

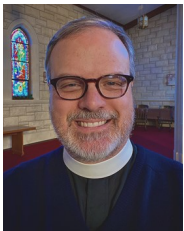


The Cathedral chimes

Grace Episcopal Cathedral
Topeka, Kansas

February 2024
Vol. 97, No. 2

From the Dean



Dear friends,

By the time you read this, you'll probably already know who's going to the Super Bowl. So ... I don't know how this is going to go over, but please allow me to talk about Patrick Mahomes for a minute.

As both a fan and a spectator, my greatest admiration for athletes has been reserved for people who were just made of something different. I can count these athletes on two hands: Jesse Owens, Billy Simms, Muhammad Ali, Usain Bolt, John Elway, Venus and Serena Williams, Patrick Roy, Michael Jordan ... and now, I can confidently say, Patrick Mahomes. Their athleticism seems to have come from almost another realm, which is compelling all on its own. But what each of them has in common is a drive that comes from an absolute iron will to succeed that, like the tide, lifts the collective effort.

The evening of Saturday, January 13th saw the Chiefs decisive wildcard win against the Dolphins (a match played in truly unsafe arctic conditions). Later, I reflected on Mahomes' performance. What remains with me these many days later is the image of someone with laser-like focus, for whom losing was never an option. Sure, we can say that when his team won; however, I like to think that if they *had* lost, he would have simply been shocked by it, as though the idea of losing had never occurred

Continued on page 2.

Congratulations to The Reverend Jody Carroll, Canon at Grace Cathedral, on her ordination to the priesthood, January 13, 2024!



Canon Carroll was presented to Bishop Cathleen Bascom by Cathedral Senior Warden Marilyn Trubey and Dean Torey Lightcap (far right) as well as clergy from her home diocese of Western Missouri.

From the Dean continued

to him, and that that was part of where his strength came from – playing toward the only possible conclusion in his mind.

In Walter Isaacson's biography of Steve Jobs, he describes the Apple co-founder as having a "reality distortion field" that strongly impacted those who worked around him. He was incapable of understanding why things that we think are impossible cannot become reality. The amount of effort it would take didn't matter to him; he just saw the goal and drove to it as hard as he could. As one of Jobs' toughest employees said afterward, "You did the impossible because you didn't realize it was impossible."

Now take all this and apply it to – well, of all things – Lent.

In this holy time, we seek to move closer to God, to love God more. We give up things that inhibit that relationship, and we take on the things that help to facilitate it. It's hard to give up these addictions and hangups, but we have to do whatever is necessary to remove the obstacles.

I'm asking you to go ahead and do that again this Lent, as always. But this time, think of the focus and the drive you have witnessed in the superior athletes of our lifetimes. Imagine the sacrifice, the determination, the singular vision required to perform at the level of a superstar athlete. Why can't that be yours? Why can't you be a spiritual pilgrim on a holy quest undeterred by distraction?

In the face of such a beautiful and noble goal as to grow ever-closer to God, is there anything truly worthy of our attention to take us off-track? We can exercise clarity, focus, and discipline to reach our loftiest goals.

And when we fall off the trail, get lost, lose our focus on God – even there, God is present, to nurture us back so we can keep going.

— Torey+

Choral Evensong

Sunday, February 5 at 4 p.m.

Sung by THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR



FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS

The Grace Cathedral Choir presents Evensong, with the music of Maggie Burk and Herbert Howells.

Sung at the close of day in cathedrals and churches throughout the world, Choral Evensong is a service of Evening Prayer. The choir sings the traditional evening prayers of the church, while the congregation listens, joins in the hymns, and adds their own prayers to those of the choir. It is an opportunity for peaceful meditation at the close of day.

Ash Wednesday
Services
February 14, 2024
12:10 and 7 p.m.
Grace Cathedral

Wednesdays in



As is our tradition, we will gather on Wednesdays during Lent for worship and simple suppers. We begin at 5:30 p.m. with Evening Prayer, followed by supper at 6.

The following groups will each take a turn providing the suppers:

Outreach Ministry, Daughters of the King, Thursday Men's Group, Vestry, and Cathedral staff.

A free-will offering will be taken to cover the costs of the meals.

RAISE A GLASS TO OUR ANNUAL

BITES & BEVERAGES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024
6:00 P.M., ALL SAINTS HALL

Bring your favorite finger food, appetizer or dessert and pair it with a beverage. Prizes will be awarded for the crowd favorite food & beverage. Non-alcoholic drinks will also be served.

Cathedral Youth Fund-raising Raffle
Support the Youth 2025 England trip by purchasing raffle tickets to win a variety of Gift Baskets. Drawings to be held on Shrove Tuesday.

INVITE A FRIEND AND ENJOY A LONG-TIME
FEBRUARY TRADITION AT GRACE CATHEDRAL!

Shrove Tuesday

PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 13, 6-8 p.m.

All Saints Hall

Get your tickets now!

Suggested \$5 donation

RAFFLE DRAWING ALSO THAT NIGHT!

Win one of several great gift baskets.



**All proceeds will benefit
the Cathedral Youth's
2025 England trip!**

GREAT SPACES


SALVE MUNDI SALUTARE

Te Deum | Bach Aria Soloists
including Grace Cathedral's own Zachary Cope

Britten | Festival Te Deum
Buxtehude | Membra Jesu Nostri

Sunday, February 18 | 3:00 pm
Grace Cathedral

Tickets \$40 general admission available at

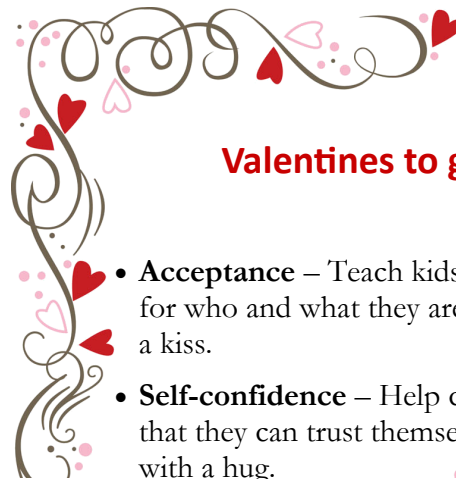


You're just our type! Give blood.

**American Red Cross
and Grace Cathedral Blood Drive**

Monday, February 19, 2024
12—6 p.m., All Saints Hall

For an appointment, please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org)
or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



Valentines to give your

- **Acceptance** – Teach kids that you love them for who and what they are. Give this gift with a kiss.
- **Self-confidence** – Help children understand that they can trust themselves. Give this gift with a hug.
- **Life without needless fears** – Don't let your kids see you as a worrier. Give this gift with laughter.
- **Appreciation** – Help children acquire a spark of gratitude and enjoy all of life. Give this gift as they go out the door.
- **Faith** – Introduce your children to God, the best friend they'll ever have. Give this gift by taking them to church every Sunday.

Adult Christian Formation in February

Sundays, 9:30 a.m., All Saints Hall

- 4 Stations of the Cross with Dean Torey and Canon Jody
- 11 A Conversation with Rev. Caroline Howard of Bethany House & Gardens
- 18 – March 25 — Walking the Way of Love in Lent

Senior Saints February luncheon

The Senior Saints will hold their monthly luncheon on Wednesday, February 14, but because this is also Ash Wednesday, the lunch will begin at 11 a.m. so that people have time to eat and make it to the 12:10 p.m. Ash Wednesday service. Topeka Fire Chief Randy Phillips will be the guest speaker.

Please RSVP to the Cathedral office at 785-235-3457 no later than Monday, February 12. A free-will offering is appreciated for the lunch.

Women's Study Group to begin new book

The Women's Study Group, which meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, 11:30-1, is beginning a new study February 13 of the book, "The Life of Jesus for Today " by Ronald Allen. This 12-week study examines Jesus' life in his historical context while reflecting on what those stories have to teach us today. If you are interested, contact Karel Ramsey (785)232-1452.

Blessing Box Sunday, February 18

The third Sunday of the month is the day we take collections for the Grace Cathedral Blessing Box. You are invited to bring non-perishable food items for the Cathedral's Blessing Box. We will have a grocery cart on the Cathedral's west side where you can deposit your donations. You are also welcome to drop donations at the Cathedral office at any point during the month, or place them in the Blessing Box (located on the south side of All Saints Hall) after hours.

Suggested items include canned meats, vegetables, beans and fruit; pasta and sauce; canned or boxed soup, peanut butter and crackers; granola or protein bars; and canned or dry milk. Food that can be consumed on the go or without cooking is especially helpful. Thank you!

Sharing Table donations always welcome

Here's what is currently needed: deodorant, toothbrushes, lip balm, men's socks, women's incontinence pads, pain reliever, shaving cream, and gently used belts. The Sharing Table is open to the community on the first Saturday of each month in conjunction with the Blessing Bags and Sack Lunch distributions.

Your donations are greatly appreciated and very much needed. In 2023, the Cathedral distributed 2,822 personal care items to 394 people! (Thanks to Sharing Table coordinator Melissa Weikel for keeping track of these statistics.)

Donations may be left on the shelf in the back hallway, or brought to the Cathedral office. Thank you!

New flooring gifted to the Cathedral's library

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, we now have new flooring in the Cathedral library and adjoining pass-through hall. This replaces a light-toned laminate that had been in that space for a number of years.

The new flooring is of a higher-quality and performance than the old, as well as giving the floor a more realistic hardwood appearance.



MEMBERS in MINISTRIES

featuring Roy Ridgeway

by Ruth Ohm

When it comes to volunteer service, Roy Ridgeway is a gentle, quiet leader. A member of Grace Cathedral for over 61 years, Roy served as an usher for 50 years and was a vestry member for several terms. Roy recalls that in 1973, when on the Vestry, he was in charge of the Acolytes. Kent (who was still a high school student at the time and no doubt a stellar Acolyte) taught Roy what the lavabo bowl was.

Roy and his wife Arceile have served on the Saturday Sandwich Ministry for 14 years. Together they distributed altar flowers to homes and schools as part of the Daughters of the King ministry. He also helps annually with setting up and taking down the candles for the Christmas eve celebrations.

When asked about his most meaningful ministry, Roy recalls being part of the development of the Columbarium. He served 50 years on the board of managers of the Columbarium, and placed the remains in their final resting place while saying a special prayer. He describes a spiritual call to working in the Columbarium, "I just needed to be involved," and sadly retired from this service when no longer physically able to perform the required duties.

After the fire in 1975, Roy was instrumental in redesigning and installing pneumatic temperature

controls throughout the Cathedral. His work at Honeywell at the time required the same skills, voluntarily applying them at Grace. (The pneumatic controls have more recently been replaced by electronic controls for easier temperature management with newer technology).

Have you noticed the beautiful rose garden in the 1888 Terrace Garden? This beautiful garden was installed and maintained by Roy's landscaping talent. He also worked for over 40 years in the Diocesan gardens until the latest update and addition. Roy "loves to dig in the dirt"; he describes gardening and landscaping as part of who and

what he is. He still lends his skills to maintenance of our landscape as well as to the rose garden at Gage Park and the planting of a million tulips at Lake Shawnee. He and Arceile were awarded the winner of the Most Beautiful Yard in Topeka (with over 500

roses in his yard), and he was an exhibitor at the Rose Society. He is truly a man who can promise (and deliver) a rose garden for his wife!

Much of Roy's volunteer work takes place in the background. He sees a job to be done and just does it. For example, after the



Evensong reception this past fall, I discovered Roy in the kitchen washing the wine glasses. What a delightful surprise!! His initiative in "just doing it" was inspired by previous church members, such as Bob Wilcox: "He just did things." Roy is reluctant to take credit for his activities, but when I asked if he would do me a favor, he said "YES" before he knew the nature of the favor (allowing me to interview him).

Having been in EFM (Education for Ministry) classes with Roy, I discovered his secret superpower. Roy has an incredibly powerful prayer life. He had attended a workshop to enrich and increase his prayer life years ago,

Continued on next page



Members in Ministries

and has integrated many of the suggestions. Much of his prayer is almost conversational — “Hey God...that’s a nice sunset.” Each evening, however, he says the Lord’s Prayer, followed by several other prayers in a format he calls PITAC. It’s a pretty comprehensive method, with P (petition) likened to “give me” prayers, I (intercession) are prayers for others, T (thanksgiving), A (adoration), and C (confession). Roy maintains a prayer list, which continues to grow. He checks with each person to determine if they want to be taken off the list. Roy credits his strong prayer life to influences from others, including a blind woman who came to church and her prayer of thanksgiving was for a man who fixed light bulbs that had burned out so that her volunteers could see around her home.

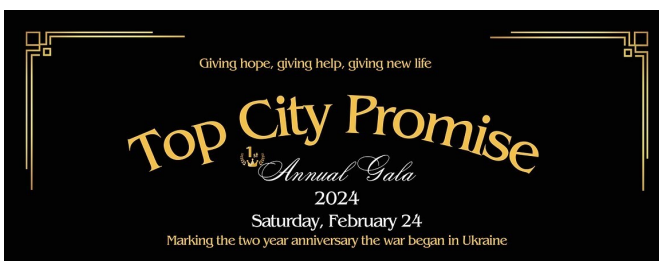
When asked what he would say to others about becoming involved in church ministries, Roy states that it is part of the obligations of being a member of the church. We should give our money, our talents and time; and “it all is given out of love.”



Ukrainian Refugee Ministry update

- ◆ Top City Promise is currently seeking folks who would be willing to pair up with a Ukrainian family weekly or every other week to practice English. This may be done by meeting at the library, shopping with them at a grocery store, or meeting for coffee. If you are interested, contact Ruth Ohm, Phyllis or Brent Hoyt. We will arrange for a background check, then facilitate the pairing.
- ◆ There are at least 20 Ukrainian families awaiting sponsorship to enter the United States to live in Topeka, KS. Top City Promise is seeking “paperwork sponsors” — folks who will complete paperwork to facilitate immigration. Although the sponsor must provide financial documentation to demonstrate resources to financially assist the refugees, Top City Promise actually provides the financial support necessary. Contact Ruth Ohm for more info.
- ◆ Want to provide financial support while having fun? Then the Top City Promise Annual Gala is for you! This gala marks the two-year anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. It will be held on Saturday, February 24, 7 p.m., at the Foundry Event Center 400 SW 33rd St. #2209, Topeka KS 66611.

There will be great food, entertainment and opportunities to bid on auction items. Tickets and more information are available at topcitypromise.org.



February birthdays

- 5 Jeanette Collier
- 6 Kelley Angel
- 7 Jim Bertram
Ruth Ellen Saiya
- 8 Brent Hoyt
Amanda Weikel
- 9 Phil Dittmer
- 12 Dale Galloway
Barbara Salyer
- 14 Kathy Lambert
- 15 Chris Lovett
Marianna Nothern
- 17 Dennis Nelson
Nancy Perry
- 18 Larry Brock
- 19 Larry Kampschroeder
Stan Wilch
- 21 Megan Reid
Sam Todwong
- 23 Carol Bertram
Lynne Dillon
Marilyn Trubey
- 24 Kathy Slawson
- 25 Frank Smith
- 26 Kathy Hood
- 27 Michael Wilson

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

February Flower Memorials

- 2 Walter T. Coolidge
Margaret Lodge
- 4 Darlene W. Ross
- 6 F. Warren Hawks
- 8 Loren N. Maffet
- 9 Kristen Edmonston
- 14 Ruth M. Mohler
Martha Harrison Moser
Thelma Jeane Grimes
- 15 Nelle H. Carkhuff
- 19 Charles C. Harrison
- 20 Adelaide Hollis White
- 22 Saraleen Curtis
- 24 Judith Lynn Waugh
- 26 Nelle Clough
Annette T. Goodson Reed
- 27 Willard A. Monahan
- 29 Alice Lakin Curtis



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Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. – Holy Communion,
Rite I
9:30 a.m. – Adult Forum
(Sept.-May)
10:30 a.m. – Club Jesus
10:30 a.m. – Holy Communion,
Rite II

Morning Prayer

9 a.m. each Tuesday and
Thursday in St. Mary's Chapel

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14

12:10 and 7 p.m.

February
2024

GRACE CATHEDRAL CLERGY

The Right Reverend Dr. Cathleen Chittenden Bascom,
Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas
The Very Reverend Torey Lightcap, *Dean*
The Reverend Jody Carroll, *Canon*
The Reverend Donald Chubb, *Deacon*
The Reverend Carl Edwards, *Deacon*

CATHEDRAL STAFF

Kent Wingerson, *Cathedral Verger/Finance and Facilities Manager*
Connie Vosburgh, *Office Administrator*
Donald Livingston, *Organist*
Eduardo García-Novelli, *Choirmaster*
Zachary Cope, *Associate Choirmaster*
Kathy Smith, *Director of Youth and Children's Ministries*
Ruth Ohm, *Ministry Coordinator*
Michael Godfrey, *Sexton*

VESTRY OF GRACE CATHEDRAL

Vanessa Hill, Alan Johnson, Mark Quintana
LeRoy Dagg, Arceile Ridgeway, David Woods
Vanessa Evans, Norman Nellis, Evelyn Wilson
Lance Royer, *Treasurer*,
Cynthia Sheppard Langston, *Chancellor*