From our Vicar

Dear Friends and Family of the Cathedral Congregation,

I am thrilled to introduce you to these newly confirmed and received Episcopalians! On Saturday, May 11, 16 congregation members had hands laid on them by retired Bishop James “Bud” Shand of the Diocese of Easton. Three other retired bishops were present for the sacramental rites to help Bishop Budde with the moving and beautiful service at the Cathedral.

Members confirmed at our diocesan-wide service: Augustus Williams, Jason Bevier, Jennifer Love, Randy Stevens and Trudy Scott. Members Received as Episcopalians: Alexander Kiefer, Alison Kaufman, Caryl Brzymialkiewicz, Donna Limerick, Ernest Duncan III, Janet Eary, Marsha Muawwad, Lucy Hamilton-Duncan, Matthew Klaus, Sigrid Muller and Marsha Guenzler-Stevens.

And speaking of introductions, I want you to meet our summer Seminarian, Will Dickinson, who will begin serving with me and
Canon Rose Duncan on May 22. Look for Will on Sundays and at Bible Studies and Evensongs (and much more!).

Will is a Third Year at Yale Divinity School and is a Postulant for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Virginia. A native Virginian, he was raised in Fredericksburg and attended the University of Virginia, where he studied Music and Religion. Before seminary, Will served a parish outside Charlottesville as a lay minister. An avid musician, he plays the piano, oboe, sings bass, and conducted an orchestra and choir for his senior recital at UVA. His academic interests include liturgy and ritual, music, cultural criticism and practices of reconciliation within and without the Church. When not studying a dusty theological tome, he enjoys folk music, a crunchy novel, period dramas and long scenic drives. He is always in search of music recommendations and will happily discuss anything over a good cup of coffee.

God bless you all,

The Rev. Canon Dana Colley Corsello

---

**Are you called to mission work?**

As first reported in April, we are going back to Puerto Rico this August for our second mission trip, and you are invited! We will be working in the mountains outside of Ponce at the same location, CAM Bartolo, as last year, and will renovate school classrooms into apartments for families left homeless by Hurricane Maria in 2017.
Our hope is to take two separate teams of 18 for two weeks. The first team departs August 11 and returns on the 17th. Joseph Peralta will lead this team, which includes Cathedral Scholars, as it did last year. There are spots for 8 congregation members. The second trip departs on August 18 and returns on the 25th. Our Vicar leads this trip, which is for congregation members and families only. Last year we had many people who would have liked to join us with their families, but the timing and space were limited. Can you imagine yourself in Puerto Rico? See the mission trip photo galleries.

The cost for this trip will be approximately $1600 per person. The cost depends on flights that we negotiate and hotel room configurations and includes some meals and work supplies. We will stay again at the Ponce Hilton which is on the beach and quite nice for rest and decent food. If you would like to join us for one of these two weeks, please let Vicar Dana know as soon as possible to reserve your spot. Email her at dcorsello@cathedral.org.

Pride 2019 Float in the Works! Stay tuned!

The Vicar’s Office, along with the LGBTQIA Alliance cohort, will announce when it’s time to begin work on the Pride 2019 float. Here’s some background: the Cathedral stonemasons are building the central tower structure—along with gargoyles and a replica Bourdon Bell—that will then be covered in papier-mâché.

It will take many of us, working around the clock, to plaster our structure in paper. You will be alerted when it’s time to show up and get to pasting! Fun will be had by all!

Dana is looking for a talented painter who can paint the structure to look like the tower. Please email her if you are interested: dcorsello@cathedral.org. The float needs to roll on Saturday, June 8!

Martha’s Table Resumes

Sunday, May 19, 8:30–11:15 am
We are happy to report that our
sandwich and fruit collection for Martha’s Table resumes this Sunday, May 19. It is suggested that volunteers make a maximum of 2 loaves of meat and cheese sandwiches. Sandwiches can be supplemented by fresh fruit (especially needed), non-perishable fruit cups and trail mix. Drop-off as usual at Hearst Circle from 8:30–11:15 am on the third Sunday of the month. Email coordinators Sher Sandusky and Nicoleta Parau at marthastable@cathedralcongregation.org to receive monthly reminders. Download the revised instructions ».

Coffee Hour Hosted by Friendship Place

Sunday, May 19, after the 9 & 11:15 am services
Stop by coffee hour to celebrate our enduring ministry partnership with Friendship Place. Members from Friendship Place and our ministry reps will be on hand to thank the congregation for our support of initiatives such as the Easter Basket Drive. Friendship Place is also one of our outreach partners during the annual Thanksgiving Basket and Advent Giving collection drives. We participate yearly in the Walk to End Homelessness sponsored down on the National Mall in November each year.

Art Supplies for TraRon

Sunday coffee hours, June 2–16
Following the success of our Winter Book Drive, the congregation, through the Canon Missioner’s Office, will be collecting funds for the TraRon Center’s summer and after school art programs. The TraRon Center combines art therapy, peer counseling and one-on-one counseling sessions with self-advocacy training to help survivors of gun violence rediscover their own inner resources, equipping them both to heal and to make changes in their communities.

Please drop off cash and check donations at the Congregation Table during each Sunday coffee hour, June 2-16. Our goal is to provide funds to finance the art supplies needed for this ministry through
Summer Pursuits

The New Jim Crow
Thursday, June 13, 7-8:30 pm, Cathedral Library

The Racial Justice Task Force invites all to join the discussion of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by legal scholar Michelle Alexander. Our facilitator is Nancy Stockbridge. Cornel West considered this book to be “a grand wake-up call in the midst of a long slumber of indifference to the poor and vulnerable.” Even if you don’t finish the book, you are welcome to be part of the conversation! [RSVP »](#)

Howard Thurman: preacher, mystic, educator, transformer
Sunday, June 23, 1–2:30 pm, N-4

Paula Mays leads an exploration of *Sermons on the Parables* by Howard Thurman. Thurman, who died in April 1981, published over 20 books and numerous other works. We will examine a collection of 15 previously unpublished sermons on the parables of Jesus. These parables focus on the power of Jesus’ words to transform and inspire us. Following our custom to pair refreshments with our discussion—Tea with Teresa; Cookies with Karl—we’ll enjoy hummus with Howard as we probe his sermons together. [Learn more »](#)

Decision Making and Spiritual Discernment
6 Thursdays, 6:45 to 8:45 pm, starts June 27

Are you considering whether to make
a change in your life—large, small, or somewhere in between? Are you discerning a new call? Would you like to explore ways to more fully open yourself to God in your decision-making process? Using Nancy Bieber’s book, Decision Making & Spiritual Discernment: The Sacred Art of Finding Your Way as a guide, we will explore three major themes of spiritual discernment: being willing, attentive, and responsive as we strive to make wise decisions. Our facilitator is spiritual director and congregant Kathy Deal. Space is limited and participants must be available to commit to the six sessions. RSVP required. Learn more »

J. Chester Johnson: Auden, the Psalms, and Me
Sunday, June 30, 1 pm, Perry Auditorium

We welcome poet, essayist and translator J. Chester Johnson, who served from 1971-1979 as the poet on the drafting committee for the retranslation of the psalms, the version contained in the current Book of Common Prayer, published in 1979. The story of this retranslation, which will be the focus of his presentation at Washington National Cathedral, is told in Johnson’s book, Auden, the Psalms, and Me, published in 2017. He replaced W. H. Auden, who served as the poet on the committee from 1968-1971. Open to all. No reservations required. Learn more »

Marshall Keys & The Soulful Path: featuring The Washington National Cathedral Band
Monday, June 17, 8 & 10 pm
D.C.’s own Marshall Keys, named the city’s “best soprano saxophonist” and a member of our Cathedral Band, is playing another two-show gig (with Band members) at D.C.’s world-renowned Blues Alley jazz club. Tickets go fast! Learn more »

To Deepen the Connection:
Cathedral Men’s Summer Retreat
Friday–Sunday, July 19-21, Shrine Mont

Make your plans now for our first Men’s Group Retreat to be held at Shrine Mont Camp and Conference Center in beautiful Orkney Springs, VA. If you are craving or needing fellowship and intellectual and spiritual stimulation then you won’t
want to miss this weekend. Richard Rohr’s book *From Wild Man to Wise Man* will be the theme of the retreat. Rohr combines insights from his Catholic perspective, psychology, Eastern spirituality and Greek mythology to speak to the value of a gender-specific journey of spiritual maturity.

Gabe Kajeckas, LCSW, will be leading the retreat. Kajeckas is a psychotherapist with over 25 years of experience in treating anxiety and addictive disorders, both in private practice and employee assistance programs. He is a long-time member of the Congregation who draws on more than four decades of personal recovery and holds degrees from Georgetown, Yale and Catholic University. At press time, the Vicar has not confirmed which Cathedral clergy will be joining the retreat.

Details: Shrine Mont is owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Prices vary based on room configuration and include all meals and activities. The cost is approximately $165 per person for double occupancy and $225 per person for single occupancy. Please email Ken Fischbach to reserve your spot: mensbiblestudy@cathedralcongregation.org

---

**Stewardship Committee Updates**

Members of the Stewardship Committee will be reaching out to congregants who have not yet renewed their pledge. All levels of giving are needed to achieve our overall goal of $1.75M in unrestricted funds. If you have not yet made an annual pledge, we hope you will make a commitment to support the work of our Congregation. To date, we have raised nearly 72% of our goal. Your support is needed to ensure that Cathedral activities, including the Vicar’s office, continue in strength. Contact Emily Davis with your pledge questions: emdavis@cathedral.org or (202) 537-5792.

---

**Have you seen me?**

Our Creation Stewards wish to
acknowledge Jim Shepherd, Director of Preservation and Facilities and thank him for his efforts in ‘greening’ the Cathedral. “In particular, we want to let people know about the water fountains he had installed that encourage people to use reusable water bottles.” Have you seen them?

This effort is, of course, part of a much larger ongoing sustainability effort happening here on the Close. If you’re curious about some of the work already underway, take a look at A Greener Cathedral. Jim promises to update us later in the summer on recommendations for how we can reduce our carbon footprint and be better stewards of our resources on the Close.

Creation Care Pledges Mounting Up

“Thank you to all who took Bishop Curry’s Creation Care Pledge. Our Diocese of Washington has distinguished itself by submitting the most pledges (161) in the country! This is just the first step. We need to continue to be mindful creation stewards and follow through on our pledges. Together we can be that small group of thoughtful, committed citizens that changes the world, along with other committed creation stewards. This ‘fragile earth, our island home’ desperately needs us.”—Carol Janus, Cathedral Creation Stewards coordinator.

You can still participate—or ask others to sign on—your family, friends, school & office mates yearn to be part of positive change! Take the Creation Care Pledge today!

CCC Minutes

The Cathedral Congregation Committee (CCC) meeting scheduled for May 1st was canceled as there was little “new business” to consider following so closely after the April meeting. The April minutes will be considered for approval at the June meeting. The approved minutes will be made available for download in June.

Steps on the Journey

Baptisms
The following received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at the Great Easter Vigil on April 20: Paul Anthony Shelton, Stephanie Kyle Migdail and Nelo Allen Hamilton. Welcome new Christians!

**Pastoral news**
If you or someone you know in the congregation would like to discuss a pastoral concern or wish a hospital or home visit or to receive Communion, please contact the Vicar, Dana Corsello, at (202) 537-5290 or d corsello@cathedral.org. And if you have a prayer request, please email: prayers@cathedralcongregation.org.