“Lord willing, and the creeks don’t rise!” I plan to return to the Cathedral at the end of April. Initially I’ll be back on a part-time basis: in my study at the Cathedral offices three days a week, and in the pulpit on Sundays. But, no more 70 hour weeks for this boy.

I realize that since October many of you have been wondering, “Will the Dean return?” or “Is he capable of leading us?” Early on there were days when I wondered the same. My neurologist has cleared me to ease my way back into ministry. She wisely advised to do that post-Easter!

Throughout this time I’ve been keeping track of what’s been going on in the grand scheme of things. Our Wardens, other leaders and staff have kept me in the loop. Those of you who attend the 10:15 a.m. service know that I have been attending every Sunday since Christmas Day.

On Christmas Day I got one of the best Christmas presents ever when a good friend came up to me after church and said, “Remember, it took nine months to bring you into the world.” This maternal wisdom has given me continuous hope. At times those words have talked me back “from the ledge” when I worried too much about the future. All in time.

I know many of you who have seen me are wondering, “What’s up with the Dean’s left arm?” The stroke took out my left side. At some point I should regain full use of the arm. Every stroke is different. My brain is in the process of rewiring the functions lost from the stroke. Yesterday, as I was putting on my jacket unassisted after lunch with friends at a restaurant in Liberty, a man came up to me and asked, “May I give you a hand? I had a stroke myself.” “Thanks, that’d be great.” I felt an immediate bond. I learned from him that he had a stroke in June 2016 that had affected his right side. He seems to be doing very well. Enough to help me with a bulky denim jacket.

As I return to more active ministry, I hope to focus on the big picture for the Cathedral. There is much to think about with regard to our future at our dynamic location downtown. We need to be ready not only for a changing neighborhood, but also changing patterns of engagement with the church. I will also continue with worship leadership and pastoral care along with my colleagues. I am pleased with how our staff is developing and look to see an increase in our ministry with their help.

In the next year I will be doing my part to implement the Strategic Plan for ministry that is being developed by the Vestry based on your input. This strategy for ministry should, with God’s grace, help each of us to grow in our baptismal calling. May we all realize more fully what it means to be “A Servant Church, in the Heart of the City.”

Grace and peace to you. See you in church.

—Peter DeVeau, Dean

Neighborhood Prayer Walk
Wednesdays, Starting April 19 ★ 7 p.m.

As part of our hands and feet of Christ initiative, we are instituting a Neighborhood Prayer Walk. Starting Wednesday, April 19 from 7–8 p.m., this group will walk the neighborhood near the Cathedral and get to know the people we are called to serve. We will start in the Nave with a small prayer service, and end in the Nave with Compline and prayer for our community. For any questions, please contact Christine Morrison at cblankstir@gmail.com. Jim Robertson will be with us the first few weeks and we hope to see you there!
Treasurer’s Report

Grace & Holy Trinity’s Financial Status as of February 2017

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This year got off to a strong start financially due to higher pledge payments and lower expenses in 2017.

Some of these pledge payments represented make up payments on last year’s pledge helping to restore the operating cash balance to a comfortable level for supporting ongoing operations.

The lower expenses are mainly due to lower staff expenses and fewer repairs than last year. Much of this lower run rate for expenses is expected to be temporary and thus the YTD surplus will likely shrink over the next few months.

Parishioners are asked to prayerfully remember to make timely payments on their pledges to help the Cathedral remain financially strong.

—Chuck Ritter, Treasurer

The “E” Word—Evangelism!

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry is asking us to evangelize. For most Episcopalians, that can feel like a “step too far.” However, Bishop Curry sent Consulting Evangelist, Carrie Boren Headington to help us get more comfortable with spreading the word. Ms. Boren Headington shared three points for cultivating an evangelistic church:

1. Cultivate a Community of Good News—Get rooted in the story of the good news!
2. Cultivate a Community for Others—Take a walk around your community (wherever you are in the metro).
3. Cultivate a Community of Blessing – Practice the art of BLESSing:
   Be—just be present
   Listen—create a listening space where people can just share stories
   Eat—welcome people to the table, just like Jesus did
   Serve—love and care for people’s felt needs
   Share—share your story and the story of God’s love and life

For more details on these points and additional information, find the handout from the program at kccathedral.org/evangelism.

—Paul Meier, Director of Music

Upcoming Events

Our musical events for April are centered around Holy Week and Easter, and I hope that you will take the opportunity to attend these meaningful services. The Trinity Choir will be joined by the Keith Benjamin Brass Quintet at the Easter Vigil and 10:15 a.m. Easter Day services and by trumpeter Keith Benjamin at the 8 a.m. Easter Day service.

On Friday, April 21 at 8 p.m., the Friends of Chamber Music will present Vox Luminis in concert at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. This European based, Gramophone-winning choir will present a program of sacred works including Domenico Scarlatti’s Stabat Mater. For further information and tickets, please visit chambermusic.org/vox-luminis.html. For Bright Sunday on April 22, we will have a jazz liturgy at the 10:15 a.m. service. The guest jazz musicians are alumni of the UMKC Conservatory and are led by Dr. Beth Elswick.

—Paul Meier, Director of Music

AIDS Walk 2017

The 2017 Kansas City AIDS Walk will take place Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m. at Theis Park. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Lenette Johnson, jhawklenette@gmail.com or 816.263.1782.
An Easter Message

But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’” (Matthew 28:5-7)

A friend shared a story with me recently. Back before Power and Light transformed downtown Kansas City, he had to drop off his computer servers at a 24/7 server center operating in the then derelict and dangerous downtown. The only time he could get them delivered was late at night.

Forewarned that the neighborhood was sketchy he looked over his shoulder as he carried the first of three unwieldy servers from his car to the center. As he struggled to open the center’s door with a key, a dark figure came up and asked him if he needed a hand. The man, who was homeless, then helped him carry the other servers to the center. My friend gave him twenty bucks and thanked him profusely.

In remembering this encounter, my friend told me how he has a positive attitude toward the world and does not operate out of fear of the unknown or fear of the future. He seeks what is good in the world.

At Easter, you and I are each given a mission. If we would know the risen Christ and the transforming life he offers, we are sure to find Christ out in the Galilees of our world.

When I was nineteen, I attended a Sunday evening service at a lively Episcopal church where two things always happened. When the offering was taken the presiding minister always said, “As we pass the plate tonight, if you have a need, you are welcome to take up to $10 with you. Just remember to put some back in the plate when you are able to do so.” Those offering plates were piled high with fives and tens by the time the ushers took them up to be dedicated for the work of the church!

The second thing that always happened was just before the blessing the rector would say, “As you go out you take Christ with you. This place will be empty. Yes, of course Christ will be here, for God is everywhere. But more than that, you will meet Christ at home, at work, in school and in the streets. Of this I can assure you.” This was a new concept for me.

At Easter we welcome you to this House of Prayer for All People and hope that you find what you are seeking. We invite you to journey in faith with us as we seek to be “a servant church in the heart of the city.” As you are able, please be generous in giving for the Easter offering, a portion of which will be given to support a local and a national cause.

It is my prayer that each may hear the words of assurance spoken to the early morning visitors at the empty tomb, “Do not be afraid... he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.” In these changing times may we be in all things, God-seekers, and at all times, God-finders.

—Peter DeVeau, Dean

SevenDays™
April 18-24

Are you interested in joining with people of other faith communities to make a difference in Kansas City? Participate in SevenDays™: Make a Ripple, Change the World, April 18-24.

Following the April 13, 2014 tragedy at the Jewish Community Campus and Village Shalom in Overland Park, Kansas, a group of caring individuals decided that we, as a community, have the power to outshine and overcome such senseless acts of hate. SevenDays™ is a challenge for young and old, to embrace diversity across race, religion and culture. Join us in our mission to promote interfaith dialogue by engaging all people to discover commonalities and overcome evil with acts of kindness. For more information, visit givesevendays.org.

The events of SevenDays™, culminate with a walk on April 24 starting at Union Station. Trent Green will be the host for pre-walk activities at 5:30 p.m. Contact Julie Brogno at childrensformation@kccathedral.org if you’re interested in walking with a group from the Cathedral.

Christ is Risen

The Lord has delivered us into spring, and the dew has replaced the snowflakes.

The birds have returned from their travels. We can hear them each morning, as they turn our air into music.

Proudly stand the trees. The winter has not diminished their dignity. Soon they will recover their greenery, lifting their leaves high above the earth.

The sun is upon the waters, bringing life into dry places. Some waters to remain still, while others flow gently into the sea.

The dust of the earth has burst into bloom, as the world has been smitten with flowers.

Now we go into the garden of the sepulchre. The stone is missing, and we stand in awe at the empty tomb. He has turned our mourning into dancing, and our joy is everlasting.

Alleluia Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

e.c. binford    Easter, 2017
Holy Week 2017

Palm Sunday: April 9
8 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 5 p.m. Eucharist

The 10:15 a.m. service begins in Founders’ Hall.
We gather to recall Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem with the blessing of palms and a procession. The joyful arrival shifts to a drama of darkness and shadow as we read Luke’s story of Christ’s passion and death. We enter into the story by singing hymns, offering prayer and sharing Eucharist. Nursery open for children four and younger during the 8 & 10:15 a.m. services. Children’s Chapel begins after Communion.

Weekdays of Holy Week: April 10-12
Monday and Wednesday
12:05 p.m. Eucharist
The gospel lessons for each day center on Jesus’ movement toward his suffering, death and resurrection.

Tuesday
11 a.m. Chrism Eucharist with Bishop Field
All are invited to observe the consecration of sacramental oil. This service of Holy Eucharist takes the place of our regular 12:05 p.m. service.

Maundy Thursday: April 13
12:05 p.m., A simple Eucharist
6 p.m., Maundy Thursday Liturgy
The 6 p.m. service begins in Founders’ Hall.
We remember Jesus’ last meal with his disciples by listening to the gospel, washing feet as a sign of servant ministry, sharing the bread and wine of Eucharist and eating an agape meal together. We process to the Cathedral to sing, pray and witness the stripping of the altar. Spiritual direction and reconciliation (confession) are available following the service. The Cathedral is open for prayer until 9 p.m. Nursery open for children four and younger by reservation only to childrensformation@kccathedral.org or 816-474-8260.

Good Friday: April 14
12:05 p.m. and 7 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy
The service includes the singing of the Passion according to John, choral and instrumental music, familiar hymns, customary prayers and veneration of the cross of Christ. Nursery open for children four and younger by reservation only to childrensformation@kccathedral.org or 816-474-8260.

Holy Saturday: April 15
12:05 p.m. Liturgy
A brief and simple liturgy recalls the mournful desolation of the lifeless Christ in the tomb.

The Great Vigil of Easter: April 15
7:30 p.m.
This service of Light, Lessons, Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Eucharist is the principal service of the Church Year. The Bishop presides at this first celebration of Easter.

The congregation gathers in the Memorial Courtyard for the lighting of the new fire. All then move to the darkened Cathedral Nave as the service continues with the first Eucharist of Easter.

Easter Day: April 16
8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Festival Holy Eucharist
Hymns, choral music, brass and a Cathedral resplendent with flowers accompany our Easter morning celebrations. Children uncover the “Alleluia” buried away at the end of Epiphany as a prelude to the entire assembly acclaiming, “Alleluia. Christ is risen.” Nursery open for children four and younger during the 8 & 10:15 a.m. services. Children’s Chapel begins after the Collect of the Day. An Easter Egg Hunt for children (through fifth grade) follows the 10:15 a.m. service.
Outreach Appreciation
Outreach wants to recognize Kari O’Rourke for the first quarter of 2017! Kari is currently serving as the Executive Director of St. Mark’s Hope and Peace Youth Outreach. At the Cathedral, she is a Eucharistic Minister, an active participant in The Way and is a regular greeter for the Sunday morning services. During the first quarter, Kari has organized a Valentine’s Day pizza dinner for youth aging out of the system and two refugee families. She has worked the parking lot most weekends raising $2,000 for Outreach Ministries, and volunteered to take the lead for organizing volunteers for the Saturday breakfast at St. Paul’s in Kansas City, Kansas. During Lent she started a quilting group making “comfort quilts” for those battling cancer, and was instrumental in working with Easter Seals and adults with disabilities to give them the opportunity to help serve in our BackSnack Program. Please congratulate Kari for her wonderful giving spirit!

The Dean’s Book for Lent
Sunday, May 7  9:15 AM  Founders’ Hall
As we live into our Strategic Plan, there is a lot to glean from Brian McLaren’s, The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World’s Largest Religion is Seeking a Better Way to be Christian. Where do you see the church heading in our times? Come join the Dean and others as we discuss the vision for church that Brian McLaren shares and how it intersects with ours.

Words Becoming Actions
To volunteer contact Terri Curran: tcurra2@yahoo.com or 913.522.4190

Provide for St. Mary’s Pantry
Place non-perishable food for St. Mary’s Pantry in the big basket in the Tower.
Week of 4/9:  Breakfast Items: Cereals, Granola Bars, Pop-Tarts, Oatmeal
Easter 4/16:  Canned Chicken

Sunday, April 9
9 a.m.  Founders’ Hall
Assemble Easter Baskets
Help assemble 200 Easter Baskets for residential children housed at Crittenton and KAW Valley Children’s Centers.

Paper Drive during April
During the month of April, the Cathedral will be collecting donations of paper goods (paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, etc.) for Sheffield Place, a local transitional housing program for woman and children.

Part-Time BackSnack Driver
Deliver boxes with BackSnacks from the Cathedral to a local elementary school office.

Pray for Outreach Organizations
Kansas City Community Kitchen
Episcopal Relief & Development
Maison de Naissance Maternity Center in Haiti
Habitat for Humanity
Local Food Pantries
Local Domestic Violence Shelters
Crittenton Children’s Center at St. Luke’s Hospital
BackSnack Partners & Recipients
HappyBottoms

Women of Grace Luncheon
Saturday, April 29  11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Rock Holland Pointe, 18I Lake Shore Drive
Lake Lotawana, MO 64086

We will be visiting Ruth Finet’s beautiful lake house for this luncheon. Depending on the number of participants, transportation details will be finalized at a later date. The speaker will be local artist Lisa Lala, whose “work connects to the white space, the peace and exuberance of our most contemplative moments.” Contact Terri Curran, tcurra2@yahoo.com, to register. Registration deadline is April 22.
Noisy Offering, April 2

Sunday, April 2

We will make a joyful noise to the Lord with our offering on this day! Bring an offering of coins to be donated to the New Americans program, which serves refugee children in Kansas City Public Schools. The Cathedral’s children will assist the ushers in collecting the coins in metal buckets, so we can hear the funds add up. Don’t keep coins around? No problem. Quiet checks and cash are welcome, too.

Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations Needed

Bring your donations of candy (individually wrapped, in small packages) to the box in the Tower entry. We’ll stuff the eggs after the 10:15 a.m. service on Palm Sunday.

The Top 5 Reasons to attend Maundy Thursday Service

April 13 • 6 p.m.

5. Shake up your routine: go to church on a Thursday night!
4. Water play during church! All are invited to wash each other’s feet or hands as they remember Jesus washing his disciples’ feet.
3. The food! The service starts in Founders’ Hall and includes a kid-friendly meal of Mediterranean finger foods (hummus and pita bread, olives, dried fruit and nuts).
2. No need to sit still! Moving around is part of the service, and kids can help with tasks like serving food, assisting with foot-washing and hand-washing stations, and cleaning up after the meal.
1. Help your children understand what happened in Jesus’s life between Palm Sunday and Easter Day!

Children and their families are invited to attend all our Holy Week services. See page 4 for a listing of service times.

Birthday Gift Cards for Foster Children

Help a child in the foster care system by donating $25 for a birthday gift card. These gift cards are given to children who do not receive any other gifts to celebrate their birthdays. In the past we have donated 40 gift cards each year, but with the growing number of children in the system 40 gift cards is not enough anymore. Please consider this very special ministry of making children feel special on their birthdays. Contact Terri Curran to donate at tcura2@yahoo.com.

Easter Sunday Activities

Sunday, April 16

Flowering of the Cross: A Symbol of New Beginnings

On Easter morning before our 10:15 a.m. service, all are invited to place flowers on the bare cross. When completed, the brightly flowered cross dramatically symbolizes Christ’s coming to life from death. The cross will be carried up at the start of the service and placed near the baptismal font.

Raising of the Alleluia

To start our celebration of Easter at the beginning of both the 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services, children of all ages are invited to help uncover the Alleluia letters that were “buried” under the altar rug at the start of Lent.

Children’s Worship Packets

Look for special children’s worship packets at the back of the Nave designed to help children follow along with the liturgy. No Children’s Formation sessions will be held so that families can worship together on this day. The Nursery will be open for children four and under.

Easter Egg Hunt

All children are invited to our annual egg hunt following the 10:15 a.m. service on the lawn outside of Founders’ Hall. Bring your neighbors and your Easter basket!

Questions?

Please contact Julie Brogno at 816.474.8260 or childrensformation@kccathedral.org.

Monthly Lunch Bunch

Men and women of the Cathedral, join us for a monthly lunch get-together. The next date is Wednesday, April 5 at Los Tules, 1656 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64108, 11:45 a.m. Let Jim Robertson know you are coming, jasbrob@aol.com or 816-569-5549, or just show up. Invite friends.
Youth Update

Wednesday Youth Group

Wednesdays ➔ 7 p.m.
Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to the Haden Hall youth room every Wednesday from 7-8:30 p.m. for dinner, fellowship, program, and worship.

Network Confirmation Retreat

April 8
Youth preparing for Confirmation are invited to the Network Confirmation Retreat at Unity Village. The retreat will focus on how our stories weave together practices, beliefs, and spirituality. Register now to attend!

Network Good Friday Retreat

April 14
Join with other area youth on Good Friday at St. Paul’s KCMO for prayer and preparation!

Easter Morning Fellowship

April 16
Youth are invited to the youth room prior to the 10:15 a.m. service for treats and fellowship on Easter Morning!

Save the Date!

Presiding Bishop’s Visit (and youth lock-in): May 5-6
Area Confirmation: May 21

Keep Up To Date

For more information on the Cathedral’s Youth Ministry program, please contact Alexandra at youthformation@kccathedral.org. Check out www.wemoyouth.com for information on Network and Diocesan events and to register online!

Adult Forums

Sundays, April 23 & 30
9:15–10 a.m. ➔ Common Room
There will be no Adult Forums during the first part of April due to the full liturgical cycle.

Sunday, April 23: Saturday, April 22 is Earth Day 2017. The theme for this year’s Earth Day is Environmental and Climate Literacy, highlighting the need to build a global citizenry knowledgeable in environmental science and fluent in local and global ecological issues. It is in that vein that the Cathedral hosted/live-streamed the Trinity Institute Water Justice Global Theological Conference March 22-24. The Adult Forums on April 23 and April 30 will highlight portions of that Conference, knowing that not everyone who was interested was able to attend.

Sunday, April 30: Continuing Water Justice themes.
I hope those who attend both the 8 o’clock and the 10:15 services will draw on this opportunity to come together to learn more about our role in the stewardship of this precious creation.

—The Rev. Vicki Davis, Associate

The Gift of Life: Life & Living, Death & Dying

Mondays, Starting April 24
7:15–8:30 p.m. ➔ Common Room
“Abiding Prayer, when it reaches the full consent to our nothingness, is the perfect preparation for death, because it is death—death to the false self and even the True Self will be transcended.”

—Thomas Keating

Beginning Monday, April 24 at 7:15 p.m. we will begin the process of discovering The Gift of Life. For more information, contact Jerry Grabher, 816.590.6205 or j.grabher3@gmail.com.

“If you abide in me, I will abide in you.” (John 15:4)

Baptism

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ’s body, the Church. Certain days are especially appropriate, so if you are considering Baptism for you or your children, please contact the clergy.

March Flowers, to the Glory of God …

March 5 • in thanksgiving for family & friends & church—the Gitta family
March 12 • prayers for the sick & homeless—the Gitta family
• in memory of John A. Sumpter on the occasion of our 34th wedding anniversary—Donna Sumpter
March 19 • in celebration of our 36th wedding anniversary—Ted Derrick & Ken Stewart
• in thanksgiving for our children of the world—the Gitta family
March 26 • in memory of Opal Smith—Douglas & Cecelia McNair
The Way
Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.

We invite you to join us for an adult faith formation experience for those seeking to deepen their faith, or know more about the Episcopal Church. The Way is for persons new to the church, those desiring to be baptized, confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church. Each evening includes a meal, a brief presentation, group Bible sharing, and concludes with prayer. Please contact Larry Ehren, Way Coordinator, lgehren@yahoo.com.

Education for Ministry Open House

Every baptized person is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EfM) program provides people with the education to carry out that ministry. In an EfM seminar group we are offered an opportunity to discover how to respond to the call to Christian service. Through study, prayer and reflection we are moved toward a new understanding of our roles in God’s kingdom.

You are invited to attend an EfM Open House at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 4947 NE Chouteau Drive, Kansas City, Missouri 64119-4815, on Monday, April 24 from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. During that time, you will be able to observe and/or participate in group discussion and theological reflection and see how an EfM seminar works. Snacks will be provided.

This is a great opportunity to check out the program! Contact Kristin Niederberger at 816.452.0383 or niederberfgam@gmail.com or Susan Nielsen at 816.726.1728 or susan@cmiusa.com if you would like to attend.

There are two other active EfM groups meeting in the Kansas City area that would welcome new members. The group at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 11 E. 40th Street, Kansas City, Missouri meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The group at St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 4000 S. Lee’s Summit Road, Independence, Missouri meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Diocesan EfM Coordinator Kristin Niederberger at 816.452.0383 or niederberfgam@gmail.com for more information.

Please note: Be sure to arrive for Good Shepherd’s Open House by 6:45 p.m. as class will begin promptly, and you need to be there from the start.

Hope to see you there!