



CROSSTOWN

November 2008

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg

Search for a New Dean: Time of Discernment Draws Near

Susan Churuti and Elaine New, Co-Chairs

The time when we expect to call a new dean for the Cathedral is drawing near. The third of three candidates will visit us the weekend of November 8-9.

The Discernment Committee has met every Monday night since last May, spending untold hours screening candidates, studying paperwork, conducting telephone interviews, visiting the candidates' home parishes, checking references, and hosting candidates here.

The committee will spend Saturday, November 15, in discernment, hoping to determine whom it is God is calling to be our next dean. The committee will start the day at 8:30 a.m. with a Eucharist in the Cathedral. The entire congregation is welcome to join the committee for that worship service and offer their prayers of support as the committee be-

gins its final task. Feel free to come in your work clothes if you're participating in the Cathedral Clean-Up at 9:30 a.m. that day (see story below).

Assuming the committee comes to an agreement that day, their recommendation will be presented to the Chapter for a vote on Monday, November 17. The Chapter actually elects the new dean. The next step is for Bishop Dabney Smith to approve the Chapter's choice. Then an offer is made to the candidate, and once the candidate accepts the call and completes some initial paperwork, an announcement will be made to the congregation.

"We hope our timetable moves along smoothly," committee co-chair Susan Churuti said. "But Bishop Smith has assured us that we can take all the

time we need. It's more important to make the right choice than to make a quick choice. Our three finalists are all excellent candidates. We have the great responsibility of identifying someone we believe will be an effective leader for our entire congregation. We are acting in trust for the people of God in this congregation."

The committee invites you to continue using this prayer in your devotions:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a dean for this Cathedral, and those who offer themselves as candidates, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Join Us for the Great Cathedral Green-Up/Clean-Up!

Come help us beautify the grounds and the Cathedral as we prepare for the holiday season.

**Green-Up: 9 a.m. Saturday,
November 8**

Help the new Garden Club plant and mulch on the street sides of the Ca-



thedral. Bring gloves and a shovel. Heavy work will be done in advance by Tracy Crow, a professional landscaper and member of our congregation, and his crew, at no charge. ECW is donating the seed money for this project.

**Clean-Up: 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, November 15**

Bring dustcloths, polish, Swiffers and mops. Join with the ECW to wipe away the construction dust inside the Cathedral, polish the brass, clean the stained-glass windows and prepare the Cathedral for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas.

All welcome! No experience necessary! Many hands make light work!

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Advent: A New Church Year Begins

We begin a new church year on November 30 with the start of the season of Advent. This is a time of anticipation and preparation for the light that is to come into the world. (The Latin word “adventus” means “coming.”)

We sing the ancient songs of longing: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” We hear the words of John the Baptist: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his path straight.” We blow the shofar — the ram’s horn — on each of the four Sundays in Advent (through December 21), and we light a candle on the Advent wreath at the start of each service. The altar hangings and clergy vestments change from the green of Pentecost to the blue of Advent.

At 4 p.m. November 30, the Music Department will present the Advent Procession. This carol service seeks to express the themes of Advent (longing and hope, rejoicing and awe, anticipation and wonder) through a liturgy of magical music and readings as well as a dramatic procession as we journey from darkness to light.



Crosswinds

Twice each year you’re invited to contribute to the **United Thank Offering** via special blue envelopes. The Episcopal Church Women will hand out those envelopes at services on Sunday, November 9. Every cent that is gathered from the 7,000 churches in this country and abroad is immediately distributed through grants to congregations “to address compelling human needs and/or expand mission and ministry.” Several churches in our diocese have received these grants! Last year UTO gave 104 grants totaling almost \$2.5-million.

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The Start of Advent: New Year, New Chance

The Rev. Canon Millard Neal, Vicar

On New Year’s Day 1929, Georgia Tech played the University of California in the Rose Bowl. In that game a man named Roy Riegels recovered a fumble for California. He became confused and started running in the wrong direction. One of his teammates, Benny Lom, overtook and downed him 65 yards away, just before Riegels scored for the opposing team. When California attempted to punt the ball back downfield, Tech blocked the kick and scored a safety two points, which was the ultimate margin of Tech’s victory.

The strange play came in the first half, and everyone who was watching the game was asking the same question: “What will Coach Nibbs Price do with Roy Riegels in the second half?” At halftime the team went into the dressing room. They sat on benches and on the floor, all but Riegels. He put his blanket around his shoulders, sat down in a corner, put his face into his hands, and cried like a baby.

In every game, the coach usually has a great deal to say to his team during halftime. That day Coach Price was quiet. No doubt he was trying to decide what to do with Riegels. Then the timekeeper came in and announced that there were three minutes before playing time. Coach Price looked at the team and said simply, “Men, the same team that played the first half will start the second.”

The players got up and started out, all but Riegels. He didn’t budge. The coach looked back and called to him. Still he didn’t move. Coach Price went over to where Riegels sat and said, “Roy, didn’t you hear me? The same team that played the first half will start the second.”

Roy Riegels looked up and his cheeks were wet with a strong man’s tears. “Coach,” he said, “I can’t do it to save my life. I’ve ruined you. I’ve ruined the University of California. I’ve ruined myself. I couldn’t face that crowd in the stadium to save my life.” Then Coach Price reached out and put his hand on Riegel’s shoulder and said to him: “Roy, get up and go on back, the game is only half over.” And Roy Riegels went back. Those Tech men will tell you they have never seen a man play football as Roy Riegels played that second half.

No doubt every one of us has taken the ball and run the wrong way — maybe more than once. We stumble and fall and are so ashamed of ourselves that we never want to try again, or we think there is no use. And God comes to us and bends over us in the Person of His Son and says, “Get up and go on back, the game is only half over.”

That is the gospel of the grace of God. It is the gospel of the second chance, of a third chance, of the hundredth chance. Welcome to a new chance, Advent, the beginning of a new church year.



Columbarium Renderings Coming

By the middle of November we expect to have renderings to show you of our proposed columbarium. About 300 columbarium niches will be in our Memorial Garden, right outside the doors on the south side of the Cathedral. Another 3,000 will be built on the site that is now occupied by the back end of the Baptist Sanctuary. We intend to leave the front of the Baptist Sanctuary (the part with the columns) and tear down the rest. There we will build a Serenity Garden with niches, benches, a fountain, and a labyrinth — a restful place in the midst of our busy downtown.



Thanksgiving Day at the Cathedral

Thursday, November 27

10 a.m.: Thanksgiving Day service

11:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Dinner
at St. Peter's Central



The Cathedral provides the turkeys

You provide the rest: appetizers, salads,
side dishes, rolls, dessert



Watch for sign-up sheets so we know you're coming and what you'll bring.
No need to eat alone that day! We're saving a place at the table for you.

Bishop Extends Chapter Terms a Year

Bishop Dabney T. Smith has extended the terms in office of Cathedral Chapter members for one additional year, in essence "freezing" the Chapter with its current membership. They will serve four-year terms instead of three.

The bishop said he took this step for two reasons. One is that the current Chapter is deeply involved in the plans and financing of our new buildings, and he wanted to assure continuity as those plans move ahead. A second was to maintain a group of experienced leaders who are very familiar with our lives and ministries who can help our new dean get settled in 2009.

This means there will be no Chapter elections at the Annual Meeting, scheduled for January 25, 2009. This "extension of term" will terminate at the Annual Meeting in January 2010 or at a special congregational meeting called by the new dean with the counsel of the Chapter.

Chapter members who were scheduled to rotate off in January 2009 will stay in place until January 2010. They are Bill Barlow, Bob Flannery, senior warden Sheree Graves, junior warden Jim Stewart, and building committee chair Pat Wahlen.

Those whose terms were scheduled to end in January 2010 will serve until January 2011. They are Karen Amundrud, Blanton Garnett, Mary Jo Mastry, Virginia Rowell and Judy Stark.

Those who would have left the Chapter in January 2011 will serve until January 2012. They are Susan Churuti, John Hoover, Bill Hoyt, and Marian McGrath.

Crosswinds, from page 2

The Young Episcopal Stewards (YES) are working on "Greening the Cathedral." They're preparing a report showing how the Cathedral can be more environmentally responsible through recycling and other efforts. Youth who would like to be involved in this project should call Carlynn Crosby at (727) 822-5925.

On November 1, YES will volunteer at the Bartlett Park Community Garden. Meet at St. Peter's Central at 9 a.m. to carpool to the garden. All youth are invited. Call Martha Goodwill, (727) 895-5032.

* * *

The schedule for **weekday Evening Prayer** will change starting November 2. The daily service at 4:45 will end, and instead we will read Evening Prayer at 6 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays. That will bring it in line with the service of Evensong that is held at 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The hope is that the later time will be more convenient for downtown workers to attend these services. Daily Evening Prayer has been a Cathedral tradition since the 1980s, when then-Dean Robert N. Giannini inaugurated Morning and Evening Prayer for the staff. The daily Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. continues unchanged.

* * *

The **Friends of St. Aelred** will meet at 7:30 p.m. November 12 at St. Peter's Central for discussion and dessert. The meeting includes prayer, sharing comments on current events (the election), discussion ("What's next after Amendment 2?"), song, and potluck dessert. All — GLBT, straight, male, female, young, old — are welcome! Information: Contact Riick Waterman at tbhockeyfan@gmail.com or (727) 577-0902.

* * *

ECW meets at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, at St. Peter's Central for a short business meeting. Then they'll adjourn to help with the garden green-up (details, Page 1). All women are welcome!

St. Peter's: A Guide

With God's help, we will welcome all people.

Weekend Worship

Saturday

5 p.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

Sunday

7:30 a.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

9 a.m.: Holy Communion (child-friendly) and Homily
A spirit-filled celebration, with hymns and choir

11:15 a.m.: Choral Holy Communion and Homily
A sung service with choir

6 p.m.: CAYA (Come As You Are)
*Holy Communion in the round, followed by a shared supper.
Celtic prayers and music from around the world.*



Visiting/getting in touch

Office/Parish Center: 201 Fourth St. N. (33701). Church entrance: On Second Ave. N just west of Fourth St.

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P.O. Box 1581, St. Petersburg, FL 33731-1581

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www.spcathedral.net

Our clergy and senior staff:

The Rev. Canon Millard Neal, Vicar —
mneal@spcathedral.com

The Rev. Canon Georgene Conner, Canon Evangelist —
canongigi@spcathedral.com

The Rev. Lynde E. "Ted" May IV, assisting priest

The Rev. Clyde Nabe, assisting priest

The Rev. Herbert E. Rowe, assisting priest

The Rev. Richard T. Earle III, Deacon — rearle@fishersauls.com

Edward Barbieri, Director of Music (Organist/Choirmaster) —
music@spcathedral.com

Pamela J. League, Administrator — pam@spcathedral.com

Monday-Friday

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. ☞ Evening Prayer, Monday and Friday, 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Service of Healing, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Choral Evensong, 6 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Holy Communion, 12:05 p.m.

At any time after hours you have a **pastoral emergency**, please call Vicar Neal on his cell phone: (727) 742-8519.

Crosstown is the newsletter of the people of St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral, published monthly for members, friends, and supporters. Editor, Judy Stark (judy Stark@yahoo.com); Associate Editor, Mary W. Matthews (mothermary@extremelysmart.com). Next deadline: November 15, 2008.

St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral
The Episcopal Seat of the Diocese of Southwest Florida
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Dabney T. Smith, Bishop

November Transitions

Birthdays

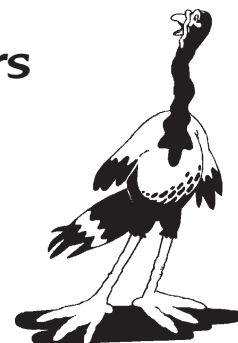
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1 Patricia Gillis
Judith Arsenault
William Gordon | 10 Lee Ramsey
Jessica Mellon | 23 Danielle Singleton |
| 2 Blanton Garnett
Jeff Jones
Vicki Burkhardt
Cathy Rentschler | 11 Susan Alford
Walt Williams
Justin Grimshaw | 24 Eddy Burns
Connor Gordon |
| 4 Emily Williams | 12 Fred Boette
Penny Robbins
Pat Howells
Warren Skinner-
Denning | 25 Cynthia Sinclair |
| 5 Adelia Samaha | 13 Suzanne Haines
Evan Randolph | 26 Michael Adams
Minette Jones |
| 6 George Scott
Mary Matthews | 15 Hadley Heindel | 27 Bev Taber-Bowman
Heather Hollingsworth
Caitlin Garnett |
| 7 Andy Munkittrick | 16 Kassidy Gums | 28 Karen Carroll
Susan Churuti |
| 8 Ida Brophy
Cellia Plummer | 17 Ellen Hyland
Beverly Adkins | 29 Jean Ceaser
Dale Howells
Christina Jones
Virginia Brew
Cassie Ramsey |
| 9 Martha Goodwill
Vicki Fernandez
Jameel Zabadi | 21 Myra Witko
Alexandra Blacker | |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 Dallas and Diane
Holtman | 17 William and Sally
Kebler |
| 14 Barry and Dilia
Singleton | 21 Carl and LaNona
Robinson |
| 15 Jack and Susan Regan | 23 Fred and Susan
Stansbery |

New Members

Elisabeth Patiala
Judy Koch
Marli Koch
Robert Kilzman
Thomas Marsh



Medieval, Modern, and Mozart — Music This Month

Here is the November lineup of special music programs:

* 4 p.m. Sunday, November 2: "A Medieval Evensong" with music from the Golden Age by Byrd and Ayleward, sung by the Schola Cantorum.

* 6 p.m. Sunday, November 9 (during the CAYA service): "Requiem for Iraq," a remembrance for the victims of conflict, featuring Karl Jenkins' alluring requiem.

* 11:15 a.m. Sunday, November 16: Orchestral Mass, Mozart's "Spaurmesse" (K 258)

* 7:30 p.m. Sunday, November 23: Concert, "Mozart in the Gallery," including the famous Mozart requiem. Free.



Shop, Save, and Support St. Peter's!

Now your purchases at Amazon.com can benefit St. Peter's! We've established an online bookstore: Go to spcathedral.net, click on "what's new," then click on the link to "St. Peter's Cathedral Bookstore on Amazon."

Whenever you make a purchase at St. Peter's online bookstore, St. Peter's gets between 4 and 15 percent of the purchase price. You can buy books or anything else sold at Amazon.com. You just have to start your transaction through our web site.

The funds raised through this program will go toward Christian education. Anyone can shop here, so tell your friends!

Friday Night at the Movies

Eddy Burns

Free movies and free popcorn are at 7 p.m. Fridays at St. Peter's Central. Here are the November titles. For details see the bulletin board at St. Peter's Central or check the web site, spcathedral.net.

November 7: *The Color of Freedom*

(2006): Nelson Mandela and his racist white South African jailer change each other's lives.

November 14: *Mr. Klein* (France, 1976):

Unscrupulous art dealer preying on desperate Jews in occupied France is mistaken for a member of the Resistance.

November 21: *The Rape of Europa*

(2006): Saving the great art works of Europe during World War II and returning them to rightful owners.

November 28: Thanksgiving weekend, no movie