



Sharing a Common Life

by Barbara Lyghtel Rohrer



The Rev. Ronald DelBene

Six months ago, Christ Church Cathedral began a journey that will take the congregation to a destination as yet to be envisioned. What is known is that the cathedral will continue to be a community of caring Christians who are not only dedicated to serving one another as well as others, but who also share a common life of faith, love and hope.

The next phase of this journey will begin this month, when on Sunday, July 11, the Rev. Ronald DelBene joins the cathedral members for worship for the first time. It will be their official introduction to each other in what promises to be a rich and fulfilling, mutually beneficial relationship. That is because, when it comes to fostering the ministry of a congregation, Ron believes in mutuality. And it is with this spirit of reciprocity in appreciating, encouraging and celebrating one another's gifts that he plans to lead the cathedral as its interim dean in the coming months.

Ron actually begins his ministry as interim dean on July 1. He will spend his time until the 11th with the staff and vestry, honoring their wisdom, listening to their expectations and supporting their need for this time together. He then looks to put his skills in administration, team building and spiritual formation "to serve people's needs, enhance their lives and support parish renewal."

Ron was drawn to the cathedral for its creative programming, its commitment to social justice ministries and its awareness of the importance of community life, all of which are grounded in a vibrant and celebrative liturgy. This is important to a man who loves to preach, teach and celebrate with an appreciation of diversity.

In his work at the cathedral, Ron hopes to bring a presence that relieves anxiety, promotes transparency and supports creativity.

"My leadership style focuses on empowering people to both identify and articulate their deep yearnings for wholeness and to practice God's presence in the midst of daily life," he says.

Among his first actions at the cathedral will be two special Sunday Seminars on July 25 and August 8, at both 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., when he will give members of the congregation a chance to ask "everything you want to ask the interim dean ..."

A native of Warren, Ohio, Ron comes to the cathedral with ten years of experience serving as an interim dean or interim rector, including two years at St. Mary's Cathedral in Memphis, Tennessee. He has served as a full time rector for eleven years at churches in Alabama. He has also worked as a spiritual director, an education and programming director, a director of campus ministry, a religion consultant, a rehabilitation counselor and a professor.

He and his wife, Dr. Eleanor McKenzie DelBene, are founders of The Hermitage, a non-profit corporation that provides opportunities for personal and professional growth under Eleanor's direction.

Ron attended seminary at the University of the South, holds an M.A. in theology from Marquette University and a B.A. in philosophy and English from Gannon College. He earned a Doctor of Ministry from the University of Creation Spirituality. His publications include *Exploring the Sacred in Death and Dying*, *Pathways in Spiritual Growth* (series) and *Christmas Remembered: A Collection of Stories*.

Ron and Eleanor have two grown children, Paul and Anne. Paul and his spouse, Gayle, have a daughter, Matsue, and a son, Luca.

moving forward in transition



Canon John Johanssen

July marks a significant step forward in the transition of leadership at Christ Church Cathedral. With Dean James Diamond's retirement, the advent of the new interim Dean Ron DelBene beginning his ministry and my departure as priest-in-charge, transition is well underway.

As I have come to know and love my ministry with you, I think about the goals I would offer for the transition period: 1) Transparency in finances and decision-making; 2) Laity leadership development; 3) Increased connectivity to each other, the diocese and the city; and 4) Integration of the vestry and chapter governance of the cathedral.

The potential for continuing the distinguished ministry at the cathedral is enormous. Transparency, leadership development and intentional connectivity to people and organizations within and beyond the cathedral walls will set bold core values for ministry. While there appears to be two competing visions of ministry, namely, mission and outreach to the city or development of parish member ministries, my opinion is that this tension is unnecessary. God calls us to both. My prayer is that as you engage in the necessary review of the cathedral mission that these two threads will not be seen as being in competition, but complementary.

The vestry, under the leadership of Mary Hagner and Tom Kent, has worked incredibly hard these last few months. Their tenacity to seek God's will and then do what is in the best interest of the cathedral has been powerful to witness. The vestry can become even more effective, as during the ongoing

transition, it clarifies its role. Much of the transition work will be to re-engage with the Diocese of Southern Ohio in the more traditional manner of a cathedral. There seems to be general agreement that much can be gained from this renewed sense of collegiality and cooperation.

I want to thank Dean James Diamond who has so graciously agreed to share ministry with me over the last five months as he planned for his retirement. And I could not have asked for a better clergy team than Nancy Jones, Rick Cross and Joanna Leiserson. They are each extraordinarily gifted and comprise one of the best staffs with whom I have ever had the pleasure of sharing ministry.

The music department under the skillful hand of Stephan Casurella is an asset beyond measure. I look forward to my worship being enriched by its gift of music whenever I return to the cathedral.

There are so many others that have touched me deeply in my ministry with you—Stacy Park and her children's ministry; Mark Priest's steady hand at the administrative wheel; and Mark Reed, whose insight into ministry and dreams for the building and grounds is inspiring. The rest of the staff also deserves the highest praise, and it is good to know that the same willingness to help me will be extended to Ron DelBene as he takes over the reins.

I thank all of you for your insights and support during the past months, and for your kindnesses in welcoming my wife, Pam, and me into the life and ministry of the cathedral.



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Backyard Barbeque

On Sunday, June 6, members of Christ Church Cathedral ate, laughed, got wet and had fun at the “backyard barbeque.” This annual church picnic is sponsored by the cathedral’s Membership Committee.

Committee members are appreciative to all those who made the event successful. In particular, they recognize and thank Judy and Bob Beiring, Phil Hagner and the Hospitality Committee, Mary Hagner, Canon John Johannsen, Jack Jose, Eric Kearney and all those who participated in the pie tasting competition, Ned Larrick and his set-up crew, George and Nandi Mutema, Carolle Perkins, the parent volunteers, the youth group and the cathedral staff.

“These individuals bless us with their leadership and expertise,” says committee chair Bertie Ray.

You can be a part of the effort to build strong, caring relationships at the cathedral by joining the Membership Committee. For more information, contact Bertie at Bertieray3rd@yahoo.com.



The Pilgrim’s Progress

Matthew Jaroszewicz is undertaking an effort that few college students pursue. He will be directing and conducting an amateur production of Ralph Vaughan Williams’ opera, *The Pilgrim’s Progress*, at the cathedral at the end of this month. His production will be only the ninth time this opera has been staged.

The opera is based on John Bunyan’s Christian allegory, *The Pilgrim’s Progress*, which was first published in 1678. The story, with its explicit Protestant theology, tells of the story of Christian, the everyman, and all that happens to him as he journeys from his home in the City of Destruction to the Celestial City. Vaughan Williams’ opera was first performed in 1951.

“It’s my favorite opera,” says Matthew. “The music is unbelievably beautiful. And it’s so unappreciated in the United States.”

A junior at Brown University, Matthew is majoring in music with the intent of becoming an orchestral conductor. His motivation for staging this production grew out of a dream he had last summer. While vacationing with his family, he dreamt he was conducting the piece. He later thought, “If I can get the cast together, it will happen.”

Matthew has the cast and orchestra together and it is happening.

Performances will be at 8:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31, and at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 1. Tickets will be \$10 each and will go on sale July 5. They may be purchased on-line at www.christchurchcincinnati.org/opera or at the Cathedral Shop.



ANGELUS IN CONCERT

On Sunday, July 11, at 5:00 p.m., Christ Church Cathedral will present Angelus, a quintet of young women singers dedicated to the performance of the sacred music of varied religious traditions and historical periods. The young women are all students at Mt. Vernon (Indiana) High School. Their repertoire ranges from medieval chant to contemporary Irish choral music. They sing almost exclusively acappella. The concert is free and open to all.

cathedral action

Ministries at Christ Church Cathedral

Volunteer members of committees, guilds and other groups actively contribute, with staff support, to the life and ministry of Christ Church Cathedral. These individuals oversee or sustain liturgical, educational, operational, social and outreach activities and functions with many hours of service. You can contribute your own talents to these successful efforts by speaking to the committee chairs, guild presidents or program leaders listed below.

COMMITTEES

Boar's Head Committee, Bob Beiring
Buildings & Grounds Committee, Ed Burdell
Camping & Youth Opportunities Committee, Denis Murphy
Cathedral Committee, Beverly Jones
Children's Committee, Kathy Jose
Christian Formation Committee, Ron Turner
Finance Committee, Chuck Harris
Grants Committee, Olden Warren
Housing Committee, Michael Bootes
Library Committee, Nancy Phillips & Jane Thompson
Mission & Outreach Committee, Marcia Irving-Ray
Music Committee, Harold Byers
Native American Council, John Grate
Parish Life Committee, Lorna Harrell
Personnel & Human Relations Committee, Mary Hagner (interim)
Planned Giving Committee, Phil Hagner
Plumb Line Ministry, Toni Grate
Stewardship Committee, TBD
Taft Memorial Fund Committee, TBD
Welcoming & Membership Committee, Bertie Ray
Youth Committee, Tonya Warren

GUILDS

Acolyte Guild, Nancy Jones
Altar Guild, Jane Thompson
Flower Guild, Priscilla Dunn
Hospitality Guild, Yvonne Schrotel-Murphy & Jane Thompson

MINISTRIES

5000 Club, Dave Eschenbach & Mark Sackett
Advent Evening Program, Joanna Leiserson
Amos Project, TBD
Art Exhibits, Lisa Koepke
Bible, Faith & Teen Issues, Nancy Jones
Bible Studies, Joanna Leiserson
Boys and Girls Choir, Stephan Casurella
Cathedral Choir, Stephan Casurella
Cathedral Contemporaries, Judy Beiring
Cathedral in the Park, Judy Beiring
Cathedral Night at the Drop-Inn Center, Isaiah Hyman
Cathedral Shop, Handel Bhola
Chalice Bearers, Karen Moreland
Children at Risk Committee, TBD
Christmas on the River, Malcolm & Priscilla Dunn
Cincinnati Episcopal Youth Adults, TBD
Community Issues Forum, Ed Burdell & Bill Woods
Confirmation Class, Joanna Leiserson



Docents, Dennis Harrell
Ecumenical Coalition on Human Rights, Merelyn Bates-Mims
Films on Friday, Dave Eschenbach & Bill Hatley
Foyer Groups, Joan Gregorich
Greeters, Louise Stalnaker
Inquirer's Class, Joanna Leiserson
Interfaith Hospitality Network, Elizabeth Brown
Knitting Group, Pat Thomas
Lent Evening Program, Joanna Leiserson
Music Live at Lunch, Nicholas Bideler
Newcomers Brunch, Bertie Ray
Nursery & Child Care, TBD
Outreach Assistance, Pat Coyle
Parish Archives, Dennis Harrell
Parish Picnic, Bertie Ray
Pastoral Care Ministry, Rick Cross
Prayer Chain, Louise Mandell
Readers & Intercessors, Karen Moreland
Recitals & Concerts, Stephan Casurella
Senior Luncheons, Lorna Harrell & Susan Sargen
Shepherds, Rosemary Weghorst
Snow Ball, Bertie Ray
Social Justice Ministries, Bill Woods
Summer in the City Choir Camp, Stephan Casurella & Holly Pratt
Summer in the City Vacation Bible School, Judy Beiring
Sunday Seminars, Joanna Leiserson
Theology Uncorked, Katy Elsna
Trinity Institute Conference, Joanna Leiserson
Ushers, George Marshall & Phil Hagner
Visiting Theologian Program, Joanna Leiserson
Weaving the Promises of the Good Shepherd Children's Classes, Stacy Park
Youth Group, Nancy Jones

cathedral action

Appreciation Sunday

Appreciation Sunday was established at Christ Church Cathedral to recognize the contributions of volunteers who were completing a significant period or act of service in church ministries. This year's Appreciation Sunday was held on June 13 during the ten o'clock service.

For liturgical ministry, Canon Nancy Jones recognized reader Mabel Nelson for many years of devoted service and chalice bearer Dawn Wilson, who is stepping down after 35 years of service.

Stephan Casurella recognized choir members Vivian Morris for 50 years of service, Isaiah Hyman for 42 years of service and Maureen Boylan, who is stepping down after 16 years of service.

Priscilla Dunn recognized Pat Haug for ten years of service as a member of the Flower Guild.

Canon Joanna Leiserson and Marcia Irving-Ray, the new chair of the Mission & Outreach Committee, recognized Tom Kent for his leadership in outreach. Tom is the outgoing committee chair. Joanna also recognized Sammie Bubel for her work with the Plumb Line Ministry since its inception.

More Than a Song

Christ Church Cathedral has a rich music program. But the success of this ministry depends upon more than those who sing or play instruments. Services of evensong and concerts need ushers and hosts. Music Live at Lunch needs cooks and servers. Music director Stephan Casurella wishes to recognize those whose non-musical contributions helped make for a successful 2009-10 program year. If you would like to be a part of this vibrant ministry, please contact Stephan at scasurella@cccath.org. Cooks for Music Live at Lunch, in particular, are needed beginning in September.

Music Live at Lunch Cooks & Servers

Cecile Allyn
Mary Hagner
Lorna Harrell
Isaiah Hyman
Foy Knierim
Brandon Moss
Susan Pace
Nancye Phillips
Holly Pratt
Mary Russell
Kathy Sackett
Constance Sanders
Susan Sargen
Jane Thompson
Carol Wiggers

Concert & Recital Ushers

Dawn Bruestle
Phil Hagner
Mary Hagner
Felicity Larrick
Sam Milano
Gentré Patillo
Sandy Porada
Mark Sackett
Louise Stalnaker
Ron Turner

Evensong Reception Hosts

Stephan Alexander
Phil & Mary Hagner
Corny & Janet Hauck
Foy Knierim
Ron & Bobbie Lyons

Choir Auditions

Christ Church Cathedral will be holding auditions for cathedral choristers for the 2010-2011 church program year Wednesday, July 28, through Friday, August 6. Choristers who share the cathedral's commitment to excellence, are willing and able to support its liturgical worship and serve as a significant presence in the Cincinnati arts community are encouraged to audition. The cathedral choir's primary responsibility is to sing at weekly Sunday services of Holy Communion, monthly services of evensong and other major liturgical observances in the church year.

Positions are open for both professional choristers and volunteer choristers. The cathedral is also building a roster of substitute choristers to serve as needed.

For more information, go to www.christchurchcincinnati.org/music/auditions.

Teaching Children Well

Christ Church Cathedral's Children Ministries coordinator Stacy Park would like to acknowledge in appreciation members who taught children's classes during the 2009-10 program year. They include: Rae Casurella, Sue Driebelbis, Michelle Foster-Fibbe, Kathy Jose, Jan-Michelle Kearney, Harold Park and Angela Wheeler. If you would like to be a part of this important ministry and help shape the life of a child for the better, please contact Stacy Park at spark@cccath.org.

cathedral community

wangnews.net



PARISH *Life*

Vivian Wang, daughter of **C.K. and Shirley Wang**, graduated from Stanford Law School in June. She will be clerking for a year at the U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals located at Milwaukee and for a second year at the U. S. District Court for Northern California located at San Jose.

We celebrate the marriage of **Megan Emery and Chris Williams**.



Plumb Line Needs

Personal Care Products

During July, please donate personal care products to the Plumb Line ministry. Donated items may be placed in the basket outside the Plumb Line office. Thank you.



Workshop on Healing Prayer

Sundays, July 25
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Led by Canon Rick Cross, this holistic workshop will explore the theology and practice of spiritual healing. (This workshop will be repeated on September 19.)

Weaving God's Promises

When Canon Joanna Leiserson set out to write a children's curriculum for the Episcopal Church, she was very clear in her intention.

"It was simple," she says. "I wanted to write a single comprehensive curriculum for children – something deep and theologically sound, something that embraced good Christian formation theory. I wanted it to be practical, easy-to-use, fun for the kids. I wanted it to be Episcopalian at its core, biblically sound, liturgically oriented, and flexible for all churches. I wanted it to be perfect. That's all. Oh, and it had to be affordable."

Now completed, *Weaving God's Promises* is not far off mark. Each year of the three-year curriculum is a 1000-page volume that integrates everything Joanna wanted, "and contains everything I have ever learned about formation, theology, Bible, church and ministry."

Church Publishing, Inc., has purchased the curriculum and is making it available to churches as a downloadable program (only) beginning this July. The cost to purchase the curriculum is based on the average Sunday attendance. As one review noted, the curriculum is "a beautiful example of stewardship, both environmentally and financially."

Thinking about the potential impact, Joanna says, "It's humbling and scary, but also incredibly exciting to be given this opportunity to shape the spiritual formation and development of children in the Episcopal Church. This curriculum has been the love of my life, and publishing it for the church has been my dream. I am so grateful to be able to share it with the wider church."

To learn more about the curriculum, go to www.WeavingGodsPromises.org.



A Tip from the Wellness Team

ENJOY THE SUMMER & BE ALERT!

Exercising becomes more difficult as the temperature rises. When the "heat index" reaches 90° or above, the potential exists for a serious heat-related illness. Common symptoms include: weakness or dizziness, headache, muscle cramps, nausea and vomiting and a rapid heartbeat. The following tips will aid in preventing problems:

- Start activity slowly, and increase intensity gradually.

- Drink plenty of fluids.
- If exercising longer than one hour, consider drinking sport drinks.
- Avoid caffeinated drinks or alcohol.
- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing that promotes sweat evaporation.
- Wear sunscreen and a hat. Avoid the mid-day sun.
- Or, go to a gym, walk in a mall or on the stairs in an air conditioned building.

If you suspect a heat-related illness, stop exercising and get out of the heat immediately. Drink water and fan your skin. If you don't feel better within 60 minutes, are confused or develop a fever over 102°, seek medical help immediately.

For more information, go to MayoClinic.com.

— Judy Chamberlain, RN, MSN

cathedral community

A Musical Tribute



On Sunday, June 13, the Christ Church Cathedral Choir performed, along with solo organists and other professional musicians, as a musical tribute to Dean James Diamond on the occasion of his retirement.

Farewell Nicholas

Nicholas Bideler, Christ Church Cathedral's associate director of music, will leave his position of two years on August 22. Having completed his master's degree in organ performance at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, he is moving from Cincinnati to pursue a doctorate in church music at the University of Kansas.

"I am so happy for Nick as he takes the next step in developing his career," says Stephan Casurella, the cathedral's director of music. "I am sad for us, however, for we shall miss his presence greatly. I have enjoyed working with Nick immensely over the past year. I admire his musicianship, fine organ playing, work ethic and sense of humor."

Nick began organ lessons at the age of 9. He has served as organist and choirmaster at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Fort Smith, Missouri, his hometown, where he began a children's choir. He was also the organist at Visitation Catholic Church in Kansas City, where he developed the parish's first Royal School of Church Music program.

As for long-term career goals, Nick says, "I would love to eventually be at a large church or cathedral that has a wonderful music program, very similar to the one here at Christ Church Cathedral, or serve on the faculty at a college teaching organ and church music courses."



Nicholas Bideler

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Staff Reassignments

In May, Canon John Johanssen, then priest-in-charge at Christ Church Cathedral, announced personnel changes. Canon Nancy Jones is now the clergy liaison for liturgies, as well as children, family, youth and young adult ministries. These responsibilities are in addition to her membership and stewardship work. Stacy Park works with Nancy as coordinator of children's ministries.

J.J. Engelbert resigned as youth and young adult minister. The vestry, clergy and youth commission is reviewing ministries for which he was responsible to determine how best to proceed in the future.

Canon Joanna Leiserson continues as liaison for adult Christian formation, but is now also responsible for mission and outreach ministries.

CONTACT US!

The Rev. Dr. Ronald DelBene, Interim Dean;
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Christ Church Cathedral

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calendar

VIEW THE COMPLETE CATHEDRAL BUILDING SCHEDULE AT
ccc.nexigenhosting.com/public

WORSHIP

Holy Communion

Sundays, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays, 12:10 p.m.

Evening Prayer

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.

Cathedral in the Park

Mount Echo Park
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.
July 18 • August 15

SEMINARS, DISCUSSIONS & FORUMS

Men's Bible study

Thursdays, 8:00 a.m.

Healing Prayer Workshop

Sunday, July 25, 11:30 a.m.

Seminar with the Interim Dean

"Everything you want to ask the interim dean ..."
Sundays, July 25 & August 8, 9:00 & 11:30 a.m.

CHILDREN

Children's Gospel Time

Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Summer in the City

Vacation Bible School
Monday-Friday, July 12-16

COMMUNITY

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 22, 11:30 a.m.

MUSIC & THE ARTS

Angelus Concert

Sunday, July 11, 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral Choir Auditions

Wednesday, July 28, through Friday, August 6

The Pilgrim's Progress Opera

Friday & Saturday, July 30 & 31, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 1, 3:00 p.m.

OUTREACH & SERVICE

5000 Club community suppers

Tuesdays, 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral Night at the Drop-Inn Center

Mondays, 6:00 p.m.
July 12 • August 9

Interfaith Hospitality Hosting

Week of August 22

Egypt: Joseph from Prison to Palace:

There is still time to sign up for Christ Church Cathedral's Vacation Bible School, scheduled for July 12-16, 9:00 a.m. to noon. See a short film about the fun children will have and register on-line at www.christchurchcincinnati.org/faith/VBS, or pick up a registration form at the church reception desk. Questions? Contact Judy Beiring at jmbeiring@cinci.rr.com.

Ice Cream Social: Join the fun and enjoy ice cream treats Sunday, August 22, at 11:30 a.m. in the cathedral undercroft.



Worship in the beauty of Mt. Echo Park. Stay for fellowship & a picnic. The Cathedral Contemporaries will supply sandwiches and drinks. Bring a small side dish or dessert to share.
July 18 • August 15, 10:00 a.m.