



Church of the Holy Communion Newsletter
Pro Cathedral—Diocese of Mid-America (REC)
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THE CARILLON

January, 2014

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Annual Parish Meeting

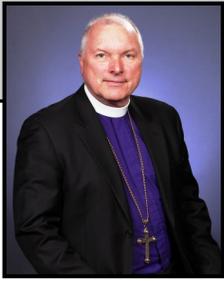
Sunday, January 26th

ONE SERVICE 10:00am

**Followed by ...
Annual Meeting and
“Pot-Luck” Lunch**



RECTOR'S PAGE



To start off our new year, Vestry has supported an opportunity to include a role in the liturgy we've needed, but not had the opportunity hereto for to do so, at Church of the Holy Communion. Many of you who have been to

England or have come from cathedral or larger parishes have seen a person function in this office. It is called *verger*, an office with deep roots in the ancient history of the Church of England. Like most everything else in our worship, this position has come to American Anglicanism.

The Reformed Episcopal Church has vergers. Our Cathedral See in Katy, Texas has a gifted man named Harry Johnson (husband of Deaconess Annette Johnson, Bishop Grote's secretary), who has been a huge help at the cathedral serving as a verger. He has held this position for many years, and has helped train others.

The word verger is from the Latin, *virga*, that means twig or rod. The short rod with a little cross on the end of it is the symbol of the office. The verger office is a combination of an acolyte and lay reader to perform some special functions in a prayer book worship service. Historically, the verger was responsible for the order and upkeep of the place of worship. He most often worked closely with the bishop in the planning of the order and seating of those leading the worship. Then when it came time for the service, the verger would lead the procession to make sure the order, seating, and flow of the service would be maintained as the bishop had directed.

For example, consider the procession into worship, especially if it's a long one say at a cathedral church. The bishop is always the last one in. He's a long way from the front. And if there are many clergy in the procession, they have to be seated in the correct places in an orderly fashion without causing any disruption. The bishop cannot be there for that part; remember he's at the end of the procession. Perhaps you can appreciate why over centuries past bishops started appointing one of the acolytes or lay readers to make sure the procession was guided along properly. The bishop, also out of necessity, asked this person, who came to be called a verger, to help everyone in the chancel area take the correct seat and so forth. In fact everywhere there was a kind of seam of transition and movement in the liturgy (taking the offering, coming forward for communion etc.), the verger could be somewhere near the front at the point of the movement to guarantee for the bishop the order was maintained.

Even in our own parish when we have special services when many guests from outside the parish attend (Funerals, Weddings, Christmas, Easter etc.), one point of movement that takes special care is when people go to the communion rail for the reception of Holy Communion. As you know, on the Gospel side (north) of the altar folks come to the center and kneel one after the other to the outside of the rail. On the Epistle side (south) of the altar, reception starts at the end of the rail and works to the middle. It can be confusing to visitors. All parishes have issues like this, particularly at the reception of communion; for that matter anywhere there is movement. A verger can stand near these places where there is potential for misdirection and help guide folks to where they should be.

As we have emerged into a pro-cathedral all kinds of services are required. We have grown numerically as well. It is natural that the need for the office of verger would present itself sooner or later. Actually we've already had a number of services, where it would have been very nice, to have had a verger (General Council of the REC in

summer, 2011.) But I've been putting it off until just the right time when hopefully someone would come to us who had the training.

Thanks be to God, in the last couple of years we've had a trained verger (also an acolyte and lay reader) join our parish. His name is Bobby Strother. He has come to us from Church of the Apostles Episcopal Church in Coppell by way of St. Andrews in Ft. Worth (a 1928 BCP parish). He is a solid traditional Anglican. He has joined Church of the Holy Communion and will soon begin to serve as a lay reader and acolyte. I would like him also to begin to serve as a verger on the First Sunday of the Month when we have two communion services. He could also be available to help at other big events and special services. For example, our diocesan synod meets here at CHC February 20-21, 2014. We'll have a Cranmer House graduation exercise in conjunction with a Morning Prayer service, a well-attended Evensong and an opening Eucharist, all with processions where many clergy will be participating. The office of verger could greatly help me and the other clergy.

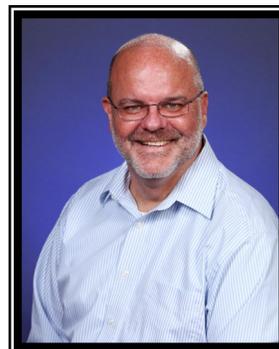
The vestments of a verger are quite similar to the acolyte and lay reader, although as you might suspect they have some distinguishing features to set apart the office. Vergers typically wear an academic gown of some sort over a cassock. The cassock will be red or black depending on what the choir wears and on whether it's a cathedral or not. The academic gown is usually black. It can have full sleeves or even be sleeveless similar to the organist's gown, or even what the bishop wears over his white surplice at Morning/Evening Prayer. Then as I mentioned at the beginning he carries a short staff with a cross leading the processions and recessions.

I hope you are as excited as I am that once again the Lord has led to us just what we need, in this case now as a cathedral parish, a verger. If you all are comfortable with my moving forward on the implementation of the office of verger. Hopefully we'd be ready to have Bobby Strother serve at our Synod meeting the end of February. Subsequent to these meetings, in the first Sunday in Lent, we can start to use him in our parish services.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. I know this is a new concept and practice, but certainly nothing contrary to who we are as a 1928 BCP congregation, especially as a pro cathedral.

Thank you for your support.

+Ray R. Little



Bobby Strother



This is one example of a Verger's vestments, but the colors may vary ... often red instead of blue.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2014.

ONE Service at 10:00am

*Followed by a "Pot-Luck" Lunch and
the Annual Meeting in Lunt Hall*

(Please bring your favorite casserole/dish to share enough to serve several people.)

At this meeting we will elect new Vestry members
and will review our Church's activities of the past year.



**THANK
YOU**

*... to everyone who
picked a gift angel from
the Angel Tree and
purchased items for
Collinwood Care Center.*

*The residents were
thrilled with the
gifts they received!*



*We appreciate your
help ...*

*Jean Baker and
Evy Cassell*

January 2014 ANNIVERSARIES

Mark and Kathryn Piersall	January 2
Brenton and Sharon Drakeford	January 10
Tim and Ilene Vought	January 13
Robert and Jane Keith	January 26

Baptism

We welcome into the Congregation of Christ's flock

Carson Winfield Brock



Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events:

<i>Friday Fun Night</i>	<i>Friday, January 10th</i>	<i>6:30pm</i>
<i>HCW: Susan Boone Entertainment Event</i>	<i>Saturday, January 18th</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>
<i>Theology on Tap</i>	<i>Monday, January 20th</i>	<i>6:30pm</i>
<i>Annual Parish Meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, January 26th</i>	<i>10:00am</i>
<i>Women, Wine, and Wisdom</i>	<i>Monday, January 27th</i>	<i>6:30pm</i>

For the New Year ... It really doesn't matter if the person who hurts you deserves to be forgiven.
Forgiveness is a gift you give yourself. You have things to do and you want to move on.

Christmas at CHC ...



Jason Burnett assists the children in putting Christmas Ornaments on the Christmas Tree.



The Chancel Choir "made joyful noise" as they went caroling throughout the Bent Tree North neighborhood.



The beautiful Christmas Ornaments were hand made by ladies of our church.



Bishop Sutton blesses the Crèche pieces carried by the children of the church at the 5:30pm Family Christmas Eve Service.



Bright red Poinsettias and our unique hand carved Crèche look lovely around the Altar of the Church.



The Youth Choir sings at one of the services.



Deacon Chip Shattuck plays Santa Claus for the HCCA children.



Jenny Heissenhuber as Mrs. Claus delighted the children of HCCA by reading them a special Christmas story.

CHC is blessed with many very talented musicians who generously share their gifts. These four performed at the 5:30pm Christmas Eve Family Service.



Christopher Phillpott



Loren Smith



Paula McNeill



Janet Martin



The Children's Christmas Pageant



St. Nicholas (aka Bishop Sutton) visits the children and tells them a special story.



The *Lessons and Carols* service was a great success in spite of the freezing weather.



Councilwoman Sandy Greyson was one of the guest readers at the *Lessons and Carols* service.



The Silver Chalice made a large number of sales during the *Lessons and Carols* reception.

Our Missionary Family in Malawi

Dr. Jon and Amanda Fielder

Dear Praying Friends,

Tisatope posamalira odwala. We should not tire when caring for the sick.

So said the back of a shirt at a recent community event.

Maybe I appeared fatigued and frustrated one day when a Partners in Hope nurse sent me a text message: "Dr. Fielder, how are you getting [along] with your special calling from God as a doctor? May the Lord be with you, bless and give you more strength."

What a privilege to be in Christ, serving Christ! Why must I be reminded? The "special calling" which has brought us to Malawi--treating the sick and striving to bind up the brokenhearted--is truly a blessing and a privilege.

Thank you all for partnering with us in service, and we pray that your family too will remember the Lord's many blessings this Christmas season.

Grace



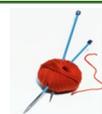
UGANDA

Having been influenced to become a missionary by a medical school mentor and former missionary doctor in Uganda, I have had a fascination with the country for many years--but had never been. Last month I had the opportunity to visit partner hospitals, including Church of Uganda Kagando Hospital, founded by Africa Inland Mission doctor Carl Becker, a true giant of the faith. Dr. Becker started several hospitals, bringing medical care and the light of the Gospel to a vast area of western Uganda and eastern Congo. Here I posed under the leprosy ward named in Dr. Becker's honor.



Prayer and Praise

- A few days' rest around Christmas
- Amanda has challenges serving as head of our community association and would really prefer if someone else took on the tasks and helped her
- Jon continues to improve from the surgery
- Safe travels to Texas and New York in January to lecture at a medical school and attend a board meeting



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our CHC Prayer Shawls are for anyone who is in need.

Please remember that one does not have to be a member of our Church to receive a Prayer Shawl. If you have a friend, neighbor, relative or even someone in your office who might benefit from God's Peace and Comfort (grieving, ailing, caregiving, etc.), please contact Mona Perkins.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00am in the Library. If you knit or crochet, you are invited to join us. Our 2014 first quarter meetings will be held on January 25, February 22, and March 22.

If you would like an email or phone call reminder of our meetings, please email Mona Perkins at monaperkins@verizon.net or call 972-596-0625.



We would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who brought items for us to pack into the boxes we sent to the troops! We were able to ship several boxes FULL of "goodies."

CRANMER THEOLOGICAL HOUSE COURSES



Spring Term

Sacred Music: Christopher A. Hoyt, M.S.M (SMU)

This course aims to: 1) examine the Biblical account of music, 2) examine a variety of theological rationales for liturgical music which represent a broad view of church history, 3) cultivate the practical skills necessary for planning and leading sung Anglican worship services in a parish setting. . .these skills include: i) planning service propers, hymns, canticles, and incidental music, ii) singing the Office or Communion propers appointed for the officiant, iii) being able to teach musical forms such as hymnody, Anglican chant, simplified Anglican chant, and plainchant. 4) To develop a rationale for selecting hymns which reflects an awareness of i) the liturgical calendar, ii) the propers, iii) the needs and abilities of a particular parish, and iv) which balances considerations such as “singability”, fittingness, comprehensive coverage of a hymn repertoire, and the regular introduction of new songs.

Feb. 8, 2014 Mar. 1, 2014 April 26, 2014 May 24, 2014
Saturdays 9:30am—3:30pm

Liturgical Practicum: Bishop Keith L. Ackerman, SSC

Instruction in the major areas of service at the Lord’s altar for the officiant and altar servers. This course will cover the spectrum from *The Parson’s Handbook* to *Ritual Notes*. Particular attention will be given to the various styles of vesture, ceremony, and ritual action in current use among the greater Anglican tradition. This course will focus on mentored training and actual liturgical practice in conjunction with regular chapel services and lectures on the Church’s ceremony.

May 2-3, 2014 May 9-10, 2014 May 16-17, 2014
Fridays 7:00-9:00 pm
Saturdays 9:00am—4:00pm

Please contact Fr. Chris Woodall for more information and to register for a class.
Email: frchris@holycommuniondallas.org

*A wonderful way to start the New Year is with Prayers.
Here are two prayers from the Family Prayer section of the 1928 BCP.*

*For Grace to guide and keep us the following Day,
and for God’s Blessing on the business of the Same.*

IN particular, we implore thy grace and protection for the ensuing day. Keep us temperate in all things, and diligent in our several callings. Grant us patience under our afflictions. Give us grace to be just and upright in all our dealings; quiet and peaceable; full of compassion; and ready to do good to all men, according to our abilities and opportunities. Direct us in all our ways. Defend us from all dangers and adversities; and be graciously pleased to take us, and all who are dear to us, under thy fatherly care and protection. These things, and whatever else thou shalt see to be necessary and convenient to us, we humbly beg, through the merits and mediation of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Prayer for Grace to reform and grow Better.

AND lest, through our own frailty, or the temptations which encompass us, we be drawn again into sin, vouchsafe us, we beseech thee, the direction and assistance of thy Holy Spirit. Reform whatever is amiss in the temper and disposition of our souls; that no unclean thoughts, unlawful designs, or inordinate desires, may rest there. Purge our hearts from envy, hatred, and malice; that we may never suffer the sun to go down upon our wrath; but may always go to our rest in peace, charity, and good-will, with a conscience void of offence towards thee, and towards men; that so we may be preserved pure and blameless, unto the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen*



Holy Communion Christian Academy

Pre-K and Kindergarten has a place for your child, grandchild, or friend's child.

Our school is proud to be accredited by the highly respected NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children)

Open House

January 23rd 6pm-7pm, Edman Building

Priority Enrollment begins January 23rd for current students and their siblings and CHC members
Open Enrollment begins on March 1st

We offer Extended Hours and Academic Year or Year Round Terms

Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm

Days: Monday-Friday

Term: Academic Year or Year Round

Ages: 18 months through Kindergarten

For more information, please contact Director, Dawn Schaffner, 972-248-7610 or go to the school website: www.hccadallas.org

Save the Date !

Holy Communion Christian Academy



Family Sock Hop Fundraiser

**February 15th 4:00-6:00pm
in Lunt Hall**



Plan to join us for LOTS of fun !!!

Mark Your Calendar ... for a very special upcoming event.

On Saturday, January 18th at 5:00pm

Susan Boone

will delight us with one of her extremely humorous and entertaining performances.

Susan will "become" the character of golf champion, Babe Didrikson Zaharias, whose life and career are written about in the book "Wonder Girl" by Don Van Natta. Susan will take on Babe's personality (and will talk about golf) in a way that will entertain both men and women.

This event is free and open to the public.

Men and women in the church are invited to attend. Bring your friends.