



The Angelus

Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral • Kansas City, Missouri

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Gender Issues at General Convention

The triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church, which meets for ten days in early August, will consider approving, among hundreds of other issues, the Episcopal orders for an openly gay person with a partner in the election of V. Gene Robinson to the episcopate from the diocese of New Hampshire and a recommendation for authorizing blessings of same sex relationships.

As is often the case behind the headlines, there are issues which carry weighty implications for us all. In this case, those implications concern at the very least differences in how we understand what Holy Scripture is saying to us about what is and what is not an acceptable standard for Christian moral behavior. The last General Convention's House of Deputies, made up of clergy and lay delegates from each diocese in the Episcopal Church, was evenly divided on the issue of writing an officially approved liturgy for the blessing of same sex relationships. Recently, the House of Bishops Theology Committee has recommended that we should not move further at this time.

Only the state decides the question of a legal marriage. Blessing a relationship will not make it a marriage, but blessing is the only sign the church has apart from the civil law. That is, in heterosexual marriages a priest of the church acts as a servant of the state except for the blessing. The Church's blessing is the best it has to offer. Therefore the blessing is of significant import. If and when the state approves same sex relationships in marriage, the blessing, should such be approved at General Convention, will be in place already and will then become an act of blessing for those marriages.

The Minneapolis vote will decide this issue for our church, but how delegates can make informed decisions on the hundreds of issues which are addressed at a General Convention is difficult to conceive. I do not consider myself thoroughly conversant with this one issue though I have studied the scriptures for years, perused many popular articles, and read at least three theological books on the topic. I cannot but wonder what the level of preparation is for the 800 delegates to the Gen-

eral Convention who, as of this writing, have not yet received an actual piece of legislation. Some surely will be more thoroughly prepared. Further, how can the Episcopal Church be ready for such a momentous decision without the rest of the Christian Church world-wide?

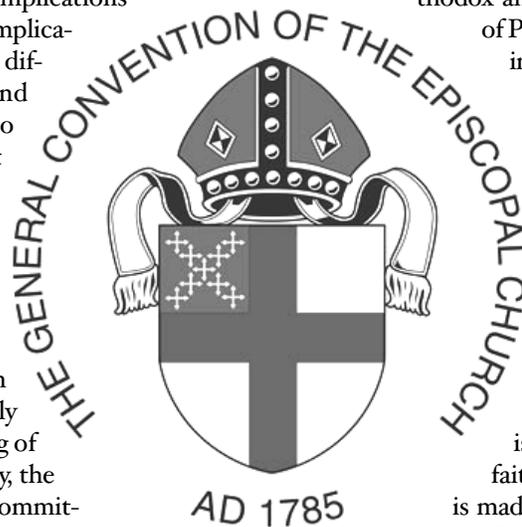
One pragmatic issue for our small church (1/3 of 1 percent of Americans worshiped on the average in Episcopal churches on a given Sunday in 2001 [853,000]) is that the majority of Anglicans, all of the Eastern Or-

thodox and Roman Catholic and the bulk of Protestant communions worldwide in their prayerful consideration will continue to oppose the blessing of same sex relationships for the foreseeable future. This is not about being unwelcoming to gays and lesbians in our congregation or the congregations of other Christian bodies. They are equal and valued members of Christian assemblies. There are faithful Christians on both sides of the present issue, and they will continue to be faithful Christians after the decision is made in Minneapolis. Of grave concern, at the moment, is how many of that 853,000 there will be following the decision.

It is my prayer that the church will not divide and that the Episcopal Church will become 'a large house' in its ability to live in open dialogue with loving respect for each other as we move through these difficult issues and ones which will surely come in the future. Our problem as sinful human beings is that we often feel so passionately our personally held views that we demonize those with other views. We then cut off the possibility of open dialogue rather than embracing each other as Christian sisters and brothers both in the midst of and at the end of the dialogue.

In my judgment we have had little if any in-depth dialogue at diocesan or parish levels about these issues because of the lack of acceptance of persons with opposing views. And yet Jesus Christ's welcome is an invitation for every person to embrace God's love. Each of us is called to repentance, forgiveness, and inclusive ministry. It is my hope that we can, through dialogue and prayer, discern the mind of Christ and do it together.

- by *The Rev. Dr. James A. Hubbard, Dean Interim*



Cathedral Outreach Program Works With Those in Need

Have you ever needed help and didn't know where to turn? What if you had been ill, off work and couldn't afford a needed prescription because it would be another month before you returned to work?

Most of us have never had to wrestle with those dilemmas, but many do and that's where Grace and Holy Trinity's Cathedral Outreach program comes into play.

The Cathedral Outreach Program was started recently as a cooperative effort between the Social Action Committee and the Clergy, with the support of the Vestry and Finance Committee. Its primary purpose is to provide short term, one time, emergency assistance to those in need. The needs are immediate and so is the relief.



Those who come in and demonstrate a specific need can usually obtain relief within hours or days. The program's caveat is that the relief is a one time assistance—it's not one's desire that this become a welfare program.

Committee members and volunteers are John Hornbeck, Paul Kim, Mike Sancho, Jennifer "JR" Roberts, Laura Lee, Bridgett Shirley and Peg Brown. Cathedral clergy are also available for spiritual counseling when requested.

Paul Kim, a member of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, is the program's professional. Paul serves the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception as their Emergency Assistance Coordinator and is involved in several similar programs.

"We've set it up so there are specific days and times the program is available, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9:30am and 11:30am in the Multipurpose Room in Founders' Hall. Usually myself and one other volunteer come in and set-up. It's very simple, just a table, some chairs for us and for those waiting. We also have to borrow a phone and laptop from the Cathedral Office. Once we're ready, we have each person seeking assistance fill out a short form to gather information and state their need. The information gathering is important, because it allows us to search a database to see whether that person is in there," Kim said.

The database Kim refers to is "MAACLINK," which is supported by the

Mid-America Assistance Coalition, an umbrella service agency which coordinates various church-based and secular assistance groups. MAACLINK is web-based and allows users to see whether an individual has applied with another program, eliminating duplication of services and possible fraud.

The database also provides needed statistics such as how many people have been seen, how many assisted and for what purpose.

The statistics do not use confidential information.

"We then interview the person or family to determine the exact need. It requires an amount of empathy and understanding, because most of these people are truly in need. We then determine a course of action. If someone needs money for a prescription,

we contact the pharmacy and make arrangements for that person to get the medicine. We don't hand out money," Kim explained.

Paul said that while empathy is needed, so is a certain amount of firmness.

"If a person comes in needing rent money for this month, we require they demonstrate they will be able to pay next month. Otherwise, they'll be in the same situation a month later."

On a recent morning, six to eight people had gathered even before the doors were open. JR began gathering information and started the interviews.

"I like helping people out. I wanted to volunteer work as part of my tithing," she said.

JR sees the work as giving, quoting the apostle Paul, "I am not trying to relieve others by putting a burden on you; but since you have plenty at this time, it is only fair that you should help those who are in need. Then, when you are in need and they have plenty, they will help you. In this way both are treated equally." (2 Corinthians 8:13-14)

The program is funded by the parish through Sunday collections and as of now the budget is adequate to cover the needs. GHTC members are urged to volunteer, especially this fall after school has started.

To volunteer, please call the Cathedral Tuesdays or Thursdays between 9:30 and 11:30, extension 132. You may also e-mail: outreach@ghtc-kc.org - by Keith Jordan

Consider It a Facelift

Hopefully by the time you reach this page, you will have noticed that a few things have changed around here. It is with a great sense of excitement that we present to you this issue of *The Angelus*.

The color has changed, from cardinal red to cathedral red, a deep hue of purple used in cathedrals throughout the Anglican communion.

Other differences are evident in the masthead. The typeface is new but most important is the return of the long lost article, "The." After a ten year hiatus, the "the" makes a comeback, a bold statement of this publication's seventy-plus year history.

More pages? Yes, thanks to the efforts of a creative group of parishioners, we are now able to cover more stories, your stories.

Yet the essence remains unchanged, "a laypersons' newspaper." We will continue to announce upcoming events and calendar items, but today as ever, we hope this instrument can be the voice of our parish, a platform for dialogue, and another way to learn more about each other.

You hold in your hands the result of months of careful planning and hard work. It is our desire to serve you through this medium as best we can. As always, your feedback and suggestions are invited.

We look forward to hearing from you, so keep in touch as we embark on this venture together. - by Sergio C. Moreno

The Angelus

A laypersons' newspaper published in the interest of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral.

THE ANGELUS SMALL GROUP CONTRIBUTORS:

Cynthia Newman	John Hornbeck
Keith Jordan	Erin Myers
Jan Frizzle	Emily Akins
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Sergio C. Moreno

Submissions from parishioners and small groups are welcome and encouraged. All entries are requested by the 15th day of the month prior to publication via fax: (816) 474-5856 or e-mail: communications@ghtc-kc.org

A Devotional Prayer, a French Painting, and a Parish Newsletter

What does this publication have in common with a famous 19th Century French painting and a form of devotional prayer that can be traced back at least 700 years? It's all in a name.

The Angelus is a prayer practice rich in tradition with an origin dating at least to the 13th century. The prayer begins with these words: "The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary...And she conceived of the Holy Spirit." The name The Angelus is derived from the first word of the first verse in Latin - *Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae*.

This devotion in honor of the Incarnation was traditionally said three times a day, at 6:00 a.m., noon, and 6:00 p.m. The morning prayer was for Christ's resurrection, the noon prayer for the passion of Christ, and the evening prayer for the Incarnation. Each of the prayers centered around the saying of three Hail Marys.

During those three times of the day, the call to prayer was signaled by a ringing of bells - the bells were rung with three strokes repeated three times, a total of nine strokes with a pause between each set of three. This was so much a part of the practice, that bells may be found throughout Europe that are dedicated to The Angelus, those bells being inscribed with that angelic salutation. Other

bells inscribed with *Ave Maria* or *O Rex Gloriam Veni Cum Pace* (O King of Glory, Come with Peace) may have also been dedicated to The Angelus. One 15th century bell was inscribed with the words *Cum ter reboo, pie Christiferam ter aveto* -

When I ring thrice, thrice devoutly greet the Mother of Christ.

This practice in the French countryside, as well as elsewhere around Europe, was the basis for what may be the most famous French painting of the 19th Century. This touching work is also titled *The Angelus*, and Jean-Francois Millet painted it in 1859. It portrays a man and a woman, farmers, standing in an open field. They pause in prayer, presumably having heard the bells toll toward the end of their workday. We



know that this is the prayer at Compline, because the artist shows the familiar blush of distant clouds as if at twilight. The man holds his cap at his waist, and she clasps her hands together, both with head bowed in reverent prayer.

Looking at the painting closely, you can also see the bell tower of a distant church in the background. It is said that when the artist's agent first saw the picture, the agent said, "It is the Angelus." The artist replied saying, "Yes, can you hear the bells?"

- by John Hornbeck

Godz Werkuz Circus School Highlights



- photos by Jan Frizzle

Women's Conference

The 2003 Annual Episcopal Church Women's Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20 at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. The conference will begin with an opening Eucharist at 12:00 noon, followed by a box lunch in Founders' Hall. The registration table will open at 11:00 and during lunch.

The Rev. Susan McCann will be our keynote speaker. There will be two workshops (presented twice so you may attend both) on Friday afternoon.

Plan to bring a "hat" for a "fun style show." There will be a short business meeting on Saturday before closing.

Registration forms are available at the front desk in the Cathedral Office. Begin planning now - request a vacation day, arrange for a sitter or plan a daddy weekend for the children!

This conference will offer a great opportunity for spiritual enlightenment, an update on current health issues, to meet women from other churches in our diocese, to have a great time and a mini-vacation from your daily routine. We hope you will attend!

For further information contact Marnell Sparks at (913) 432-8867.

Green Grass and Blue Skies Forever

"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." - 1 Timothy 4:12
"...and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us." - Hebrews 12:1

I had just finished unpacking all my worldly belongings into my new dorm room when I noticed it was time to meet my orientation group.

It was the fall of 1995, and I was newly arrived on the campus of Gonzaga University. Down the three flights of stairs and across the campus I went to the rendezvous point for the transfer students.

On the way I met Mike Quinn, a sandy-haired lightweight of a guy with more energy than was strictly good for him. He seemed nice enough, so we chatted until our volunteer student tour guide arrived.

Her name was Heather and she was exactly what you think of when you hear the words "Blonde Bombshell." Blonde hair, blue eyes, and all the curves in the right places.

"Hellooooo, Heather!" Mike said under his breath. They'd be dating within a couple months. Don't you hate guys like that? Mike would be my closest friend for our two years at Gonzaga.

Sometimes you'll hear a sportscaster describe a team as "playing to the level of its competition." This describes my passion for athletics pretty well. My love of physical activity is fairly general in nature, so I usually end up doing whatever sport my closest friends enjoy doing.

Befriending Mike, who could be described as an over-active monkey on speed only if you wanted to be understated about it, turned me into a thrill-seeking adrenaline junky.

I had learned to skate playing the (relatively) safe sport of ice hockey during high school. With Mike this ability turned into street rollerblading, the pinnacle of which was skating down a set of fifty stairs at the Spokane Coliseum by leaping each group of ten steps and alighting on the short landings between them before leaping again. This would be followed by a high speed jump over a four foot wide planter while spinning 180 degrees and landing backwards. Don't even get me started about racing dump trucks through downtown.

I had been using a bicycle for transportation and casual recreation for years, but with Mike around my mountain bike became the chief instrument in an ongoing experiment with gravity. I had to buy a new helmet during those years not because the old one

was out of style, but because the old one had a great big dent in the forehead of it.

In addition to this there was rock climbing, skiing, racquetball, and whatever else we could fit between classes.

I mention Mike and our borderline crazy love of outdoor adventure because I will spend the last couple weeks of this month of August in Helena, Montana with Mike, and we have perhaps the ultimate adrenaline inspired activity planned.

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When youth event planners or graphic designers need a short line of scripture for their poster or event t-shirt, these verses from 1 Timothy and Hebrews are the most commonly chosen bits. 1 Timothy specifically



mentions youth, so I guess the applicability is obvious, and Hebrews talks about life as a race which sounds dynamic and exciting and *youthy*, I suppose.

I'm a little hesitant about choosing scripture verses to live by just because they sound cool, but in this case these verses and the youth they're chosen to represent reflect an aspect of the religious life we often forget about.

In this life that God has given us our souls are intimately connected to our bodies. Perhaps this seems obvious, but there is spiritual guidance to be had from such a thought. The scriptures are full of individuals and groups that went to physical extremes to find their way closer to God.

The Israelites hiked the Sinai desert for forty years, John the Baptist was a survivalist who lived off the land, and Jesus himself wandered alone through the wilderness for forty days. In addition, men and women throughout Christian history have adopted various practices of discipline and asceticism to further their lives of faith.

It is tempting from a modern perspective to write off such practices as crazy. After all, it is hard to imagine how living at the top of a column like Saint Daniel the Stylite would make you better able to hear God's

voice, and most of us are so unused to deprivation that surviving on bread and water sounds more like cruel and unusual punishment than a spiritual discipline.

Yet young people seem to naturally understand this link between extremes of bodily experience and transcendent spirituality. It is a bit of a leap to get from ascetic practices to extreme sports, but it's a leap I'm going to take.

•••

Mike is a pilot now. He finished airline school in September of 2001, which as you can imagine was not the best time to be looking for a job as an airline pilot. So he was lucky when he moved back to Montana and got a job with the State Government flying all over the time-zone-spanning state and changing the giant light bulbs at the top of their visual navigation towers.

Last Christmas when I visited he took my little brother and I up in a VW Beetle with wings and let us fly it around. This August when I go back, we have a plane rented that will take us a couple hours north of Helena where we will land, strap huge amounts of nylon fabric to our backs, and then take off again. On this second flight however, we will not be onboard for the landing.

That's right. On August 23rd, 2003, I am going to jump out of an airplane. Mike's been doing it for years, but in college I was not interested. I have either gotten more foolish in my old age, or else reached a stage of spiritual development where I am ready for the sublime asceticism of bodily transcendence.

Jumping out of an airplane is a much more modern way of altering your consciousness than the deprivation and extremes of medieval ascetic practices, but the results are similar I think.

When I step out of that little plane and into the bottomless skies above Montana, all of these clever little glands hidden away inside my nervous system will start producing gallons of adrenaline, endorphins, and any number of other pleasant chemical substances.

I don't know if I'll have a spiritual vision or breakthrough, but I'm fairly sure it will be an experience I'll remember for the rest of my life.

Mike often signs his e-mails with the phrase "Green Grass and Blue Skies Forever." I never asked him why, but I'm guessing that on a clear day in Montana, when you step out of an airplane, that is exactly what you see.

- by The Rev. Benjamin J. Newland, Associate Priest

Molly Murphey, Cathedral member, joins the Kansas City Chiefs

Molly Murphey is the chief reason why Kansas City is the top fundraiser for Down Syndrome. This September 13, Molly and her Chief friends will for the third year, participate in a fund raising walk for Down syndrome.

The Chiefs offensive line sponsors the First Downs for Down syndrome.

This charming two-year-old redhead is a special and cherished member of our nursery group at the cathedral. Her brothers, Colman and Owen are understandably proud of the progress Molly has made. You will find them always giving those special hugs and attention every two-year old needs. Four-year-old Owen is steadfast in his assisting Molly to walk and their special bond is certainly evident as they play together.

In our nursery, Molly will give you a winning smile and carefully walk over, arms raised, to give you a warm hug and show you her dolly.

For these last months, the major focus for Molly has been

acquiring walking skills. Having accomplished that, she can now give attention to developing her language skills.

Her mother Celia, explained "that sign language is a skill for Molly that will facili-

tate her speaking vocabulary." Molly understands 50 signs. Some of her favorite signs used most often are, "eat, drink, go, done."

Another very favorite sign is music. Her love of music is exceptional. Play anything by Barney or the Dixie Chicks and her blue eyes and red pony tail dance with delight. She will also demonstrate some very original dance moves for you.

Celia and Jerry Murphey have been very active in the Kansas City support group for Down syndrome children. Strong nurturing at

home and the professional care and therapy at the Leeann Britain Infant Development Center have enabled Molly to make exceptional progress.

"Molly and the Boys" walk for Down syndrome earned \$4,000 of the \$116,000 pledged last year and our Kansas City walk was the nations' largest walk. We fully expect Molly to top those numbers this year. The Clinic at Children's Mercy Hospital and the Down syndrome guild are the recipients of these valuable funds.

You'll soon see Molly featured in public service announcements. Look for her also in the Kansas City Chief program where photos of Molly and other children appear with

the Chiefs promoting "First Downs for Down syndrome."

Mark your calendars. Saturday, September 13. Arrowhead Stadium 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. for the Down syndrome Festival. The actual walk during the festival will be at the stadium at 1 p.m.

In the interim, you'll see Molly and her family Sundays in Founders' Hall at the DS walk sign up table. You can't miss her. Look for a smiling, loving, redheaded two year old. She has a special hug for you.

- story and photo by Jan Frizzle
Kansas City Chiefs photo courtesy of
First Downs for Down Syndrome



About Down Syndrome

People with Down Syndrome have an extra critical portion of the number 21 chromosome present in all or some of their cells. The additional genetic material alters the course of development and causes the characteristics associated with the syndrome.

It is one of the leading clinical causes of intellectual disabilities in the world. People with Down Syndrome are at higher risk for medical problems and language delays.

Early intervention, high quality educational programs, a stimulating home environment and good medical care enable people with Down Syndrome to become active and contributing members of their families and their communities.

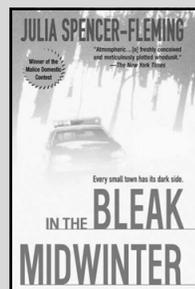
- One in every 800 live births is a child with Down Syndrome.
- Down Syndrome affects 5,000 births every year in the U.S.
- Down Syndrome affects more than 350,000 people in the U.S.

Upcoming Selections from The Blakeslee Reading Society

For lively discussion and to learn why the Cathedral's Book Discussion Small Group is called "The Blakeslee Reading Society" come to one of the gatherings every third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. The group meets in the Common Room or at the home of the host of the month. For further information and to be added to the group's mailing list, contact Candy McDowell at (816) 741-0992, or candylee@kc.rr.com

Both of the following selections are available in the Cathedral Bookstore.

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER
by Julia Spencer-Fleming

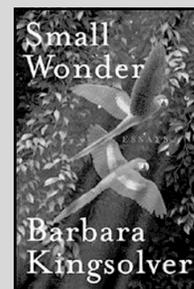


August 19

We will meet at the home of hosts Di and Geoff Logan.

12409 Cambridge Circle,
Leawood, KS.
(913) 338-2313

SMALL WONDER: ESSAYS
by Barbara Kingsolver



September 16

Ruth Evans is the host. We will meet at the home of Ruth MaGill.

4957 Mercier Street
Kansas City, MO
(816) 523-3174

Royals Faithful Small Group is in Season

Many parishioners know that the Royals Faithful is a small group dedicated to the Royals. However, many cathedral members may not know that the Royals Faithful also organizes other events such as picnics and outreach projects.

Only in its second year since its creation, it has developed into a group of diverse individuals who share a love for fellowship and sports.

"There is a real diversity in who participates," said Linda Yeager, coordinator of the group. "Royals fans go across the spectrum"

Although it is not exactly clear who originally proposed the idea, it seems to have been a collaborative effort. At the chili cookout last year, a group of cathedral members were talking about the Royals ball games.

"We got to talking about the Royals and decided we needed a small group." Ruth MaGill, a member of the group, said. Thus, the group formed and currently has ten active members.



Curtis Hamilton, a member of the cathedral and facilitator of the Royals Faithful, said that being a Royals fan in the group "isn't a prerequisite by any stretch of the imagination, but it certainly helps."

The group outings provide a chance for people to get together, to give everyone a "sense of community," Hamilton said.

"It's hard to know everybody in the church. But it gives you a few folks to get to know."

For most of the other members, fellowship with other cathedral parishioners is also a key reason why they have become involved and continue to participate in the small group.

Sally Livengood, a member since its creation, sums it up when she says, "It is nice to have social activities with those with whom you worship."

Terence Belcher used to play baseball for the Ban Johnson league, a semi-professional baseball team here in Kansas City. For him, the group

outings are significant since he "had to retire from baseball and become a spectator."

In fact, Belcher recently participated in the outreach dimension of the group and took a twelve-year old to a Royals game who had never been to a professional baseball game.

"That was the thrill of his life," Belcher said.

MaGill encourages other cathedral members to become involved in this fun group.

"Anybody who wants to go to a ballgame is welcome to come," she said. "Even when it is hot out there, it is still fun."

In addition to Royals game outings, upcoming events sponsored by the Royals

Faithful include a possible trip to a T-Bones game and a watch party for an away game later in the season.

- written by Erin Myers
photos by Linda Yeager



Kneeler Cushion Given in Memory of Frank and Muriel Ayres

The new kneeler for the prie-dieu was blessed on July 20, in memory of Frank and Muriel Ayres. It was done in needlepoint by Phyllis Ryder, to honor her parents. Phyllis's father was a silversmith and was bound to service for a period of six or seven years, she believes.

His indenture papers, which she has, are dated January 28, 1899. He arrived first in Canada, at the age of 15, and then went on to New York. Having been a member of the Church of England at his home outside London, he was a soloist at the Church of the Heavenly Rest in New York City where he met Muriel Cannon, who would become his wife. Muriel's family had also come from London.

As a child of about six, Phyllis remembers being taken to her father's shop where he was restoring a Cellini (1500-1571) bowl.

He put it in her hands and told her to never forget she had held it. Her father crafted many silver pieces, including some which are still in use at the Washington National Cathedral. Although they are unsigned, she was able to see them after they were identified by his drawings, which she also has.

Phyllis and Alan are long time members of the Cathedral, having come from St. George's in the early 70s. As with her mother and father, they also met as teenagers at their parish, which was St. Luke's in Brooklyn, New York.

After much research, it was decided that the kneeler should portray the following healing herbs: chamomile, mallow, sage, hyssop and mustard. Please take the time to stop and look at this beautiful addition to the Nave.

- story and photo by Mary Byrne



Dean Selection Process Is Underway

The recently appointed Dean Selection Committee met with Bishop Barry Howe and Archdeacon John McCann on Monday, July 21. At the meeting, the Bishop charged the Committee with presenting to him a slate of candidates from which he can nominate a priest to be presented to the Vestry for election as the next Dean of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Bishop Howe also emphasized the importance of keeping him, the Vestry, and the Cathedral parish appropriately informed throughout the process. Discussion followed about the roles of the Bishop, Archdeacon, Vestry, parish, and clergy.

Following the conversation with Bishop Howe and Archdeacon McCann, the Committee met briefly to discuss the timeline, job descriptions, and sub-committee assignments. Gathering information from the congregation and production of the Parish Profile, the first major task of

the Committee, should begin in August.

The Committee consists of Candy McDowell, Chairman; Mike McDonald, Vice Chairman; Jackye Finnie; Steve Moore; Jan Frizzle; Ron McLeroy; Mike Flora; Angela Michka; Ellen Goheen; Ric Sweeting; Bill Hubbard; Sean Robinson; John Jennings; Herman Wallace; Ruth MaGill; Cathy Van Keppel; Ruth Moss.

Additionally, Al Mauro, Senior Warden, Dick Fanolio, Junior Warden, and Mike Thomas, Treasurer, will serve as ex-officio members and Archdeacon McCann will serve as consultant to the Committee.

Although formal solicitation of candidates to be considered will not take place until the Parish Profile is completed, those wishing to suggest names now are asked to put them in writing and send them to the Cathedral ATTN: The Selection Committee.

- by Candy McDowell



Editor and Civil Rights Activist Remembered at Cathedral

Lucile H. Bluford, long-time editor and publisher of the Kansas City Call, was remembered in a funeral service on Thursday, June 19, 2003, at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Bluford is best remembered in Kansas City for the many years she spent as managing editor and publisher of *The Call*, one of the leading African American newspapers in the country.

Cathedral member Sharon Cheers knew Bluford for many years and had a deep reverence and respect for her. Cheers appreciated Bluford, "not only as a civil rights pioneer, but also how she opened paths for a lot of people."

Bluford became active in civil rights issues after the University of Missouri repeatedly denied her applications to attend graduate school. She filed a lawsuit against the university, and the state Supreme Court ruled in 1942 that the university must provide "separate but equal" educational facilities for black students. The university awarded Bluford an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in 1989, fifty years after she filed her lawsuit against the university.

"Mrs. Bluford is our Rosa Parks," Cheers said, remembering that Bluford and Parks were able to make a difference partly by being in the right place at the right time and for standing up for what they felt they were entitled to. Cheers also said that Bluford was glad to have lived long enough to see more blacks and more women get into the profes-

sional world. Bluford often encouraged Cheers in her career as an attorney, and she will remain thankful that Bluford urged her to get a lifetime membership in the NAACP.

Bluford is also remembered for her devotion to the Episcopal Church; having joined the Episcopal Church early in her life, when her family moved to Kansas City. She later became a member of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. There she served several terms on the vestry, was a member of the Episcopal Church Women and other groups, and taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

She came to the Cathedral many times, especially for women's conventions and meetings and occasionally attended services on Sundays.

According to Cheers, Bluford's fondness for the Anglican world extended especially to Archbishop Desmond Tutu. She says they frequently discussed Tutu's work in South Africa and his efforts to end apartheid.

Bluford's position at *The Call* put in her in contact with virtually all of the area's elected officials, placing her in a position of influence. She was especially influential during election times, when many, if not most, candidates for local offices would meet with her.

"Candidates would always come in looking for her endorsement," Cheers said. "She never just gave them a blanket endorsement. I think she took a lot of pride in that. I think she liked being hands-on, it was part of her social connectedness."

Cheers was able to repay some of Bluford's kindness and friendship by helping out in her final years.

"It was a time of need for her, but it was also a way to pay respect for her," she said.

"Mrs. Bluford always declined but I always brought something by. She was always grateful for the help."

She also said she will always admire Bluford's respect for others and her way of life, "especially how she treated everyone and how she was able to lay the groundwork for many landmark events in civil liberties and civil rights."

More than 200 people attended Bluford's funeral. Speakers included the Rev. Emmanuel Cleaver, former Kansas City mayor; Donna Stewart, current managing editor of *The Call*; and Alvin Brooks, Kansas City councilman and Mayor Pro Tem. St. Augustine's rector, The Rev. Thomas E. Shepherd officiated, and Bishop Barry R. Howe was the celebrant.

- by Chris Morrison



Liam Rusconi McKeown Comes Home to Kansas City

In China, there is a proverb that says “an invisible thread connects those who are destined to meet, regardless of time, place or circumstance. The thread may stretch or tangle, but it will never break.”

For Liam James Yong Rusconi McKeown, that thread stretched halfway around the world to connect him to his parents, Robin Rusconi and Jae McKeown.

At the time that Liam was born in China on March 4, 2000, Jae and Robin had no idea that they were destined to find him. Before they learned about Liam, they endured several years of struggle, first trying without success to have children on their own, and then an attempt at domestic adoption.

In June of last year they heard of a child available for open adoption in Joplin, Missouri. The call came on a Friday, and Jae and Robin went down on a Saturday - they met the birth parents and had begun to care for the baby girl after the birth mother had left the hospital.

But Sunday brought the bad news of a change of heart on the part of the baby's birth father. In just a few days, Jae and Robin had traveled many miles hoping to find a daughter, but had returned to Kansas City heart broken.

“I think leaving that little girl was the hardest thing Jae and I had ever done,” Robin said.

During the following months, they struggled with their sorrow but never stopped wanting a child. In September, a friend suggested adopting from China. Originally, international adoption had not been as appealing to them - it could take as long as two years and would almost certainly not be an open adoption.

When they heard that Chinese adoption could take as little as six months, Jae and Robin made a phone call that changed their lives. It was then that their thread to China began to reveal itself.

They learned of a program for children who have special needs that keep them from being adopted through other programs. They were referred to an agency called Families Through International Adoption. They made a phone call and then they heard about Liam. He was a two and a half year old boy, then named Fu Yong, in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China. Despite a few reservations that she and Jae had about the child's age, Robin requested more information from the agency.

“I got his information the next day and couldn't keep myself from opening it,” said

Robin. “The minute I saw his face, I knew I wanted to adopt him.”

“That's my son,” thought Jae, upon viewing Liam's information.

The process of adoption began and the thread between Liam and his parents grew more taut. Jae and Robin wrote a letter to the Chinese government office in charge of adoptions explaining how they understood and would care for the child's special needs.



In this case, Liam's special need was a repaired cleft lip and cleft palate.

“I don't know if we would have been brave enough to take on a child labeled ‘special needs’ without the knowledge and support of the hospital staff,” said Robin, who is Manager of Regional Affairs at Children's Mercy Hospital. “I felt a lot more confident with the information I had from colleagues at the hospital.”

While Jae and Robin waited for their preliminary approval, they began to compile a dossier - a file of information including documents certifying their birth and marriage, employment information and physicians' letters.

All of this was collected, notarized, processed, and approved by the Chinese Consulate before it was submitted for approval. Jae and Robin were anxious to receive their approval before Christmas and so they completed and submitted their dossier by November. After that incredible amount of initial paperwork had been submitted, the long wait began.

It wasn't until the first day of the Chinese New Year, January 31, that they received the call saying that they had been approved.

“When I got the message, I cried and

hyperventilated. We were so excited,” said Robin. “Time moved so fast from then until we left.”

Soon they learned that they were to travel on March 6 with eight other families and that two of those families were adopting from the same province. There were many preparations to be made before their departure and yet another struggle to overcome.

Right before they were to leave for China, Jae lost his job. This meant that documents needed to be amended to reflect that change, and Jae and Robin were concerned that they would not be able to adopt.

Fortunately, it was just a matter of paperwork, and ultimately, not having a stressful job back home to worry about, enabled Jae to focus on meeting Liam and learning about China.

They finally arrived in China, as scheduled, and on Sunday, March 9, five days after Liam's 3rd birthday, Jae and Robin traveled to the city of Urumqi to meet their son.

“When he entered the room, he was a little tentative,” said Robin, “but the orphanage staff was really helpful and he was won over by the one thing all kids love - Cheerios!”

Liam's new parents were also able to meet his caretaker and the orphanage director. They gave Jae and Robin some pictures of Liam and told them a bit more about how they had cared for his cleft palate.

In retrospect, Jae and Robin realized that Liam's special need may have been a blessing in disguise: because babies with a cleft lip or cleft palate are so difficult to feed, they require more frequent feedings of smaller amounts of food. This means that Liam had to be fed often and therefore was held and touched more often than most children in an orphanage might be, and this is vital to a child's ability to thrive.

Since arriving in the U.S. on March 20, Liam has been “growing like a weed” and adjusting well, according to his parents, friends and family. Evaluations show that he is in great shape and is on schedule developmentally - except for language, but that is to be expected. They anticipate that he'll be almost caught up with English in about a year.

After so many decisions, so much paperwork, the waiting and the traveling - after the tangles in the thread - Liam found his way home to Kansas City. And on June 8, he was baptized and welcomed to his cathedral family at Grace and Holy Trinity.

- by Emily Akins

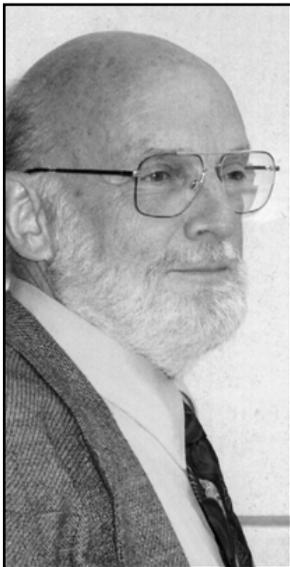
Park University Honors Ron Miriani

Dr. Ron Miriani, Professor of History and History Department chairman, has received the prestigious Torchlighter Award from Park University. The award is given to honor those who have made a significant, long-standing contribution and commitment to Park.

Miriani began teaching history at Park in 1964. Except for an early period as a high school teacher, Miriani has devoted his entire career to teaching Park students.

As the Mrs. George S. Park Chair of History, Miriani is responsible for curriculum and course development for Park's history department. In 1999 his talents as an instructor were recognized by Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan when he was awarded the "Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching."

Miriani has chosen the American frontier as his research specialty. An Andrew W. Mellon Senior Fellow from the University of Kansas allowed Miriani to research for his first book in 2001, *The Heroic Frontiersman: An*



Evolving American. In it he discusses the changing public perception of the frontiersman, from Daniel Boone to modern day cowboys.

Respected and admired by his students and colleagues Ron is an accomplished scholar and has a remarkable ability to excite students.

In 1997 Park's students chose Ron as outstanding professor.

"Entering Park as a non-traditional student could have been daunting except for the encouragement and nurturing that Ron provided me and, in fact, to all of his students." Joyce Morrow, a former student, said

"He made a great impact on me and I have tried to model my teaching on his example."

Many of us who have attended Ron's presentations at Adult Forum have firsthand appreciation of his unique gift.

He is now in the final phases of completing a second book. The subject is a favorite of Ron and his students –

walking tours of historical Kansas City

- by Jan Frizzle,

adapted from Park University publication.

EFM Back to School

Every Christian receives the call to Christ's ministry at baptism. At the Cathedral, one of the ways to grow in knowledge and confidence about the ministry we share is through participation in the Education for Ministry (EFM) program.

EFM is a four-year program offered by Sewanee (The University of the South), but presented at the Cathedral, and encompasses the entire sweep of the Christian tradition from the earliest period to the present.

Participants learn the disciplines of biblical exegesis and interpretation, systematic theology, church history, ethics, liturgics and ascetical theology. In addition, each person's life is examined in the light of the materials being studied.

The group meets Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:00; September through May. First year students concentrate on the Hebrew Scriptures; second year, New Testament, third year, Church History; fourth year, Theology.

This program offers an exciting opportunity to explore your spirituality, develop your understanding of scripture and theology, and learn more about yourself through reflection and fellowship. The yearly fee for EFM is \$350. Limited scholarship help is available.

To enroll or learn more about this program please contact Deacon Linda Yeager.



New Arrivals

William Spencer Pitts, son of Adam and Sarah Pitts, born May 22. Will weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. and is their first child.

Aimee Daniel Coletti, daughter of Steve and Jeanette Coletti, born May 25. Aimee weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz. and joins big brother Garrett and big sister Bethany.

Matthew Christian Claassen, son of Scott Claassen and Francine Dreiling, born June 28. Matthew weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. and joins big sister Samantha.

Albert Lawrence Wallace, son of Graham and Becky Wallace and grandson of Sharyl Wallace, born July 3 in St. Louis. Albert weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and joins big sister Claire.

Benjamin Walker Ingram-Eiser, son of Adam and Grace Ingram-Eiser and grandson of Sarah Ingram-Eiser was born July 6. Benjamin weighed 8 lbs. 20z.

Maleigha Ava Billings, daughter of Larissa and Brandon Billings and granddaughter of Cheryl and Mike McDonald. Maleigha was born July 8 and weighed 6 lbs. 5 oz.

Henry Reiff Ahn, son of Susan and Ho Ahn, born July 18. Henry weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz.

Mark your calendar!

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 7

A time to celebrate the many ministries of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Join us during Sunday morning coffee hours!

Look for more information in the coming weeks.



The Rule of St. Benedict Small Group



During our last class, the children were given cut-outs of handprints. We are going to decorate a "helping hands" tree. Please note on the cut-outs your children's good deeds and their name next time we meet, August 10.

Thank you and come join us!

For further information or to volunteer contact Brenda Colburn at (913) 962-0343.

Benedict wrote a rule of life for his followers more than 1500 years ago. The Rule of St. Benedict continues to be of value in the lives of many people. Last April, Trinity Institute presented a downlink conference, "Shaping Holy Lives: Benedictine Spirituality in the Contemporary World." The Cathedral has obtained the tapes of this conference, and a portion of the conference will be shown during Adult Forum on August 24.

We will explain Benedictine spirituality and open the opportunity to become part of a small group based on The Rule of St. Benedict. The proposal for the small group is as follows:

At each meeting a small portion of The Rule will be read, and Lectio Divina will be offered toward the end of the meeting. Each person will pray

for the person next to him or her during the time between meetings. Each member will share how he or she has been able to live The Rule since the last meeting. All of the information shared in the group will remain confidential.

Time and regularity of meetings will be determined by the group. At the end of six and twelve months, the group will do an evaluation to determine whether the group should continue.

The resource book, "The Rule of St. Benedict: Insights for the Ages," by Joan Chittister, will be purchased by each member for \$15. Everyone is invited to attend Adult Forum and learn more about this holy way to live and to find out more information on the small group.

- by Barbara Mason

Brightening her Community

You may have seen her last week if you shopped in Midtown. She is a sprightly woman with white hair and clear blue eyes. Last week she wore navy blue slacks, red stockings, shoes and jacket, white blouse and wonderful red, white and blue bead jewelry, including necklace, bracelet and matching earrings. But her main attractions were an 18-inch high Uncle Sam hat and a beautiful smile.



When Helen Schumacher, 79, wears her Fourth of July costume, people stop to compliment her.

"They think it is a cute idea," Helen says. "Well, why don't they do it, too? They ought to. They'd find it really fun."

Her intent is to bring happiness to others at special times, "because, actually, I think that's what it's all about," she said.

She has been sharing happiness by dressing up for the various holidays for at least fifty years.

Having no children of her own, she says her idea for holiday costumes came out of a desire to "embrace the entire community" as her children. She is a member of Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and wears her costumes there, too.

"They seem to look forward to what I will be wearing each holiday," she says. "Both the young and old seem to like it."

On Halloween, she says, she becomes a witch in a pointed black hat, but no longer wears the wig, she adds, because her hair is white now. Christmas time finds her donning her black boots and red Santa suit. To be different from all other Santas in town for the season, she wears a red-and-white striped stocking cap. On Valentine's Day she becomes a sweetheart, pretty in red, with heart-shaped earrings and pins bearing printed messages of love. She is part Irish, too, and gets into a wearing of the green, including shamrock earrings, on St. Patrick's Day.

- story and photo by Shirley Steele
Reprinted with permission from The Wednesday, first published July 9, 2003

The Cathedral's Financial Status

JUNE	BUDGETED YTD	ACTUAL YTD	VARIANCE
INCOME	\$ 656,478	\$ 649,832	\$ (6,646)
EXPENSES	\$ 669,190	\$ 655,909	\$ 13,281
VARIANCE	\$ (12,712)	\$ (6,077)	

The monthly financials reflect a true cash basis budget based on a three-year trend. We remain aware of finances, as the costs of maintaining the campus and funding the ongoing programs of the Church are considerable.

Frankly, April and May financials were of some concern as pledges received against budget were down substantially. However, June financials were encouraging. In fact, pledges received in June exceeded budget by \$1000 and plate offering exceeded budget by over \$2000.

Year-to-date, we are within \$5000 of our income budget. Expenses continue throughout the year, and your continued faithfulness is noted and greatly appreciated.

- by Michael Thomas, Treasurer



God be in my head
and in my understanding.
God be in my mouth
and in my speaking.
God be in my heart, work through me
that I may know true freedom,
and find the truth
which granteth us victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- C.M.N. -

Flower Memorials and Thanksgivings

July 6, 2003 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harriet Minty Russell; and in thanksgiving for her sons Richard and Charles, by Mrs. Herbert A. Sloan.

At the chapel altar they are given in loving memory of her husband, Roland Elmquist, by Pollie Elmquist.

For the month of July, memorial candles are given in loving memory of his parents, Helena and Alfred Hicks, by Paul Hicks.

July 13, 2003 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for their granddaughter, Rachel Elizabeth McMullen by Larry and Marilyn McMullen; and in loving memory of their daughter, Lynn, by Ron and Carolyn McLeroy; also in loving memory of her mother, Frances Wright, by Suzanne Wright.

Memorial candles are given in loving memory of his grandfather, Franklin D. Crabbs, by Leo Crabbs, Jr.

The flowers in the chapel are given in thanksgiving for the anniversary of Elizabeth and Beattie Leonard by Ron and Carolyn McLeroy.

July 20, 2003 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, Frank and Muriel Ayres, by Phyllis and Alan Ryder; and in loving memory of George and Pierre Kanzelberger and Thomas White, by Kristin Hall; also in loving memory of David Leslie Kerr by the Whitney E. Kerr Family.

At the baptismal font in thanksgiving for Eliza by her parents, Valerie & Jeff Johnson; and in thanksgiving for Lee Fowler and Toni Telander by Bud and Candy McDowell.

July 27, 2003 • The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ann Kretsinger Brown and Mary Brown Stewart by John M. Brown and Margaret S. Brown; and in memory of Albert and Helen Wright by Pat and Rodger Wright.

At the baptismal font in loving memory of her parents, Faith and John Ganakopulos, her sister, Patricia Lenahan and her nephew Jamie Weichmann, by Bonnie and Paul Lowrey.



*Attending to the holy
is slow work.
To live in this attentiveness
demands comfort with surprises,
and open-endedness;
for God is ultimately
unknowable.*

Reel People Like Movies

Reel People, the Cathedral's movie-viewing and discussion group, recently selected films for the next year. Everyone is welcome to join the fourth Wednesday of almost every month, at 6:30 p.m. in the Common Room for pizza, a movie and lively discussion.

Upcoming selections are as follows:

- August 28, 2003 • *Big Night* • Harriet Bigham, host.
- September 25, 2003 • *Life, Or Something Like it* • Jon and Linda Yeager, hosts.
- October 23, 2003 • *The Grey Fox* • Chris and Peggy Morgan, hosts.
- January 22, 2004 • *Strictly Ballroom* • Rex Wood, host.
- April 22, 2004 • *Chicago* • Gary Hicks and Annie Heck, hosts.
- May 27, 2004 • *Waiting for Guffman* • Sally Livengood and Bill Hawley, hosts.
- June 24, 2004 • *Becket* • Richard Preis, host.

The group does not meet in November, December, February and March because of holidays and Lent. For further information or to join, please contact Harriet Bigham at (816) 283-0462.



SUMMER MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRALS

Presented jointly by GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL
and the CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sunday, August 3 • 2:00 p.m. • CIC
A Concert of Heavenly Music for the Harp
Rachel Brandwein, Harpist

Sunday, August 10 • 3:00 p.m. • GHTC
Summer Singers of Kansas City
William Baker, Director

Sunday, August 17 • 2:00 p.m. CIC
A Concert of Classical Music by Young Artists
Various performers

Sunday, August 24 • 2:00 p.m. • GHTC
A Concert of Music by George F. Handel
Various performers

Sunday, August 31 • 2:00 p.m. • CIC
A Concert of Organ and Violin
Gregory Sandomirsky, Violin. Paul Turner, Organ.

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Weekly Activities at the Cathedral

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
5:00 p.m. An Order for Evening
and Holy Eucharist
6:15 p.m. Centering Prayer Group

MON, TUE, THU, FRI

12:05 p.m. Daily Office

TUESDAY

9:30 a.m. Cathedral Outreach Program
1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

THURSDAY

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Cathedral Outreach Program

FRIDAY

9:30 a.m. Moms' Bible Study

Cathedral Activities for the Month of August

3 • SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. GodzWerkus VBS
11:45 a.m. Music Committee

5 • TUESDAY

6:30 p.m. Needlework Small Group

6 • WEDNESDAY

4:30 p.m. Buildings and Grounds Cmte.

8 • FRIDAY

9:30 a.m. Mom's Bible Study
12:05 p.m. Daily Office

10 • SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. Blood Pressure Sunday
11:45 a.m. Blood Pressure Sunday
3:00 p.m. William Baker Singers Concert
** Centering Prayer will not meet today.*

11 • MONDAY

7:00 p.m. Quilting Small Group
7:30 p.m. William Baker Singers Concert

12 • TUESDAY

6:30 p.m. Gardening Small Group
7:00 p.m. The Angelus Small Group

14 • THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Couples Bible Study

19 • TUESDAY

7:00 p.m. Book Discussion Group

20 • WEDNESDAY

7:30 a.m. Finance Committee

24 • SUNDAY

2:00 p.m. A Concert of Music by Handel

27 • WEDNESDAY

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist
6:30 p.m. Reel People

28 • THURSDAY

5:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting

29 • FRIDAY

6:30 p.m. Parenting Group

Changes may occur after publication date, for which reason we encourage you to verify times and dates of the events listed with the appropriate person(s) or by contacting the Cathedral Office, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or visiting our web site.

THE ANGELUS • WEB EDITION



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Cathedral

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The Rev. Linda S. Yeager
Deacon

The Rev. Bryan England
Deacon

The Rev. Michael Shaffer
Deacon

Mr. John L. Schaefer
Canon Musician

The Very Rev. J. Earl Cavanaugh
Dean Emeritus

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*The Angel in
Founders' Garden
- photo by Jan Frizzle*