebration of Leona Schaefer — Vangie Rich

May 24

- in memory of my father, Leslie L. Shaw — Shawsie Branton
- with thanks for the organ recital in honor of Mr. John Herbst
- in loving memory of our daughter, Margaret Rose Rice — David & Judy Rice

May 31

- in memory of David Ludwig — Dorothy & Sam Gershman

To donate toward the flowers to celebrate a special event or remember a loved one, contact the Cathedral office (816.474.8260 ext. 103 or jsweeting@kccathedral.org) or sign up (and pay) online: www.kccathedral.org/flowers.



General Convention

The General Convention of the Episcopal Church meets in Salt Lake City, UT, June 23 through July 3. The Dean is attending the Convention as an alternated deputy, and Curtis Hamilton, is serving as a deputy for the Diocese of West Missouri. The Convention and its work is featured at the Dean's Forum, Sunday, June 7.

Choraliers Director Retires

Malinda McCasland, director of the Grace Choraliers, has retired after 15 years of service to the Cathedral and its youngest musicians. Her dedication has been stellar, and she has imparted musical and spiritual truths to the children she has taught and nurtured. I thank her for all she done for all of us and wish her well in her new pursuits. We do look forward to her and her family being present on Sundays and Feast Days.

—John Schaefer

Holy Habitat

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Why do butterflies matter? According to the English organization Butterfly Conservation, butterflies aid scientists of all stripes in investigating “areas of biological research, including such diverse fields as navigation, pest control, embryology, mimicry, evolution, genetics, population dynamics and biodiversity conservation.” Besides, they are beautiful and are a metaphor for fanciful freedom.

On the Day of Pentecost, May 24 this year, the day we celebrate the birth of God's called-together church, the monarch butterfly served as a symbol of the Holy Spirit for us. Handmade paper butterflies hovered above altar flowers. Small pots of habitat-enhancing orange milkweed were sold. The funds raised will help pay for planting a way station of “butterfly friendly” common milkweed in our rain garden on the south side of the campus.

In the midst of declines and species crises the practical wisdom is that every bit of habitat helps. Way stations sustain and give life. As in the natural world, so it is in the world of the Spirit. With a shifting religious landscape, places where nurturing habitat is cultivated and souls are fed with spiritual food matter all the more. What we have going for us at the Cathedral is the holy habitat of worship to feed souls. What we need to do better is to take our story into the world. The human species may not know that it is hungering for connection in Christ. As one person has written about the church in today's societal flux, it is a time for us “to embrace the decline.” We are blessed to have our way station of real church, real people, in the heart of the city.

—Peter

Stephen Ministry

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Stephen Ministers are lay people — Christian men and women — trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or serious illness, relocation or separation due to military deployment.

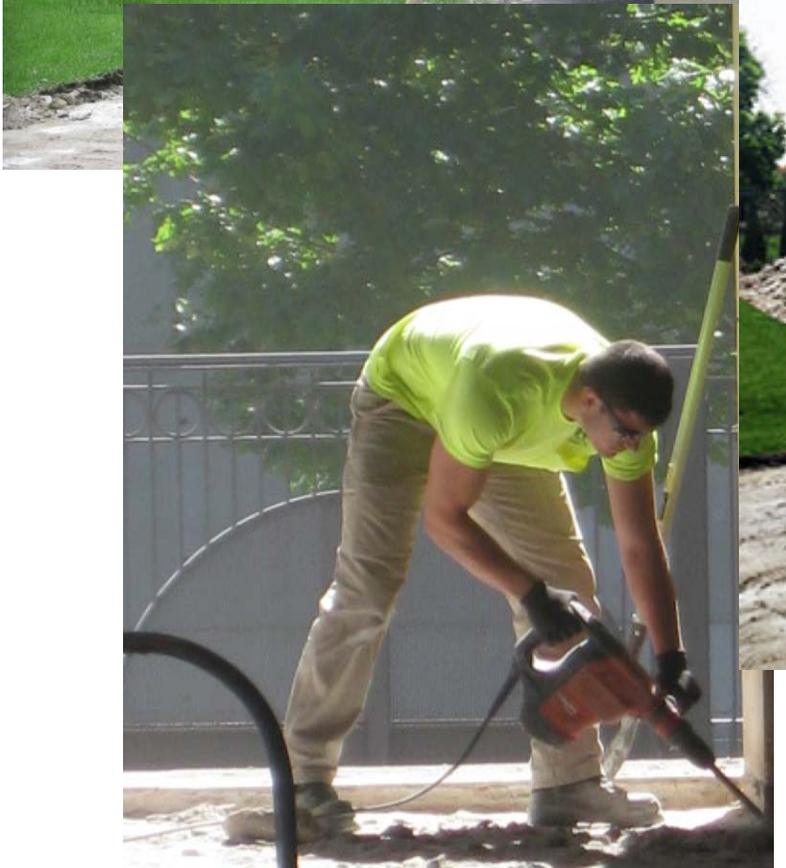
Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life. What they have in common is a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need. Helping people who are hurting is the goal, and as I learned from co-facilitating the Christian Caregiving Class, there are compassionate parishioners who are interested in care giving and many in our community who would benefit from having a Stephen Minister.

For more information on Stephen Ministry, contact the Rev. Christy Dorn, cdorn@kccathedral.org, or Karen Kissinger, karenkiss1@aol.com.

Courtyard Renovations

For the past few Sundays, the courtyard entrances to the Nave and Founders' Hall have been inaccessible due to the ongoing renovations to the courtyard.

Work is nearing completion, and we will soon have a beautiful new courtyard to enjoy for years to come.





Women of Grace

— Spring Luncheon 2015

Women of Grace Spring Luncheon was held Saturday, May 2, at the Carriage Club, just south of the Plaza. Sue and Karen Looney presented a program and demonstration on the art of ikebana or Japanese flower arranging. The Women of Grace Luncheons are open to all women of the Cathedral, as well as their family and friends. The next luncheon will be in October.



Diaper Donation Drive

An estimated 15,000+ children in the Kansas City area aren't receiving the diapers they need. We are collecting diapers for HappyBottoms, a local organization that works with partners to provide diapers to low-income families. We accept all sizes (even open packs). Bring your donations to the blue barrel in the cross hall or to the basket in the Tower through July 5.



Check Out the Online Angelus

For an expanded newsletter with color photographs and stories unable to be included in this print edition, visit kccathedral.org/angelus. The next online edition includes pictures from our current courtyard renovation.



The Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

P.O. Box 412048
 Kansas City, Missouri 64141
 Telephone: (816) 474-8260
 Facsimile: (816) 474-5856
 Website: www.kccathedral.org
 E-mail: office@kccathedral.org

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The Rt. Rev. Martin S. Field, *Bishop of West Missouri*
 The Very Rev. Peter DeVeau, *Dean*
 The Rev. Christy Dorn, *Associate*
 The Rev. Jerry Grabher, *Deacon*
 The Rev. Leslie Hoover, *Deacon*
 The Rev. Jim Robertson, *Deacon*
 The Rev. Dr. Michael Johnston, *Scholar-in-Residence*
 Mr. John L. Schaefer, *Canon Musician*
 William Baker, *Cathedral Chorale Director*
 Julie Brogno, *Children's and Family Ministry*
 Alexandra Connors, *Youth Minister*
 Joan Bock, *Nursery Manager/On-Site Wedding Coordinator*
 Julie Toma, *Cathedral Administrator*
 David Stoll, *Financial Administrator*
 Patrick Bell, *Communications Coordinator*
 Janet Sweeting, *Sacristan*
 Bryan Boyd, *Property Manager*
 Mike Guidry, *Property Assistant*

Weekly Activities

Sunday
 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation
 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Children's Chapel
 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday
 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 7:15 p.m. Centering Prayer (June/July)

Tuesday
 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study
 2:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Wednesday
 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Thursday
 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 1:30 p.m. Centering Prayer (June/July)

Friday
 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Highlights for June / July / August

FRIDAY • JUNE 12
 8:00 p.m. Concert: KC Chamber Orchestra

WEDNESDAY • JUNE 17
 7:15 a.m. Finance Committee
 7:00 p.m. St. Mark's Deanery

SUNDAY • JUNE 21
 2:00 p.m. Concert & Tea:
 St. David's Welsh Society
 3:00 p.m. St. Benedict's Deanery

THURSDAY • JUNE 25
 5:30 p.m. Vestry

FRIDAY • JULY 3
 Buildings & Offices Closed
 for Independence Day

WEDNESDAY • JULY 15
 7:00 p.m. St. Mark's Deanery

SUNDAY • JULY 19
 3:00 p.m. St. Benedict's Deanery

SATURDAY • JULY 25
 8:00 p.m. Feast of Eagles —
 Society for Creative Anachronism

SATURDAY • AUGUST 22
 8:00 p.m. Concert: Summer Singers
 of Kansas City

*Sundays in August, 2 p.m.
 Summer Music at the Cathedrals*

