



The Cathedral chimes

Grace Episcopal Cathedral
Topeka, Kansas

October 2021
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From the Dean



A trusted spiritual text advises me today: “Repetition is not failure. Ask the waves, ask the leaves, ask the wind.” Similarly, Psalm 125 says, “The Lord shall

watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.” You can hear in those words of blessing the repetitive act of going out, coming in, going out, coming in. Ask the waves.

For people in liturgical traditions like ours, it’s important to bear in mind that what we do is very repetitive. Week by week we gather, sing, listen, pray in Christ’s name, ask for and receive forgiveness, share peace, and engage the mystery of Eucharist. It is all a remembering of God’s dream for our life, expressed most perfectly in the life of Jesus. We keep the memory alive, and we keep our relationship with God, self, and others more intact than if we let go of it.

The consistency of the worshipping community keeps it close to God.

One of our seminary professors told our class that a past student had asked about why it’s important to have communion week after week, Sunday by Sunday. The professor replied to the student, “Do you love your wife?”

“Of course.”

“Do you tell her that?”

“Sure.”

“As often as you can?”

“Absolutely.”

“Well, then. That’s why we need the Eucharist so often.”

Outreach programs a blessing to all involved

Programs that reach out to those in our neighborhood and wider community continue to flourish at Grace Cathedral.

For over a decade, Cathedral volunteers have spent each Saturday morning making sandwiches and preparing sack lunches to hand out to anyone who needs a meal that day.

Also on Saturdays, the Rev. Jennifer Allen, Diocesan Missioner, gives away “care packages” to those coming by for food. These packages consist of a number of donated items ranging from personal hygiene products to socks, hats and gloves in the colder months.

During the pandemic, the Cathedral participated in “Operation Food Secure,” a program with the Topeka Rescue Mission that provided boxes of food to anyone who wanted to come by on select Saturdays of each month. That program came to an end this past August.

The latest project that the Cathedral Outreach Ministry is taking on will provide bags of non-perishable food — “Grace Blessing Bags” — to those in need on the first Saturday of each month.

In September, the Grace Blessing Bags ministry was awarded an Alleluia Grant from the Diocese of Kansas in the amount of \$3,000. That grant, combined with another \$3,000 from the Cathedral’s outreach budget, will keep this program funded through December 2022.

Gwen McClain, co-chair of the Outreach Ministry said that Operation Food Secure

served a number of people in our neighborhood who were suffering from homelessness, unemployment, mental health issues and even grief. She said when that program ended, it was on everyone’s mind how to keep supporting these neighbors. “We’ve already developed a relationship with them, so how can we keep reaching out to them, because they still need food.”

So, the idea of developing a program at the Cathedral similar in nature was born. These funds will provide enough food for 30 bags distributed on a first come, first served basis once a month. “If it continues to grow, we’ll see what happens, but we’re pretty excited to be able to offer this to our neighbors,” McClain said.

For more information about the work our Outreach Ministry is doing and how you can become involved, contact Outreach co-chairs Gwen McClain, 785-506-6929, or Jacquie Lightcap, 785-338-1324.



Gweneth McClain and Steve Page

Christian Education classes for Fall 2021

ADULTS

- **Adult Forum:** Sundays, 9:45-10:15 a.m. in All Saints Hall.
Oct. 3 and 10: Archdeacon Anne Flynn will provide a follow up to the St. Simon's discussion and update us on Topeka area social justice issues.
Oct. 17-Nov. 14: Gender Issues in the Bible with Steve Roth
- **Dean's Bible Study:** Sundays, 9:45-10:15 a.m. in the Bubb Room,
Oct. 3–Nov. 21. For those who prefer a more experiential and conversational approach to learning about the Bible. Explore how the story of sacred scripture intersects with your own story.
- **Transforming Questions:** Wednesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m. in All Saints Hall, Oct. 6–Nov. 17. Can we question our faith? Who is Jesus and why did he have to die? Why do bad things happen? Where do we go from here? Take a pause in the midst of your week and join others in thinking through some of the most basic questions about our faith.



Photo, Emmanuel Phaeton from Unsplash

CHILDREN and YOUTH

- Infant- 4 years Stephanie Prue & Linda Ybarra
(Preschool Rm.—1st floor)
- K-2nd grade Kitty Fapp (Room 208)
- 3rd-5th grade Sharon McCourt Ostrowski (Room 206)
- Youth Group Middle & High School “Coffee Talk” (Room 211)

Youth Group service project

The Youth Group is collecting travel size hygiene items for the Mobile Access Partnership, a mobile shower and laundry trailer benefiting the homeless in our community. The group has already assembled about 200 snack, hygiene, and menstruation kits thanks to the support of the Cathedral's Outreach Committee, but we would like to make this a continuing project.

Specifically, the group is collecting travel size: shampoo, conditioner, soap, disposable razors, shave cream, combs, hairbrushes, and toothpaste as well as disposable menstruation supplies. A collection box will be located by the St. Nicholas Door on the west side of the Cathedral.

Thank you for your support of our Youth and the homeless in our community! Questions? Contact Kathy Smith at ksmith@gracecathedraltopeka.org or 785-430-8427.

Trunk or Treat returns, October 31!

Mark your calendars and dig out your decorations! First Presbyterian and First United Methodist Church will be joining forces with the Cathedral for *Trunk or Treat* fun! This event will take place on All Hallows Eve, October 31, 4:30—6 p.m. in the Grace Cathedral parking lot.

Contributions of bags of candy are very much appreciated and can be left in the Cathedral office. But even better, decorate your trunk (or just a lawn chair and a big bowl of candy!) and come enjoy seeing all of the congregation and neighborhood trick or treaters.

Questions? Contact Kathy Smith at ksmith@gracecathedraltopeka.org or 785-430-8427.

Choir and Handbells to return!

The time has come to welcome back our Cathedral Choir and Handbell programs to in-person rehearsals and services!

First and foremost, thank you to everyone for their patience as we all took steps to protect our community and neighbors throughout the course of the ongoing pandemic. Moreover, a special thank you to our Cathedral Scholars for their commitment to providing beautiful music to our services in the interim.

Rehearsals will resume for the Cathedral Choir the final week of October in preparation for All Saint's Day service on November 7th. Rehearsals for the Cathedral Handbells will resume the first week of November. More information regarding dates and times is forthcoming, so make sure to check your email.

If you have any questions or would like to join one of the choirs, please reach out to Interim Choirmaster Zachary Cope at copezach@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing the angelic voices of the choir and the sonorous ringing of the handbells in our space again soon!

Silents in the Cathedral

Friday, October 29

7 p.m., Grace Cathedral

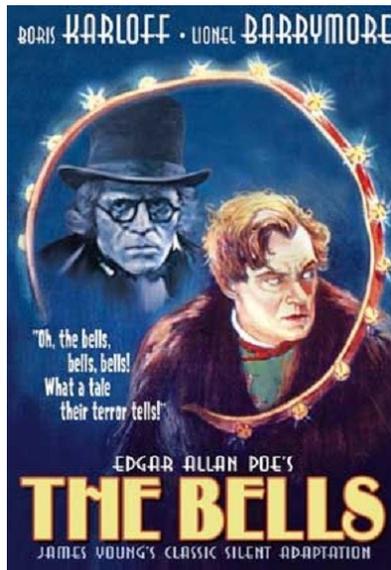
*Sponsored by the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library
with the cooperation of the Kansas Silent Film Festival, Inc.*

Free and open to the public

THE BELLS (1926)

Our feature presentation for the 24th annual 'Silents in the Cathedral' is a very rare silent feature film, THE BELLS. It's a gothic melodrama about an ambitious innkeeper Mathias (Lionel Barrymore), who murders a man for his money, then tries to resume his position without detection, but his guilty conscience won't let it happen! The Bells of the title do not refer to church bells, but to sleigh bells (since the murder took place on a carriage ride in the snow) and the sleigh bells keep ringing!

Organist Marvin Faulwell and percussionist Bob Keckeisen have put together a dazzling music score for this feature and they will be playing it 'live' at the Cathedral. The feature will be preceded by two short subject films with an intermission.



October Birthdays

- 1 Peggy Palmer
- 2 El Shipman
- 6 Deborah Barnes
Judy Gilliland
Barbara Lewerenz
- 7 Jim Allman
- 8 Austin Nothern
- 10 Brenda Escalante
Alana Seddon
- 12 Lynne Horne
Margaret McGillivray
George Pejakovich
- 17 Shirley Moses
- 18 Payge Quintana-Padgett
Mason Vosburgh
- 20 Adrian Horne
- 21 Wim Gunasegaram
- 22 Mary Florence Brinton
- 24 Molina Quintana
Jim Turner
- 25 Karla Denton
Caleb Kebert
Lynne Overman
- 26 Susan Weber
- 27 Vanessa Hill
Roy Menninger
Margaret Scharf
- 28 Stephen Durrell
- 31 Dennis Weikel

Volunteer for our Great Spaces concert series!

The Great Spaces Music & Art Series will return with a wonderful 2021-2022 schedule (see brochure included with this newsletter), and your help is needed to make each event run smoothly. Whether you are available for one, several, or all events, Great Spaces Volunteers have opportunities to serve as ticket takers, ushers and greeters at concerts and to assist with concert receptions.

Contact Kathy Smith, Interim Music Administrator at:
music@gracecathedraltopeka.org.

Groundskeeping volunteers needed

Join Norm Nellis and a crew of volunteers at 9 a.m., Saturday, October 9, to help mulch the planting beds around the Cathedral grounds. If you have a wheelbarrow to bring, that would also be helpful.

Norm would also like "lay weeders" to give him a hand preparing the planting beds on the east side of the Cathedral and Diocesan offices. Please call Norm at 785-273-9514 if you can help out.



*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. —Book of Common Prayer*

(Please contact the office if we have missed your birthday or have incorrect information.)



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October 2021

Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. — Holy Communion,
Rite I
9:30 a.m. — Sunday School
(Sept.-May)
10:30 a.m. — Holy Communion,
Rite II

**Masks are currently required for
all services and events at Grace
Cathedral.**

GRACE CATHEDRAL CLERGY

The Right Reverend Dr. Cathleen Chittenden Bascom,
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas
The Very Reverend Torey Lightcap, *Dean*
The Reverend John Bullock, *Assistant Priest*
The Reverend Donald Chubb, *Deacon*
The Venerable Anne Flynn, *Archdeacon*

CATHEDRAL STAFF

Kent Wingerson, *Cathedral Verger/Finance & Facilities Manager*
Connie Vosburgh, *Office Administrator*
Sylvia Hamilton, *Interim Organist*
Zachary Cope, *Interim Choirmaster*
Kathy Smith, *Director of Youth and Children's Ministries*
And Interim Music Administrator
Michael Godfrey, *Sexton*

VESTRY OF GRACE CATHEDRAL

Chris Shermoen (Sr. Warden), Rick Backlund (Jr. Warden),
Ron Langston, Suzanne DeWeese, Brenda Kebert, Susan Weber,
Linda Ditch, Barbara Nuss, Dennis Weikel
Lance Royer, *Treasurer*;
Cynthia Sheppard Langston, *Chancellor*

About the window...

In observance of All Hallow's Eve in October, we are featuring a stained glass skull on our cover! This window is located along the east aisle of the Nave and depicts a skull under the feet of the crucified Christ. "...and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha." *John 19:17*