



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
CONNECTICUT'S CATHEDRAL



2020

Christ Church Cathedral Annual Report

A year of challenges, opportunities, and blessings

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A Labor of Love

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

As we acknowledge the end of an unprecedented year, I lift my eyes to the heavens and give thanks for each one of you, your resiliency and faithfulness.

God has sustained us. During this time of the pandemic, we have embraced adaptive changes in ways that may positively impact our everyday life together for the long run.

Amidst a deep sense of loss for the inability to gather in person, the death of thousands of people due to Covid-19, and the impact of the pandemic of systemic Racism, we stand united and comforted in the knowledge of God's love and grace for our lives as individuals and as a community.

This comprehensive report aims to remind us of all the signs of God's grace among us during this year 2020. It is also an opportunity for us to celebrate our experiences and meditate on what God is calling us to do next as we prepare to enter a post-pandemic world in a renovated space with a new set of opportunities.

Today, I pause to give thanks to God for your remarkable witness, perseverance, and openness. I thank God for Bishop Douglas's pastoral presence and support. I am thankful for Canon Pallares, Deacon Matthews, and our outstanding Cathedral Staff. They adapted rapidly to serve God and each one of you in a virtual, and somewhat foreign to many, platform. Our joint commitment and effort are a labor of love.

Music has been a common thread that has united us and uplifted our spirits. The ministry of our Director of Music, Marianne Vogel, has brought us much comfort and joy. Marianne is a gifted musician whom God brought to us at the right time. Her ability to merge superb music with technological proficiency is the gift that keeps on giving to our Episcopal Church of Connecticut (ECCT) wider community and us. Thanks be to God for her talents and collaborative ministry style.

It is always challenging to start noting names, and I would be remiss if I do not publicly thank our front-liners! Our sisters and brothers, Nancy Jacobs, Theresa Greaves, Mike O'Brien, Louis Ruddock, Andrew May, Carlos Figueroa, and John Scott, leading and serving weekly at Church Street Eats and Church by the Pond, are champions for Christ. I am humbled to journey with them as we provide shared leadership for these ministries.

I pray to the Lord that we continue to grow in discipleship as we embrace our apostleship in these new and changing times.

As our Architect Duo Dickinson is known to say, "Onward."

God is good.

In God's service,

Lina+
The Tenth Cathedral Dean



2020 at a glance

“Our Cathedral has continued, during these unprecedented times, to minister to our congregations and the people in the City of Hartford. Our virtual services, weekly bible study, happy hours, and other contacts such as the Caravan of Love and the reaching out by our clergy team, have fed our souls and our hearts giving us hope and strength.

— Peggy Ornell

An update from our Cathedral Dean

Living our Cathedral Vocation



In 2014, the Cathedral Discernment Task Force, led by the Rev. Harlon Dalton, presented the recommendation report appointed by Bishop Douglas. The report has been an inspiration and guide to me as I serve you as Dean, working with Bishop Douglas and all of you, contextualizing and implementing what once was a vision. In October 2015, our Cathedral Chapter, Congregations, and

ECCT Annual Convention affirmed our Cathedral role. Since then, we **have striven to explore, develop and define our Cathedral vocation and identity as we participate in God's mission.**

Our Cathedral has embraced an outward focus while maintaining the integrity, needs, and care for our Cathedral Congregations as one of our top priorities. The Cathedral Congregations faithfully support and sustain our participation in God's mission in the world around us.

Five years later, since the Cathedral role affirmation, we have reached a milestone in our journey. Now, we prepare our Cathedral Nave for a renovation project that will provide flexible seating. With God's help, we will enable us to enhance our ministries and how we serve God's people in the City of Hartford and the State of Connecticut.

I am profoundly thankful to Bishop Douglas for his vision and hard work in making a renewed flexible space a reality. It is a blessing to work alongside him, raising funds and working with our architects and contractors as all the pieces of this beautiful puzzle come together.

This year has been unprecedented. The pandemic has impacted how we do ministry, and yet we have found creative ways to be faithful to our participation in God's mission. We continue to meet God and God's people in our neighborhood virtually for now.

For this summary report, I would like to highlight various areas in which we excel as we continue growing in our Cathedral vocation.

God is at the center of our calling as baptized members of the body of Christ. I am humbled and profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve as an ordained minister in this ministry context. My spiritual life is enriched by our interactions, common prayer, and active participation in God's mission. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you as your priest and Dean.

Detur Gloria Soli Deo!

ONWARD!

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

– *Jeremiah 29:11*

“We in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut are increasingly embracing, as the vocation of this Cathedral is that it be a resource for our apostolic call to go in God’s mission, following Jesus, into the neighborhood, traveling lightly.”

*The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas
Bishop Diocesan, Connecticut*

Cathedral Congregational Snapshot

Early 2020, the Congregations Committee and Clergy Team met regularly to create protocols that enable us to continue ministering while keeping everyone safe.

Our Cathedral Congregations continues to respond faithfully to the challenges of these times. By December 13, 2020, we hosted 78 online services.

Our Sunday services are via Zoom with pre-recorded music from our virtual Choir. The English service is at 10:00 am, and the Spanish service is at 11:15 am.



REFLECTION

My hope is that we will soon return to once again worship together in person. And when we do, that what we have discovered about ourselves during the pandemic will strengthen our community and our commitment to live out our baptismal covenant. I have great faith that our Cathedral is about to take a big leap building on a strong past.

- Danielle Adams

78

Online Services



Considering the challenges of 2020 with COVID, Lina, the Congregations Committee and the Cathedral staff have done an exceptional job in keeping us informed and engaged with the Cathedral as much as possible.

- Richard Baraglia

ENG

38

Services were in English

4

Services were Bilingual



SPA

36

Services were in Spanish

3,423

people reached.



3,287

online services viewed



1,029

people on Zoom!



937

members engaged



Engaging the Arts and Engaging the City of Hartford

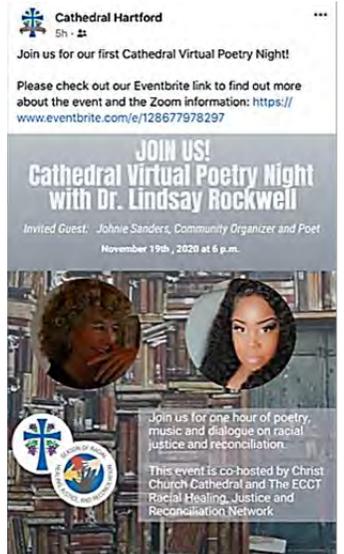
Partnership with Hartford Stage

In partnership with Hartford Stage, the Cathedral hosted PLAYDATE, a babysitting program for caregivers of young children who attend performances. This partnership started before the pandemic. We have continued to support this partnership during the pandemic by maintaining communication lines open with the Stage Artistic Director and the Managing Director and participating in a virtual panel. In the Fall, Canon Pallares, our Spanish music directors, Nelson Mena and Pedro Cirilo Coral, and I participated in a pre-recorded Community Carols, a Hartford Stage patrons' program, portraying community partners.



Virtual Poetry Nights with Dr. Rockwell.

Our wider ECCT Community warmly embraced this new series in which our Cathedral explores the intersection of spirituality, the arts, and social justice. **Our first event, hosted on November 19,** was focused on Racial Justice and Reconciliation, an evening of poetry reading and powerful conversation. Dr. Rockwell invited our first guest poet, Johnie Sanders, a young black woman and activist in Massachusetts. The ECCT Racial Healing, Justice and Reconciliation Ministry Network to co-host the event with us. We had 57 people in attendance.



Music Moves Connecticut.

Music Moves Connecticut is a program in equal ownership and partnership with Cuatro Puntos created for housing or food insecure individuals. The program started in April 2018 at the Cathedral and has expanded to other towns in Connecticut. **Our Music Moves Hartford branch was** going strong within the first three months of this year until we closed our building. Most of our Music Moves Hartford choir members transitioned to Hands-on Hartford Headquarters for meals. I had the honor of visiting several times with Kevin Bishop, Director of Cuatro Puntos. Unfortunately, all other Music Moves Connecticut branches, including the sessions hosted on Tuesdays at South Park Inn, have been postponed until it is safe to resume in-person gatherings. We are working on a research project with Saint Joseph University and hope to accomplish this goal by the Fall of 2021.



iQuilt Plan.

The iQuilt Plan is an urban design plan to connect downtown Hartford's unique assets: museums, performance spaces, historical landmarks, modern architecture, and public art. As the Cathedral representative, I participated virtually in the Board of Corporators meeting.

Capital Community College.

Education is freedom. This college provides an academic platform to a sizeable underserved population. In 2020, I initiated a series of conversations with the college's CEO Dr. Duncan Harris, who connected our Cathedral with members of his staff as we sought to provide support to their remarkable mission. Under Deacon Matthews' leadership, the Cathedral collaborated to support the college food pantry during the first trimester of 2020. In November, the college invited me to speak at a virtual conversation for faculty and students about embracing an attitude of gratitude amidst challenging times.

"What we are considering is nothing less than a fundamental spiritual transformation of individuals and communities."
—
The Right Reverend Ian T. Douglas, Bishop Diocesan

Engaging ECCT

Our Cathedral has traditionally provided support for ECCT liturgical services by hosting ordinations and Convention Worship. In the first trimester of the year, our Cathedral hosted the ordination of **Erin Flinn**. Since March, we have indeed emerged as a resource for all through a variety of ways.



Engaging ECCT

"We are blessed by the emerging connections and collaborations and celebrate our Cathedral in its leadership role for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut."

— The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens

Virtual Easter and Convention Services

Our wider ECCT community much appreciated the virtual Easter and Convention Services. The final product resulted from the collaboration between our Director of Music, Marianne Vogel, and our Spanish Music Coordinators.

Sharing pre-recorded music

Our Cathedral's presence is evident when we share our music assets. This year our Director of Music shared our virtual Choir pre-recorded library with various communities across ECCT. Also, we shared our Spanish language music videos with Trinity, Lime Rock.

ECCT- Wide Liturgical Offerings

I am working with Bishop Douglas and Bishop Ahrens to facilitate an initiative that will help our Cathedral

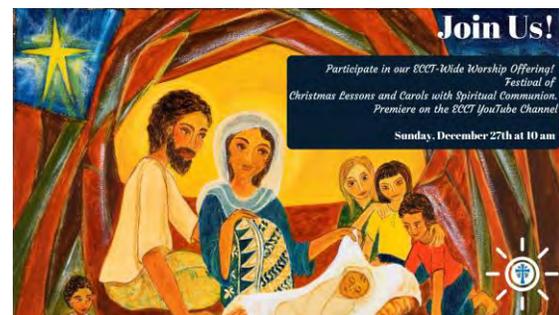
continue embracing its vocation as a resource to all in ECCT. These initiatives will offer various services throughout the year hosted by congregations from across ECCT, coordinated and supported by our Cathedral.

RHJR Ministry Network

I continue to serve as a member of the Racial Healing, Justice and Reconciliation Ministry Core Team. The team meets once a month to coordinate and host quarterly gatherings for ECCT lay and clergy leaders and disseminate resources for our communities. I am blessed to share that I collaborated with Don Hamer to design and implement the virtual meditation series.

Lessons and Carols Service for ECCT

On Sunday, December 27, 2020, we hosted a pre-recorded service of lessons and Carols with Spiritual Communion. This initiative came to us as an invitation from our Bishops. Members of our cathedral staff and leaders collaborated to record parts of the service and provide the pre-recorded music. I was also able to communicate with lay and clergy leaders from across ECCT to contribute to the recording. Marianne edited the video displayed on that day. The diversity of her gifts much blesses us. The project was a herculean collaborative effort that has brought joy to many.



2021 Convention Planning

I returned as a member of the Convention Planning Committee for 2021 and attended the first organizing meeting. I will be serving as co-convenor of the ECCT 2021 Convention Worship Team.

Latino/Hispanic Ministry Network

Canon Pallares serves as our Cathedral liaison to the Latino/Hispanic Ministry Network of ECCT. Canon Pallares has shared liturgical resources with the members of the network during this time of the pandemic.

Engaging the World and the Wider Episcopal Church

Our Cathedral is part of the **George Beach Homes Ministry**, a ministry of affordable housing, located on Allen Place, Hartford. I serve as part of their board. The board president's responsibility alternates annually between the rectors of Trinity, Hartford, St. John's, West Hartford, and Christ Church Cathedral. In 2020, Susan Pinkerton was President. The wardens of each of these communities are members of the board. The Cathedral's Chair and Vice-chair of the Congregations Committee, Tom Smith and Cecilia Valencia, are invited to participate.

This year, the Cathedral supported this ministry by attending the monthly meetings. These meetings focused on the building's structural deficiencies and improvements like replacing the elevators or the boiler's replacement. The Cathedral shared a list of contact vendors to help George Beach address these challenges. Also, Tom Smith has participated in all meetings, providing significant wisdom and presence.



As part of my broader church ministry this year, I represented the Cathedral in the following:

- **Church Publishing.** I continue to participate in group conversations with Nancy Bryant, VP Editorial, about resources for Latino Communities and the challenges of translations as part of an ad-hoc advisory board. In October, I prepared a review and provided recommendations for the back-cover of a Church Publishing Book titled "Embodied." This book focuses on God from a feminist perspective in the context of women's clergy ministry while living their motherhood fully.
- **House of Bishop.** As contact Chaplain for liturgical planning who coordinates and hosts the chaplain's meetings, I supported House of Bishop (HOB) meetings and other initiatives from the Presiding Bishop's Office. I also serve as the chaplain liaison to the HOB Design Team and, with my chaplain peers, participate in the HOB Planning Committee.
- The Church Pension Group canceled all 2020 **CREDO** Conferences. The Church Pension Group plans to reopen this program in April of 2021, pending COVID-19 restrictions. <https://www.cpg.org/active-clergy/learning/credo/credo-conferences/>
- **Black Female Episcopal Clergy Group.** I am the founder and convener of this national prayer group. We meet once a month for prayer and support as women of color serving in a predominantly white denomination.
- **Mentor and Consultant.** I mentor the new Dean of the Diocese of Vermont and consult for their bishop and Cathedral Vestry to discern their Cathedral vocation in the 21st century. This meeting takes place once a month.
- **Joining Jesus Initiative.** Throughout this year, I have hosted numerous meetings and follow-ups with individuals, primarily ECCT clergy and their spouses inviting them to participate in the Joining Jesus Initiative. <https://www.episcopalct.org/joining-jesus/>



Cathedral Congregations

God has blessed us with a Chair of the Congregations Committee, Tom Smith, who is dedicated, thoughtful and attentive to the needs of God's people. Tom and I meet regularly and meet with the clergy team to minister to our flock.

As Dean, I support our Cathedral Congregations' life through liturgical, programmatic, and operational oversight working in collaboration with our Canon for Congregational Life. During COVID times, Canon Pallares, Deacon Matthews, and I share the responsibility of providing consistent pastoral care and connections. We connect with every member of our Cathedral via telephone, text, or video call for pastoral conversations and share updates with each other. We mail prayers, devotionals, music CDs, and other tools to help our community stay spiritually healthy and connected with us as their pastors.

This year we bid farewell to Helena Martin, who served as our intern, after her ordination to the diaconate in the Spring. We have welcomed Roxana Videla Olivares as our new intern. I am delighted to serve as Roxana's supervisor. We meet once a month for supervision and have include liturgical and pastoral training for our sessions. Roxana will be serving our Spanish and English-Speaking Congregations.



Cathedral Operations

Cathedral Staff during COVID-19

Our Cathedral staffing hours changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our staff is mostly working from home. However, we have been able to continue to maintain a presence in the building to support the building's continuing operations.

- Due to construction and other vital matters that require me to be in person, I am on-site once or twice a week.
- David Borawski, Building Manager, is our constant presence in the building, as he resides here.
- Kathy Frisoli, the Executive Assistant to the Dean, is on-site once or twice a week.
- Cindy Hursty, Accountant and Office Manager, has set up a home office but comes to the building once a week to pick up related financial documents.
- Marianne Vogel, our Director of Music, is recording music at Grace, Windsor. We are thankful to be able to use their organ while our organ is at Austin for repairs.
- The custodian is on-site three times a week.

We continue to meet for staff and supervision meetings weekly via Zoom. I cannot stress how thankful I am for serving as Dean with a remarkable team of dedicated and capable people. Kathy's and Marianne's technological gifts have been a special blessing during these times of pandemic. Our Cathedral, and my ministry, is blessed by their gifts.

Buildings & Grounds

This year, we have completed the following work in our buildings:

Cathedral Repairs:

- The installation of the air conditioning system in the soup kitchen area funded by **Hands on Hartford**
- Repair of Cathedral House leaking steam condensate return piping
- Repair leaking steam condensate return piping in ladies' room in Cathedral House and Boiler Room in Cathedral building
- Replace burner motor and contactor of boiler
- Re-piping of the sink in the sacristy
- Installation of the new gas commercial water heater in the parish house

- Replacement of sinks in the women's restroom in Cathedral House second floor
- Window replacement in the larger apartment
- Painted handicap bathroom in the cathedral building
- Tree removal behind the soup kitchen, tree trimming, and mulch of beds in front of Cathedral.
- Repair of seven (7) exterior lights
- Replaced fourteen (14) cathedral floodlights with LED
- Installation of handicapped alarm call in the staff restroom
- Emergency call for the dislodged roof access panel
- Installation of updated receiver for alarm panic buttons in Cathedral

Miscellaneous:

- New fence banners and signage

Recurring Maintenance:

- Cleaning of grease traps in the commercial kitchen
- Air conditioning maintenance for main offices & reception room
- Bi-monthly pest control
- Regular inspections and replacement of faulty exit lights and expired Fire Extinguishers

COVID 19 specific:

- Signage for both buildings
- Purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (masks and gloves) for our personnel interacting with vendors and each other during on-site work.

Technology Updates and Repairs

- Repair of Sinology equipment.
- Installation of video editing programs and purchase of hard drives to support video editing processes
- Upgrade of computers to support the work of this virtual season

Cathedral Redevelopment Project

Redevelopment Project

I pray you are as excited as I am to see what God has in store for us in a renewed and reconfigured space. Over the past months, I participated in meetings both in person and on Zoom to discuss the project's progress with Bishop Douglas and Architects Duo Dickinson and Nicole Desrosiers. These meetings ranged from meeting potential general contractors and subcontractors to discussing the Hartford Stage AV proposal with Bishop Douglas and the Hartford Stage team. We are still in the process of researching and discussing the best options for furnishing with multiple experienced Cathedral Deans across the Episcopal Church.

At this stage, we have accomplished the following:

- Clear Cathedral nave of liturgical items
- Removal of cushions on pews
- Removal of organ console for repairs
- Coverage of organ pipes for protection against construction debris and dust
- Selection, through a detailed process, of the general contractor
- Testing of the Cathedral floors for asbestos



Dean Snapshot

Our Constitution and Statues define the role of the Dean as follow:

The Dean shall be the administrative head of the Cathedral, the spiritual and pastoral head of its congregations, and shall be the spokesperson of the Cathedral in its ministry to the City of Hartford, within the State of Connecticut, and throughout the world. The Dean shall direct the ritual for the worship of the Cathedral's congregations and all other work of the Cathedral's congregations, subject to the rights and oversight of the Bishop Diocesan, as defined in Article VII.

The Dean shall preside at all meetings of the worshipping community of the Cathedral. During this year, I aimed to:

Support

- Support the ministry of our Bishops and the ECCT-wide liturgical life
- Support the Christ Church Cathedral clergy, staff and members as they grow into their ministry and personal relationship with God.

Serve

- Serve as primary Cathedral Liaison for ECCT
- Serve Christ Church Cathedral staff, clergy, and members to empower and uplift them as they participate in God's mission.

Collaborate

- Collaborate with the Canon for Congregational Life to provide leadership for the spiritual welfare, pastoral care, Christian formation, and worship life of the Cathedral's faith community
- Collaborate with the Music Director to foster the long-standing and active music program in our cathedral congregations.
- Collaborate with Cathedral clergy to gauge the current status of the work being conducted within and outside cathedral walls by meeting with clergy, staff and the Deacon as needed.
- Collaborate with leaders outside the Cathedral to continue to be a resource for apostleship as we participate in God's mission of restoration and reconciliation in the city of Hartford, the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, and the world.

Coordinate

- Coordinate worship for all English services and program in collaboration with Cathedral staff and clergy, including Sunday worship for the Cathedral congregation, worship for CBTP, and worship team planning sessions for seasonal worship planning
- Coordinate the Congregations Committee Meeting with Chair and Clergy
- Coordinate Music Moves Hartford (MMH) in collaboration with Kevin Bishop
- Coordinate the administrative platform for Church Street Eats (CSE)

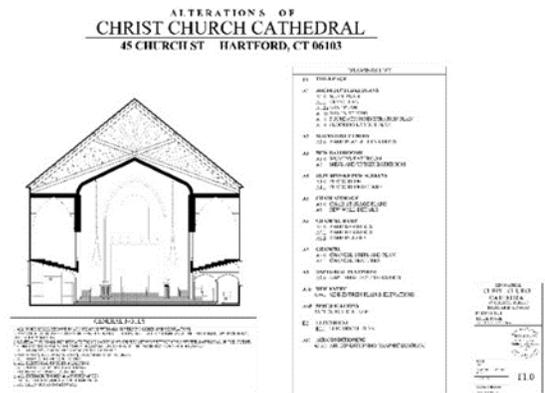
Direct

- Direct the Cathedral staff in its daily operational tasks by providing supervision to the Canon for Congregational Life, Director of Music, Accountant Office Manager, and the executive assistant to the Dean and facilitating staff meetings.
- Direct the Cathedral clergy in their roles as ambassadors of the Cathedral by conducting supervision meetings with the Cathedral Deacon and Interns.
- Direct the Cathedral by overseeing our day-to-day operation and financial life and working in collaboration with the office manager and building manager to ensure we keep up with building grounds needs.



The year 2020 has
given us an
opportunity to live
our Cathedral's
identity in creative
ways. We are a
bridge builder and
catalyst for God's
mission as we
faithfully listen to
God's voice in our
midst.

Cathedral Redevelopment Project



The 2015 Cathedral Recommendation Report exhorted us to transform our Cathedral nave into a flexible space to enhance our participation in God's mission. This recommendation is becoming a reality as Bishop Douglas and I, with our Cathedral Chapter's approval, engaged Duo Dickinson's architectural firm to present a design that reflects our vision for a renewed space.

The approved design will allow us to serve our Congregations, The Episcopal Church in Connecticut, the City of Hartford, and the State of Connecticut in ways we have dreamt before without the limitation of pews or the lack of audio-visual resources or an accessible space.

The renewed space contemplates two additional restrooms, flexible seating, a ramp to access the chancel, and much more.

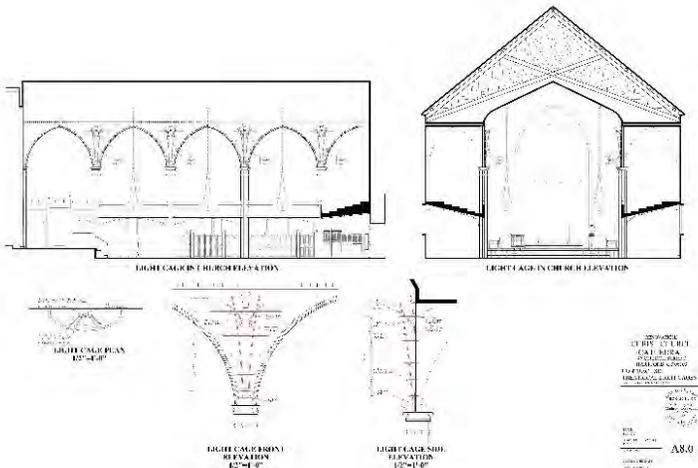
The Joining Jesus Campaign provides the funds to support this effort. Bishop Douglas has made a herculean effort in securing funds to bring this vision to fruition.

On October 3, we hosted a service to launch the renovation project. We created the opportunity to reminisce on the space as it was in the past and celebrated the possibilities of the future renewed flexible space.

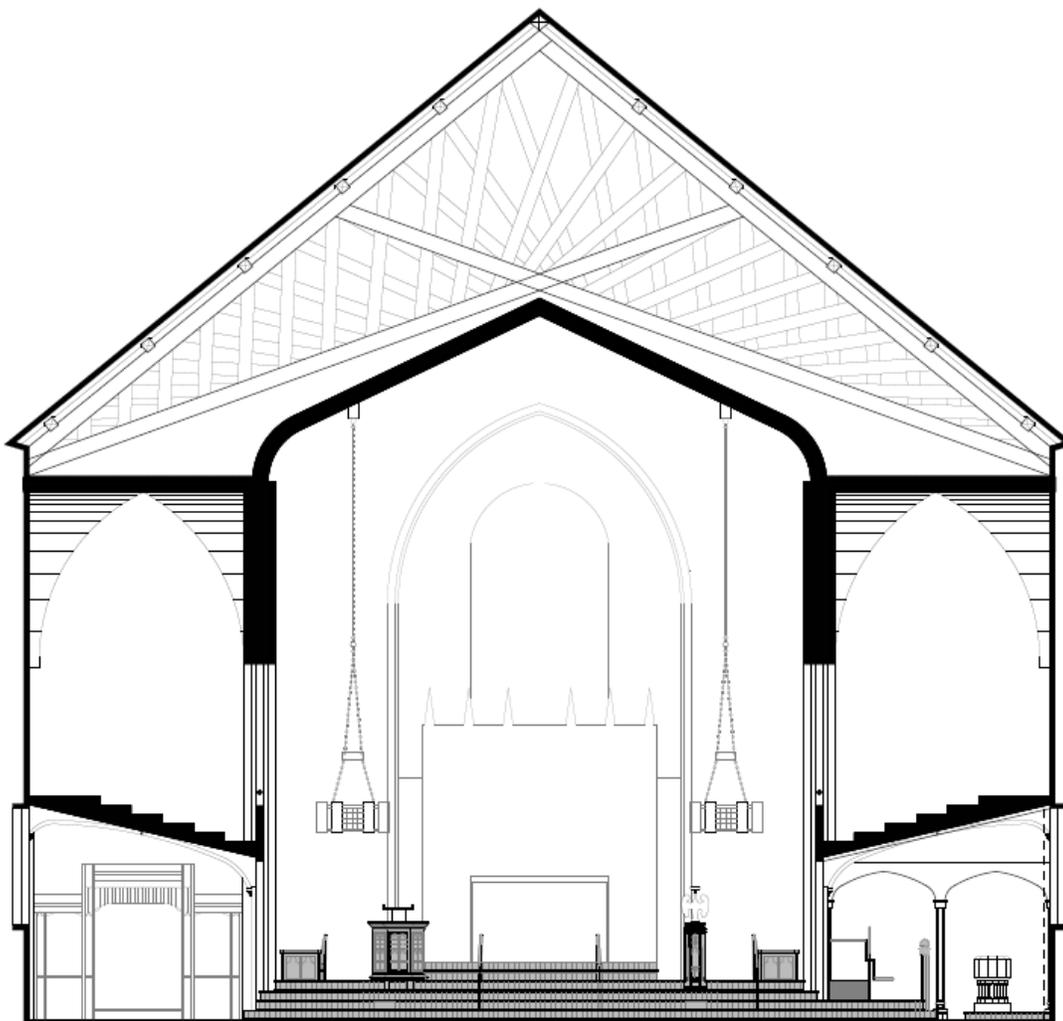
The renovations will be completed by our ECCT Convention in 2021.

REDEVELOPMENT

The cathedral church should be configured with flexible seating rather than fixed pews and furnished in such a way that it invites pilgrims to enter in and wander about, even when weekday worship is taking place. *Excerpt from the 2015 Cathedral Discernment Task Force Report.*



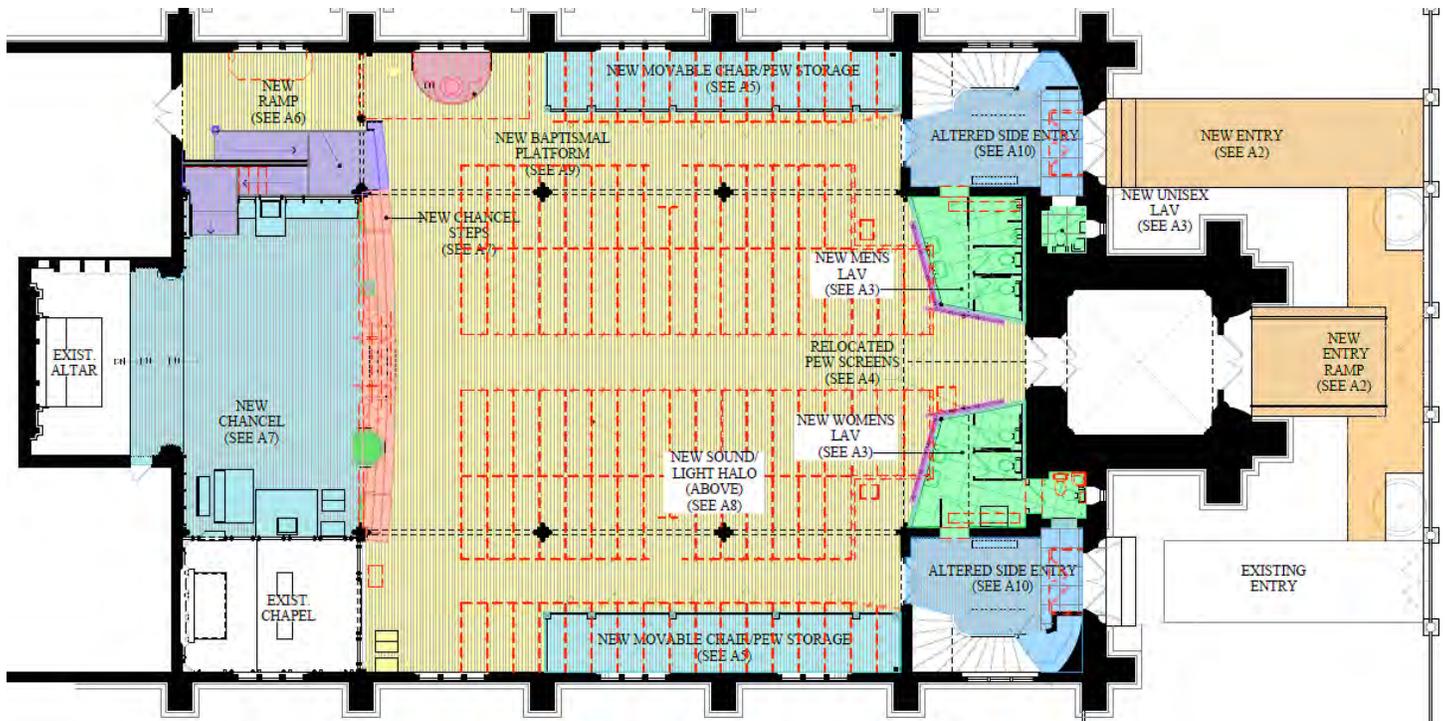
ALTERATIONS OF
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
45 CHURCH ST HARTFORD, CT 06103



General Notes

1. All work shall be done in accordance with all governing codes and regulations
2. Any conflict between drawings and code shall be brought to the attention of the architect, Duo Dickinson, AIA., for resolution.
3. Contractor shall not deviate from drawings or specifications without the prior written approval of the client.
4. Contractor shall submit shop drawings for review by the architect for the following:
 - A. All windows, doors, and associated hardware
 - B. All stairs, including newels, balusters, and handrail
 - C. All fireplaces and appliances
 - D. All electrical finishes & lighting
 - E. All plumbing fixtures & fittings
 - F. All HVAC equipment and grilles
 - G. All exterior finishes & appurtenances
 - H. All interior finishes & appurtenances
 - I. All millwork and casework

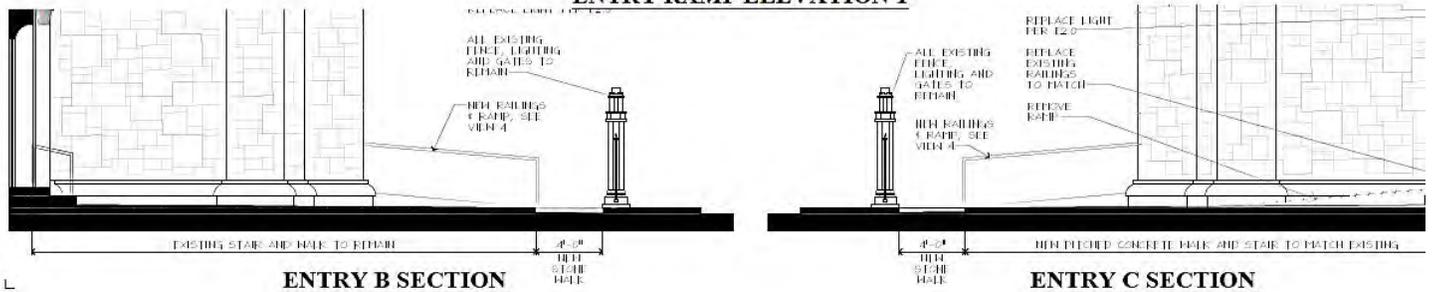
A1.0 Scope Plan

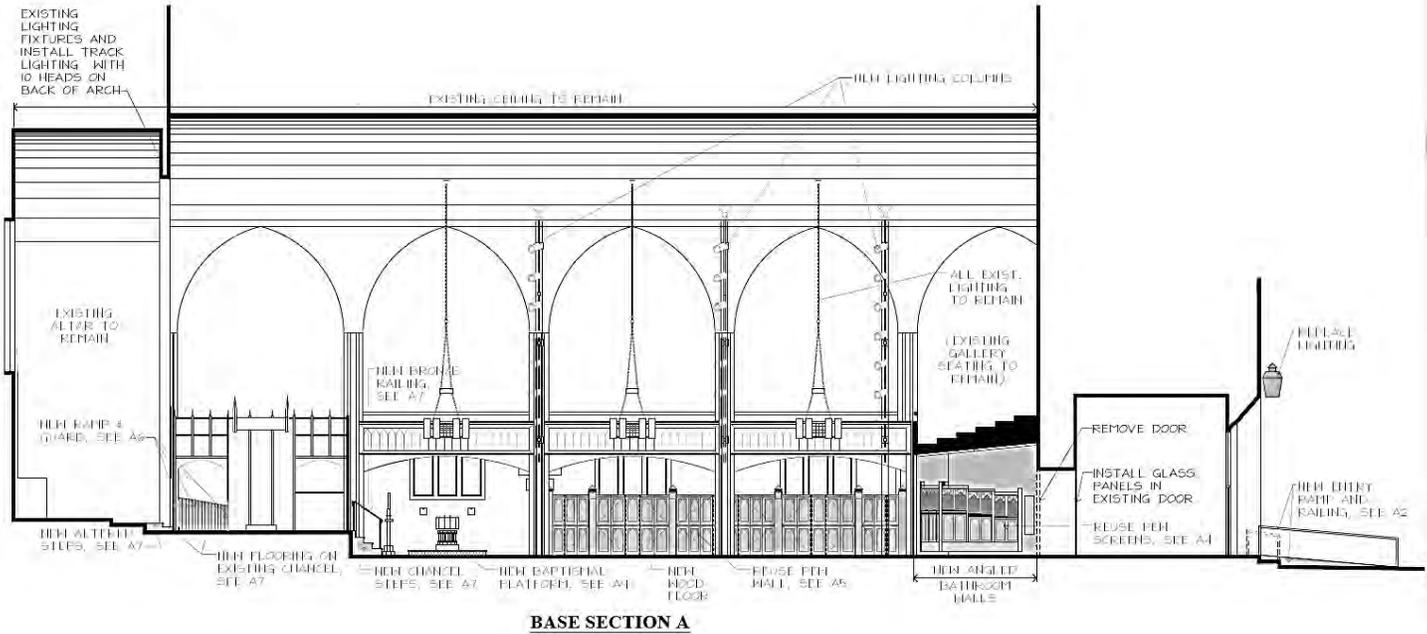


ENTRY RAMP PLAN



ENTRY RAMP ELEVATION 1





BASE SECTION A

KEY	
	EXISTING
	PROPOSED

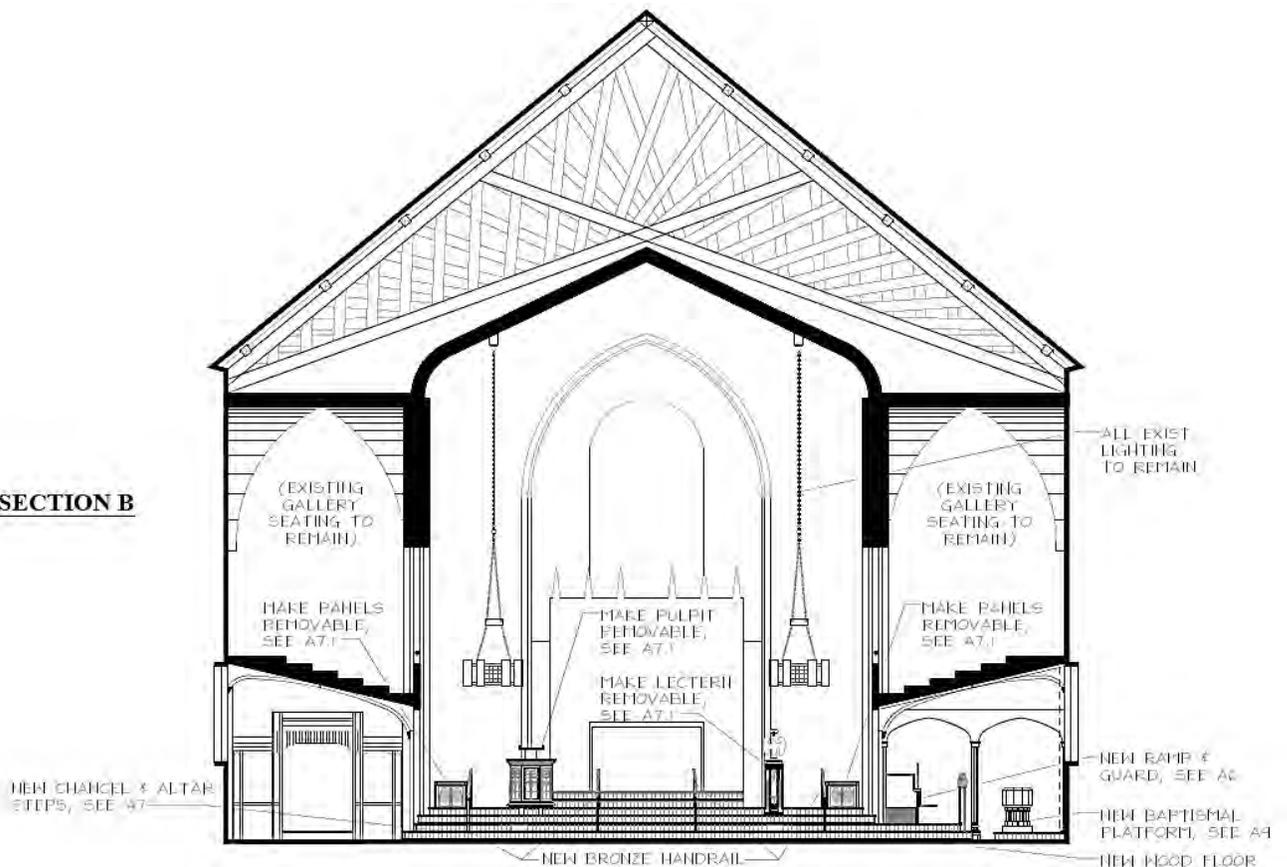
Proposals Section A

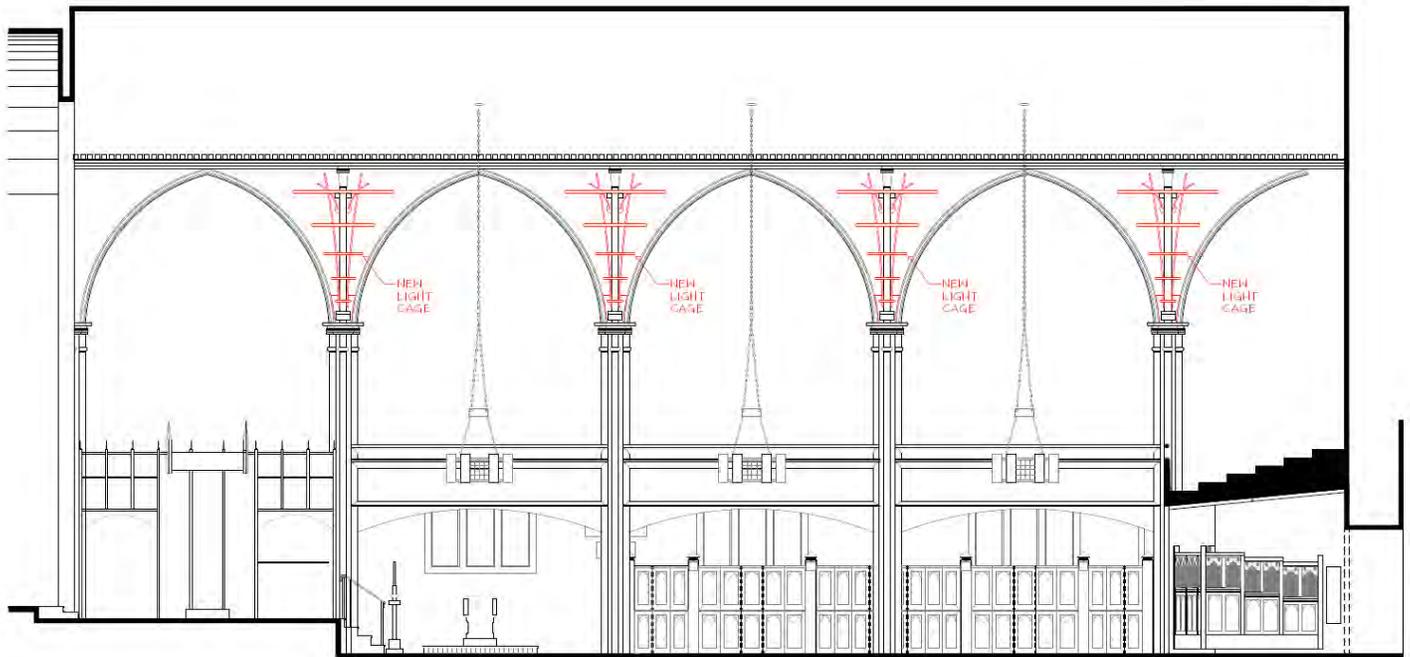
- New Ramp and Guard
- New Flooring on the existing chancel
- New Chancel steps.
- New Baptism Platform
- New Wood Floor
- New Lighting columns
- Remove door
- Install glass in panels in existing doors

Proposals Section B

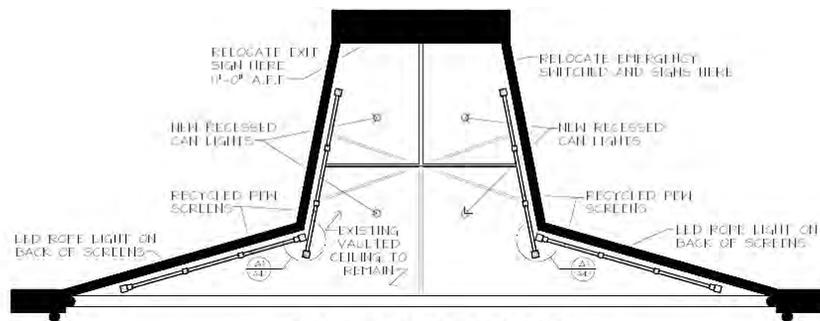
- Make pulpit removable
- Make Lectern removable
- New Chancel and altar steps
- Make panels removable
- New Ramp guard
- New baptismal platform
- New wood floor

BASE SECTION B

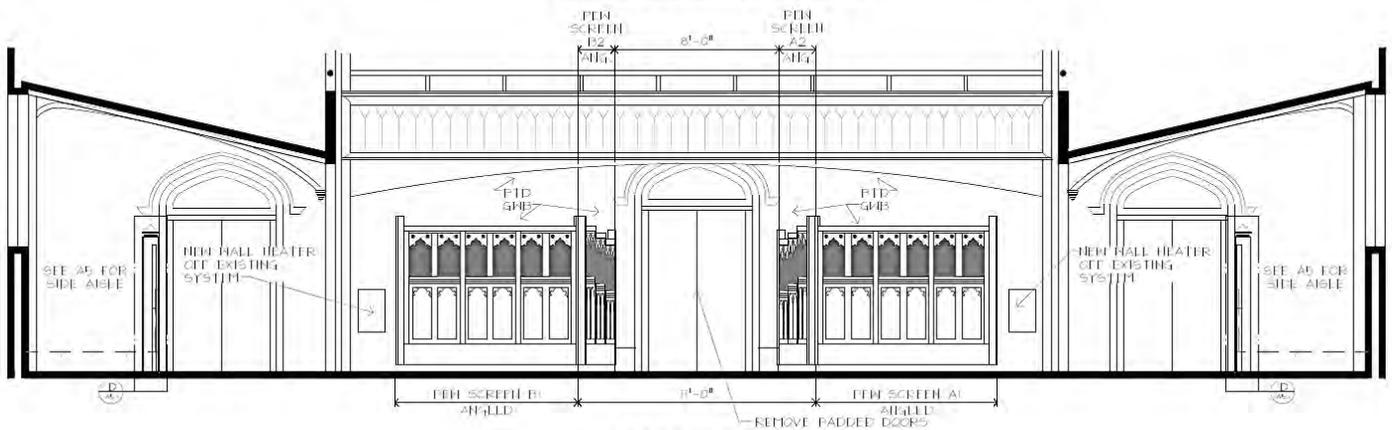




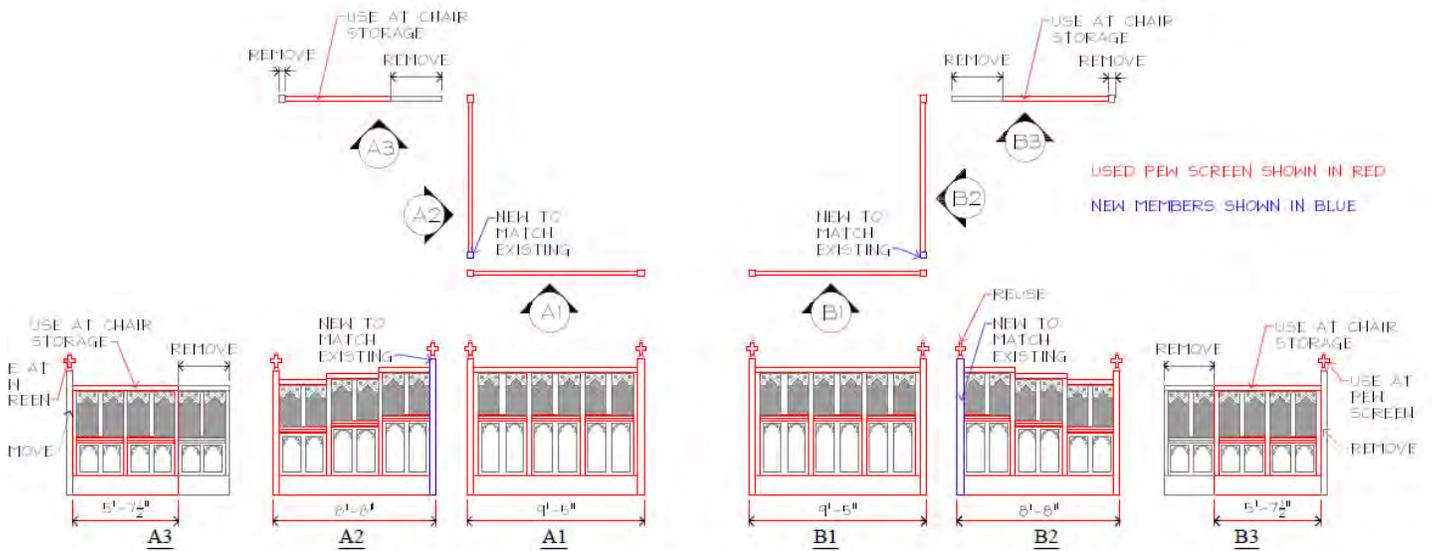
LIGHT CAGE IN CHURCH ELEVATION



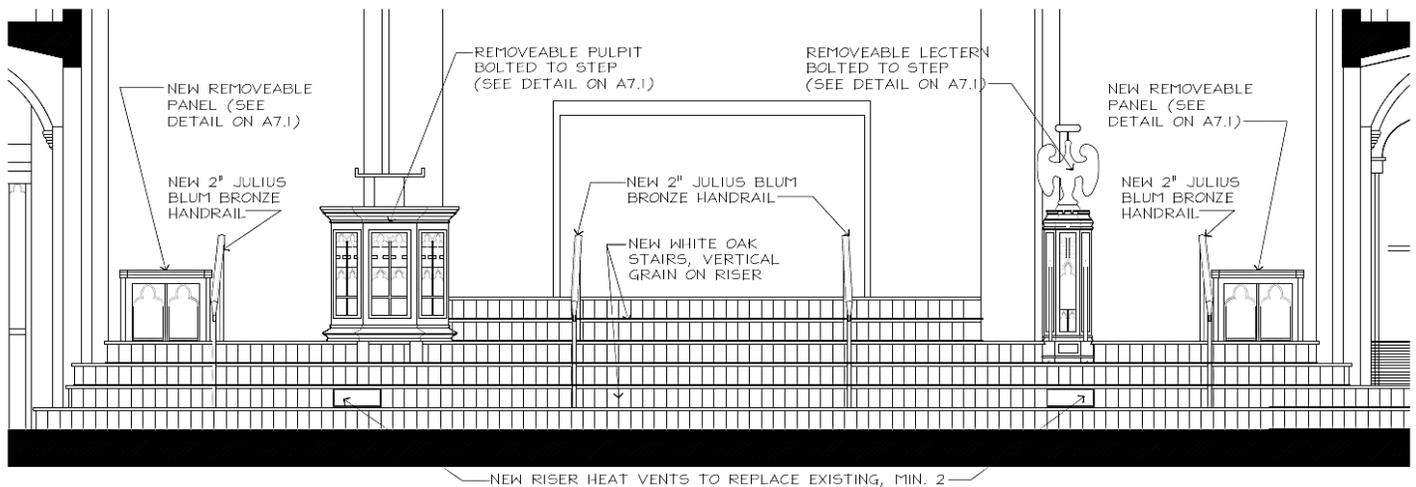
REFLECTED CEILING PLAN



ELEVATION 2

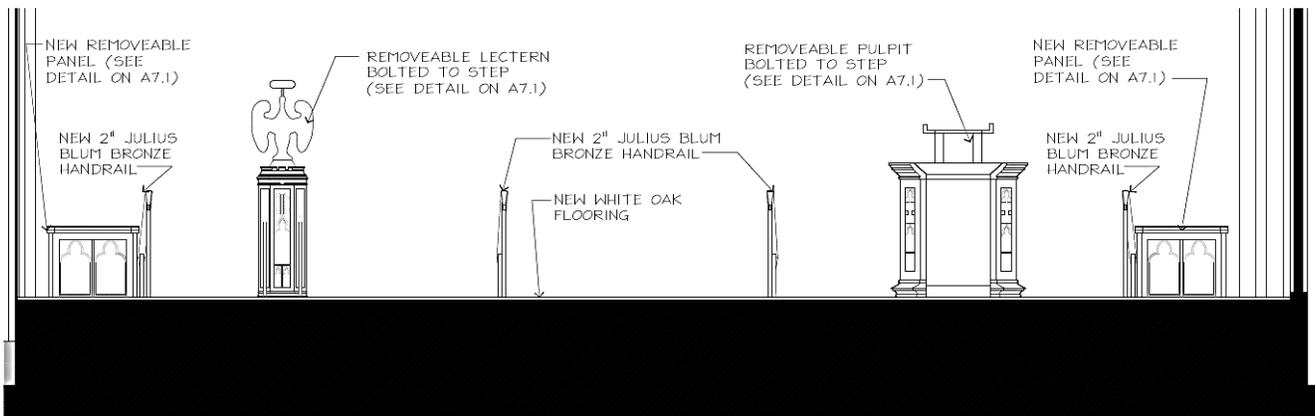


PEW SCREENS



CHANCEL SECTION 1

SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"



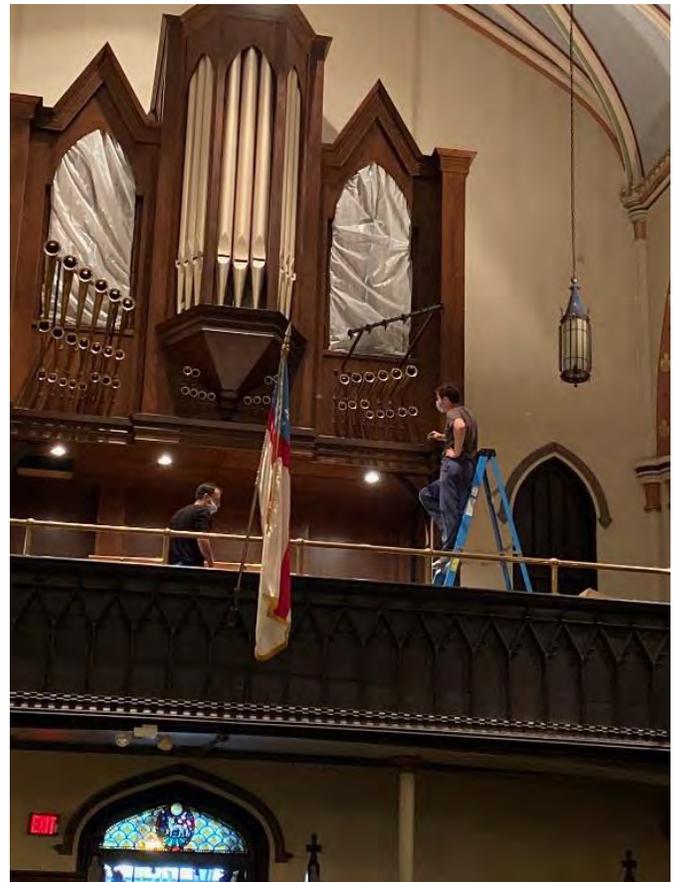
CHANCEL SECTION 2



The organ console was transported to Austin Organs for repairs



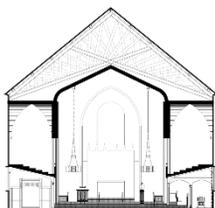
Chancel clear in preparation for renovation work



Austin Organ Staff protecting our organ pipes



Scott hard at work!



An update from our Canon for Congregational Life

The Rev. Canon Jorge Pallares



I would like to thank God, the Bishops of ECCT, the Cathedral's Dean, The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell, the Cathedral's Deacon, The Rev. Bonnie Matthews, and Staff, members of Congregations Committee, my family, and all members of Christ Church Cathedral for their support in my ministry to serve in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God's people in this very peculiar and challenging year. With the learning and use of new technologies, we break the physical borders that limit us and open our arms and hearts to welcome all those who want to join us in worship to our Cathedral, God's love and mission.

As Canon of Congregational Life in our Cathedral, I work in consultation with the Dean to support our congregations' life. Also, I work closely with Deacon Matthews, the Congregations committee, the Cathedral Music Director, the Spanish Music Coordinators, the Cathedral Staff and Clergy, and all who have participated as officiants, lectors, representatives of God's People, and our clergy group of preachers. All these members of our community collaborate with me to:

- Prepare weekly bulletins for Spanish and bilingual services
- Prepare PowerPoint Presentations for the virtual prayers
- Prepare Bible Studies materials
- Prepare morning prayer schedule of members' participation to be officiants and represent God's people.
- Prepare materials for Happy Hours in Spanish
- Coordinate facilitators and leaders for Happy Hour in Spanish
- Prepare materials for Wednesday Service and Wellness Wednesday.



Meetings and Participation in Groups and Networks. I participated in different meetings this year, regarding Hispanic Ministry Network; Clergy of Color; Bishops, Clergy and Lay Leaders; Supervision and Check-in Dean and Canon; Planning of Liturgy; Cathedral Staff; Congregations Committee of Cathedral; Rehearsal for Virtual Services; Music Legal Rights; Stewardship Tens Training; Annual Convention of ECCT; Annual Meeting of Cathedral, Chapter, Clergy Day, Leadership in Time of Crises; Capital Community College; Hartford Stage; Mujeres Latinas de Hartford; North Central Region Convocations; Racial Healing, Justice and Reconciliation and; ECCT – Anti-Racism Practical Action, among others. This year, I engaged with most of our Cathedral members through all sorts of virtual means as well as in-person contact. Every week, with Dean Howell and Deacon Bonnie, we have offered pastoral care through phone calls and other communication means.

Pastoral Care in Collaboration

Clergy and lay leaders have been connecting this year through virtual gatherings, emails, text messages, phone calls, and **Caravans of Love**. The love that shines through our community during this pandemic is remarkable. Hopefully, this fraternity created around the unpredictable continue to keep us united in the love of God and that when we return to what we could think of as normality, it continues to exist among us for the glory of God, of our Cathedral, of our communities and us, the members of the different congregations. I have served the most vulnerable



people of our congregations, going out to shop for groceries and taking them to their homes. Some of our members have been unemployed, isolated, and sick in COVID-19 time.

Worship and Fellowship

Attending and actively participating in seasonal liturgical planning meetings is part of my role.

- **Sunday Worships** At the beginning of 2020, I celebrated and preached in both the English and Spanish congregation worship services. I was also able to join in fellowship with Cathedral members and guests after every service.
- **Virtual Sunday Morning Prayer.** Since Sunday, March 15, our congregations worship God using a virtual platform. The Cathedral remains open in a broad, universal, and equal way for all members and those who want to join us in our services and events. The most rewarding has been seeing talents develop in our members and lay leaders as they actively participate in all services.
- **Virtual Fellowship.** We invite our Cathedral congregations to virtual fellowships. The fellowships create opportunities to connect Cathedral members of our various congregations and create bonds among us.
- **Wednesday Noon Services.** We actively celebrated Wednesday noon worships until Wednesday, March 11, 2020. My appreciation to Connie Bain, Gilbeean, and John Scott for their collaboration and participation in every service.
- **Wellness Wednesday.** Wellness Wednesday was active at the beginning of the year but transitioned to virtual Thursday Bible Studies in English due to the pandemic



2020 Stewardship Campaign. We carried out our 2020 Stewardship Campaign the first four Sundays of November, using TENS resources titled "Faith-Filled Generosity. We also prepared three Wednesdays of Virtual conversations with no attendance.

ECCT Programs

- **ECCT Events:** Our Cathedral Congregations and their members have participated and collaborate in activities, specific programs, and liturgical services led by ECCT as Annual Convention, Joining Jesus, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday.
- **Joining Jesus Spiritual Group:** Dean Howell invited Deacon Matthews and me to join the Joining Jesus Spiritual Group. The goal was to reach people in their communities to hear their life stories. We participated in the training offered by ECCT as leaders and members of our Cathedral group. During the first two months of 2020, our Cathedral group explored the Cathedral neighborhood and observed the activities.



Community Engagement and Seasonal Activities

- **Church by The Pond.** Every Saturday in Bushnell Park, our congregation of Church by the Pond gathers in person to pray. This year, I attended ten CBTP events (January 4, February 8, March 7, June 27, July 4, July 11, September 5, September 19, October 31, and December 26, 2020.)
- **Church Street Eats and Rose Boutique.** I attended most Sundays from January to March 8, 2020, to lead the opening prayer.
- **Funerals and Memorials.** I collaborated with Dean Howell in funeral services and prepared and celebrated in person and virtual memorials and funerals, in and out of Cathedral.

An update from our Cathedral Deacon

The Rev Bonnie Matthews, Deacon



A deacon makes several vows at the time of their ordination to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate:

- To study Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model my life on them.
- To make Christ and his redemptive love known by word and example among those I live, work, and worship.
- To interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world and to assist the bishops and priests in public worship and the ministration of God's Word and Sacraments
- To carry out other duties assigned to them by their Bishops and Priests

With the onset of the Coronavirus this past year, how I go out in the world showing Christ's people that serving the helpless they are serving Christ has changed dramatically. My call remains the same. How I respond to my call has transformed from going into the world in person to being virtually present to the world's concerns and needs.

As Cathedral Deacon, I have participated in God's mission, supporting the life of our Cathedral and Cathedral Congregations in the following ways:

- participated in Seasonal Worship Planning Sessions
- proclaimed the Gospel during our Cathedral's Sunday services and several virtual ECCT services, including Ordinations to The Priesthood and The Diaconate
- prayed and inwardly digested Holy Scriptures
- preached, led dwelling in the word, and provided meditations during in-person and virtual services 12 times at our Cathedral. I pray that I preached with a diaconal heart and a prophetic voice, making known the need for God's mission of loving our neighbors and speaking out against the sin of Racism
- attended seven Congregations Committee meetings
- Participate at the Thursday Virtual Happy Hour and Bible Study enjoying the congregations' life during this time of COVID-19.



I am not an active participant in Church Street Eats and Church by the Pond. While I support these programs, lay leadership has played an excellent role in the programs' success. My role as a deacon is to make the world-known needs and concerns and not interfere with God's mission that is well done. **Racial Justice and Food Ministries are at the heart of my calling as a deacon.** Below are some ways my passion for these ministries takes shape in our everyday life and beyond.

Racial Justice

- Participated in the **Racial Healing Justice and Reconciliation and Food Ministry networks**
- attended virtual webinars, book studies, programs, networks, and discussions related to racism and food insecurity. I pray that I have brought what I am learning to the pulpit and will continue to speak out against Racial Injustice and Food Insecurity.
- Participated in The Sacred Ground Program, a Film-Based Dialogue Series on Race and Faith.

Food Insecurity programs

ECCT Food Ministry Network. I accepted the role of convener for this network. The network evolved from a discussion at a Mission Council gathering in March regarding the significant number of people experiencing food insecurity during the pandemic and the Church's role. As the convener of the network, we collaborated and committed to the following:

- Create a list of food sources/connections, including hours of operation during the pandemic, for clergy in the North Central region to reference those seeking food.
- Connect with Trinity College Chartwell Food Services and Moral Monday and organize a 20 for 20 food programs where 20 families receive meals for 20 weeks.
- Meet with Social Service workers in Middletown and the state's North West Region in collaboration with the North Central and North West Missionaries.
- Invite speakers from the State of CT, the 211-info staff, FoodShare, CT Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, SNAP Program Administrator, and a Social Worker from the division of "Money Follows the Person."
- In January 2021, the Community Garden Ministry Network will be offering a presentation on Community Garden Catch-up and Start-Up. These programs provide information for vestries to make a difference in food insecurity.



Capital Community College Food Pantry. In early 2020, we met with the college to assist their food pantry. I have recently contacted the Food Pantry Director, identifying a greater need for food donations leading to The Reverse Advent Calendar food boxes' impetus. Plans are in the discussion phase to support their food pantry with NC Regional donations of personal hygiene products. Look for news of this after January 2021.

Other areas of ministry:

- **The Association for Episcopal Deacons (AED).** As chair of the Deacons' Council, I represented ECCT at the Archdeacon and Deacon Director's conference in Jacksonville, Florida, where we discussed Diaconal Formation tools for Latinos. I attended several virtual gatherings with deacons across America during this past year concerning Deacons during COVID-19.
- **ECCT Deacon's Council.** I attended ten scheduled meetings. Also, I collaborated with Dean Howell to plan the Virtual Deacons' Renewal of Vows service on November 10 2020. I recently collaborated with Deacon Ron Steed on how deacons live their call gathering and building capacity of deacons through storytelling, inspirational vision, and networking with deacons, priests, regional missionaries, and laity within and beyond ECCT.
- **ECCT Mission Council.** The council aims to serve as the leadership body for ECCT's joint participation in God's mission, using shared resources between the Annual Convention sessions. The Mission Council met four times during 2020. I have recently been a committee member focusing on identifying Intentional Episcopal Communities' financial responsibilities, such as The Episcopal Church at Yale or other communities petitioning ECCT for support and membership.

In closing, my most well-liked role as Cathedral Deacon has been the weekly check-in calls I have made since COVID-19 began. It is here that I have come to build beautiful relationships with you, speaking the truth, praying, just speaking of day-to-day experiences, sometimes sharing recipes, and listening to concerns. Our weekly conversations are where the idea for the Cathedral Caravan of Love began. I pray that we stay well in body and spirit, and the need for frequent calls dissipates as we emerge from the pandemic.

An Update from the Chair of our Congregations Committee

The 2020 Congregations Committee Focus
Thomas G. Smith, Chairperson Congregations Committee

The Congregations Committee engaged in the following:

- Conversations and collaborations with the Dean and working meetings with Committee members to establish early COVID-19 safety protocols for Cathedral parishioners, lay leaders, and clergy, including calls, surveys, questionnaires
- An ongoing process for developing congeniality and feelings of connection as we embarked in a virtual format on Zoom or for Live Stream Facebook presence for worship, meetings, and for being in touch with parishioners
- Keeping in touch with parishioners who are not on Zoom or Facebook: notes, emails, postcards, and "in-person" visits with the Cathedral Caravan of Love Visits
- Positive Adult Faith Formation participation and group dynamics developed while being on Zoom
 - vivacious laughter-filled Happy Hour Games and Conversations
 - very lively and thoughtful Bible Study meditations and conversations
- An ongoing process to secure the Cathedral's presence as an ECCT and nation-wide source for worship via Zoom and on Facebook (Live and download)
- Conversations with Dean and others to develop and offer the Poetry Night Event for CCC
- The George Beach Housing Meetings for Maintenance Problems
- Finance Committee Meetings
- Update conversations about Renovation and construction of Cathedral House A/C
- Update conversations about Renovation and construction of Sanctuary & Joining Jesus Project with other parishes
- Participation on Disciplinary Committee for Title IV with ECCT
- Virtual Choir participation
- Virtual Lector for CCC and ECCT special services



An Update from our Director of Music

Marianne Vogel

Christ Church Cathedral has a long-standing and active music program that serves our worship congregations and the Hartford community. Quality instruments, accomplished and dedicated musicians, and historic worship space with ideal acoustics encourage congregational participation in our worship. The music program's mission and purpose are to facilitate and help lead the congregation to worship in the Anglican tradition.



Music Programs

- **Children's Choir** had nine members rehearsing weekly under the leadership of Elizabeth Townsend and Marianne Vogel.
- **Handbell Groups** has three 4-person groups. Most participants were not already involved in music at the church, and two of them were from outside of CCC.
- **Weekly music reading class** had 2-3 regular participants with a fourth person outside of the Cathedral is ready to start.
- **The tower chimes program** will include ten choir members and parishioners on a rotation to play the chimes before and after the service each week.
- **Choir rehearsal** was weekly and provided service music on Sundays.
- **Music Moves Hartford** rehearsed weekly.



Unfortunately, the pandemic has put all of music program activities on hold. We hope to return to these activities as soon as public health allows.

Sunday Worship

- Since March 15, the music program has continued making music through virtual choirs.
- Each Sunday, our section leaders and music director have offered pre-recorded music for each spot in the morning prayer service.
- The music director edited the pre-recorded videos into virtual choirs and ensembles and the non-music videos for the Christmas Eve and the Lessons and Carols service.
- Our English and Spanish musicians have continued to collaborate well for bilingual and diocesan services.



ECCT Musical Partnership

- Our Cathedral has provided music for several **virtual diocesan events**: the 2020 Easter Sunday service, the July 18 ordination service, the October 18th convention worship service; the November 1st renewal of deacons' vows; and finally, the December 27 Christmas festival of lessons and carols.
- We have established the **ECCT virtual choir**, which had 18 participants in its first appearance on October 18, and 39 in its second on December 27. The singers have been a wonderful mix of choir singers, music directors, and active and retired clergy from every region of Connecticut.
- We have established the **ECCT virtual gospel choir** with ten singers on the lessons and carols service and much excitement and anticipation for its next appearance.
- Other parishes have requested music from the lessons and carols service for use on their Christmas Eve services. An upcoming ordained has asked to use music from the July service for his ordination.

Organ Update

Our organ can now be heard as the 'hold' music when calling ECCT by phone. We have been working with **Austin Organ Company** to have the organ's electronic relay system overhauled and have its positive division enclosed by swell shades. With the organ unavailable, Marianne has made use of the St. James Casavant organ in the Cathedral auditorium, the piano, and the Hauptwerk organ at Grace Episcopal Church in Windsor, thanks to its director of music Mark Child.

Church Street Eats

Theresa Greaves

We're a cooperative ministry providing meals and clothing to people in need. The number of people who depend on Church Street Eats continues to increase. Likewise, the opportunities to be a part of this caring community also continue to grow.

<https://www.cccathedral.org/gods-mission/church-street-eats>



Dinner at Cathedral House



Bagged Lunch At the Park



Personal Care Items



Mother Rose's Boutique

Church Street Eats has continued to serve God's mission in Hartford throughout 2020. Our guests shared soup and sandwiches as well as offerings of sweets and fruit. Our CSE Sunday crew Theresa Greaves, Mike O'Brien, and Louis Ruddock worked with volunteers from our Cathedral and other church groups and volunteers to serve over 1,000 meals the first nine weeks of the year. Rose Fichera-Eagen led volunteers in Mother Rose's Boutique to provide clothing or toiletries to 600. On January 19, our guests and Cathedral congregation shared a special meal as we honored Martin Luther King, Jr.

In early March, the Church Street Eats Steering Committee met virtually to plan and immediately begin new procedures. The current practice is to greet our guests at the door and provide a lunch to go. Most weeks, our approximately 60 guests receive the same lunch as they would have received indoors. On occasion, volunteer groups have prepared full meals to go. Our volunteer groups have changed a bit. Many of our dedicated groups from churches and schools have been unable to participate. Other volunteers recruited by Theresa have filled the absence.

Our CSE conveners (Theresa Greaves, Rose Fichera-Eagen, Nancy Jacobs, and Dean Miguelina Howell) and the Sunday lunch crew (Mike O'Brien and Louis Ruddock) have frequently met virtually to review needs and practices in this new environment. In November, we gave guests the option to enter the building for a short respite before taking their lunch to go. Nancy met the guests to be sure their masks were on, and there was appropriate hand sanitizing before entering.

At the start of the pandemic, we paused Mother Rose's Boutique. On a Saturday in November, the existing boutique's clothing was cleaned, organized, and given away to approximately 25 guests outside on the patio. We have been blessed to receive and share many donations that included toiletries, face masks, and warm items.

We are thankful that we have received Dean Miguelina Howell and the Congregations Committee's full support to continue to serve during this pandemic.



Church Street Eats in 2020

3,550
people served



1,900
Benefitted from Boutique
and Toiletries

Church by the Pond

Nancy Jacobs

Church by the Pond is a church without walls. Services are held outdoor in Bushnell Park at 2:00 pm every Saturday, rain or shine, hot or cold, sleet or snow.

Like most everything in 2020, Church by The Pond has had to experiment and evolve to serve God's mission in Hartford. We are blessed that we were present to offer prayer and lunch in one way or another.

From January through early March, we held our traditional service, including Holy Communion. We gave out lunches, and our guests gathered following the services. As the pandemic reached our city, we paused the service but continued to distribute lunches thanks to the many churches that are part of our ministry. We also included a reading of selected prayers and the Gospel reading for our congregation to take with them. By early summer, our priests were leading us in a brief prayer.

Labor Day weekend brought the return of our worship service. Although we are not currently providing Holy Communion or touching each other during the peace sharing, we are blessed to hear the Gospel and meditation as we gather before lunch.

On every Saturday, we had a priest in Bushnell Park to provide a pastoral presence. Dean Miguelina Howell was present each week during the first few months. Canon Jorge Pallares then joined her, but soon we were reunited with another ten priests from across the Episcopal Church of Connecticut and one Lutheran pastor.

We are immensely grateful to the church groups who found creative ways to meet God's people's needs. Over a dozen churches distributed lunches. All have promised to continue to serve God's mission as we move forward.

We are incredibly grateful for the support of our Cathedral and the leadership of Dean Miguelina Howell. Lay coordinator Nancy Jacobs and lay leaders Andrew May and Carlos Figueroa provided continuity and support in these difficult times.



IN 2020...

1,728

People were served

An average of 35 people every week



Dean Miguelina Howell offered a reflection reminding us of the importance of being present, of leading with our heart, and of Jesus' lesson that the Good News is for all.





***Canon Jorge
Pallares
prayed that
our nation
overcomes its
difficulties
and finds us
gathered a
year from
now in a
more perfect
union.***



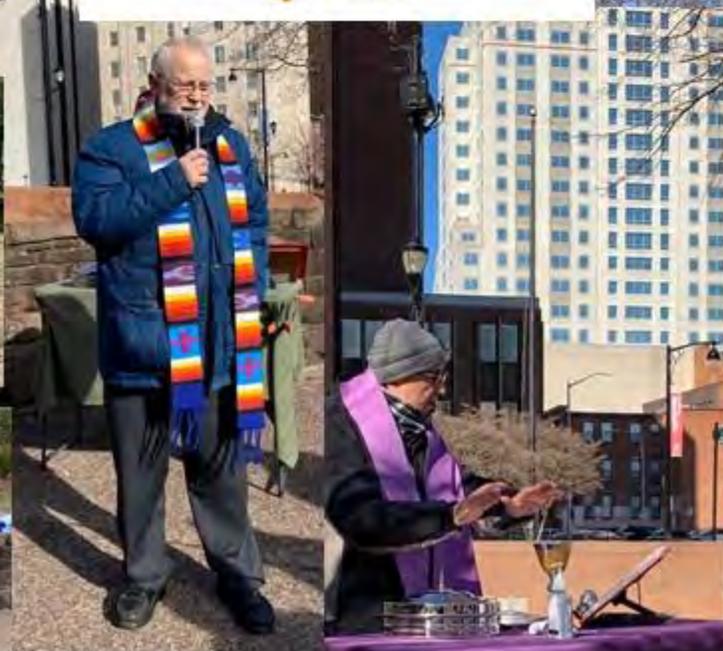


Rev. Linda Spiers spoke of the ever changing Kingdom of God. The kingdom in Jesus' time isn't exactly like ours. Ours, in the age of COVID, isn't exactly like it was. But still it is God's Kingdom.





Father Taylor's reflection on today's Gospel reading was a message to build up the kingdom of heaven using the gifts God has given us whether those gifts are small or great.



Acknowledgments

*Thanks be to God for the collaborative ministry we celebrate.
This labor of love is possible thanks to our shared ministry.*

All faithful laypeople of Christ Church Cathedral
The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Bishop Diocesan
The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan
The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell, Cathedral Dean
The Rev. Canon Jorge Pallares, Canon for Congregational Life
The Rev. Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon
The Rev. Canon Timothy Hodapp, Priest Associate, Canon for Mission Collaboration, ECCT
The Rev. Canon Lee Ann Tolzmann, Priest Associate, Canon for Mission Leadership, ECCT
The Rev. Jay Cooke, Priest Associate
Roxanna Olivares, Cathedral Intern
Marianne Vogel, Director of Music
Katherine Frisoli, Assistant to the Dean
Cindy Hursty, Accountant & Office Manager
David Borawski, Building Manager
Pedro Cirilo Coral, Custodian, and Spanish Music Coordinator
Nelson Mena, Spanish Music Coordinator
Kelley Kelly, Section Leader
Kevin de Benedictis, Section Leader
John Scott, Sacristan

Church Street Eats Core Team

Theresa Greaves
Nancy Jacobs
Rose Fichera-Eagen
Michael O'Brien
Louis Ruddock

Church By The Pond Core Team

Nancy Jacobs, Lay Coordinator
Andrew May, Volunteer
Carlos Figueroa, Volunteer
John Scott, Sacristan

Volunteer Proofreader and Editor

Viola Mullins

Altar Guild

Gilbeean Scott
Connie Bain
Monica Best
Sheila Green

Cathedral Chapter

The Rev. Virginia Army, Class of 2021
The Rev. J. Taylor Albright, Class of 2021
Mr. Lee Gaby, Class of 2021
The Rev. Nik Combs, Class of 2021
Alden Murphy, Class of 2021
Murray Harrison, Secretary, Class of 2021
Ouida Green, Class of 2021
The Rev. Robert Bergner, Class of 2022
The Rev. Stacey Kohls, Class of 2022
The Rev. Curtis Farr, Class of 2022
The Rev. Jack Gilpin, Class of 2023
The Rev. John Betit, Class of 2023
The Rev. Tracy Johnson Russell, Class of 2023
Tom Smith, Chair of Congregations Committee 2021
Anne Bartholomew, Vice-Chair, Congregations Committee for 2021
Richard Baraglia, Congregations Committee Class of 2021
Lilibeth Warner, Congregations Committee Class of 2021
Theodore Dunn, Congregations Committee Class of 2022
Melissa McBride, Congregations Committee Class of 2022
Evelyn Diaz, Congregations Committee Class of 2023
Mike Obrien Congregations Committee Class of 2023
Jilda Aliotta, Congregations Committee Class of 2023

Bart Geissing, Liaison to Camp Washington

Cathedral Honorary Canons

The Rev. Canon Jerry Carroon, Special Honorary Canon
The Rev. Canon Barbara Cheney, Life Canon
The Rev. Canon Douglas Cooke, Life Canon
The Rev. Canon Rebekah Hatch, Seabury Canon
The Rev. Canon Ellendale Hoffman, Special Honorary Canon
The Rev. Canon Robert Miner, Life Canon
The Rev. Canon John Mitman, Special Honorary Canon
The Rev. Canon Richard Nolan, Life Canon



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
CONNECTICUT'S CATHEDRAL