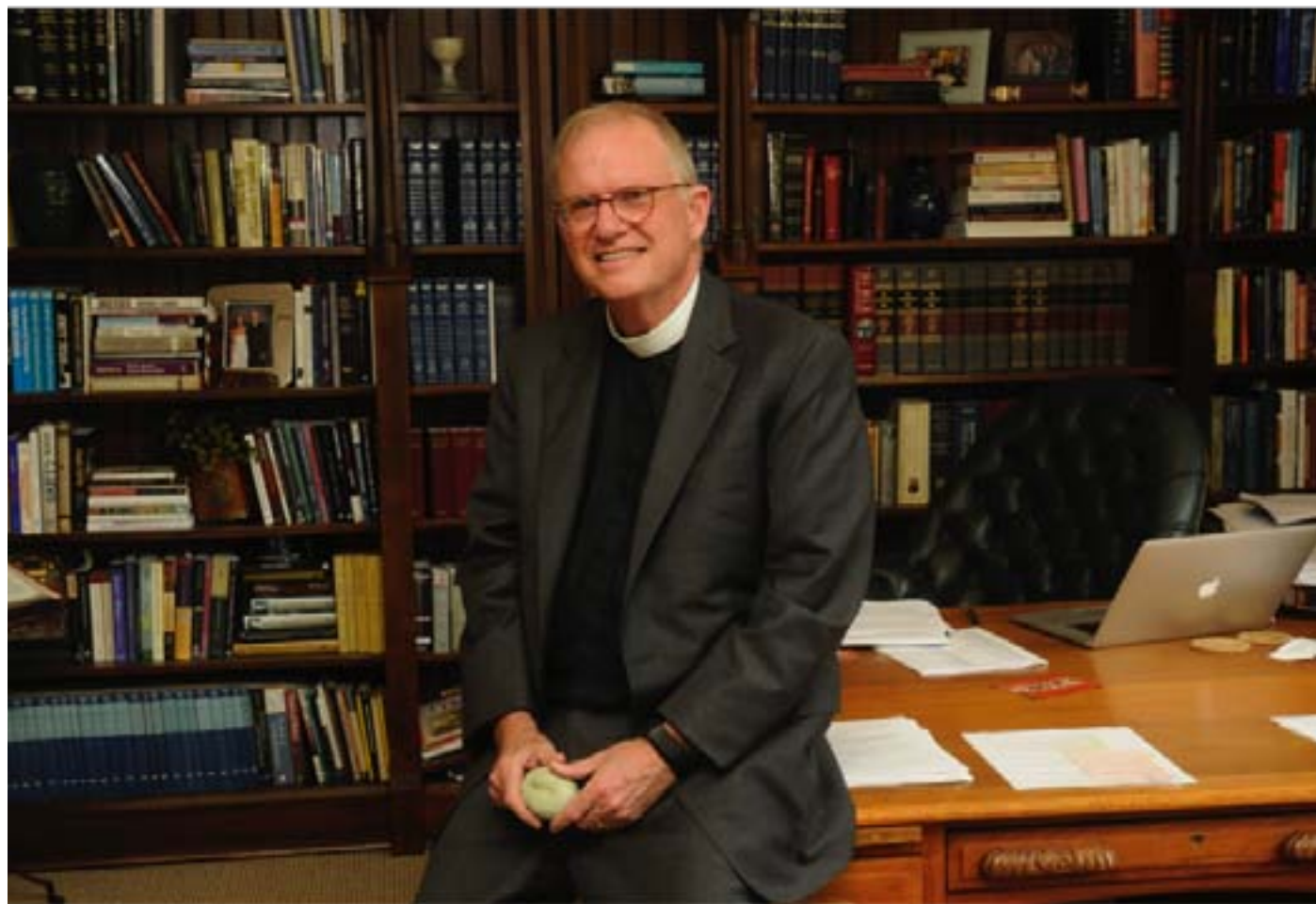


THE MESSAGE

The Newsletter of **Trinity Episcopal Cathedral**
A House of Prayer for All People • November 2015



Announcing the New Dean



Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Cathedral,

We are pleased to announce the selection of the Rev. Dr. Christoph Keller, III as the new Dean and Rector of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. The Bishop and the Vestry will discontinue Dr. Keller's interim status as of November 28. He becomes standing Dean effective Sunday, November 29, the beginning of the new church year.

Over the past two years, Dr. Keller has provided transformational guidance to better prepare the parish for new leadership. Those preparations have borne fruit through love-filled worship, financial stability and innovative programming. As the search for a new Dean and Rector experienced an unexpected pause, Dr. Keller felt called to offer himself. That personal call allowed us the opportunity to include Dr. Keller in the search process, and prayerfully discern his request to be considered and his commitment to serve. After careful deliberation, the Search Committee recommended Dr. Keller to the Bishop and the Vestry.

As you know, the Bishop appoints the Dean, while the Vestry elects the Rector. Those two actions have been taken in the affirmative, and we welcome Dr. Keller as Trinity Cathedral's 20th Dean and Rector.

With thankful hearts for God's grace, we are

Sincerely,

The Rt. Rev. Larry R. Benfield, Bishop of Arkansas

Jack Harvey, Senior Warden

Craig Douglass, Chair, Search Committee

About the New Dean



The Rev. Dr. Christoph Keller, III, is an Episcopal priest and theologian who, through his ministry and life, has blended scholarly pursuits with innovative leadership. A 1977 graduate (B.A., magna cum laude) of Amherst College, and 1982 graduate (M.Div.) of the Episcopal Divinity School, he served for 16 years in parish ministry and as Canon Missioner of the Diocese of Arkansas.

In early years, Dr. Keller was Student Body President of Little Rock Central High School. As president, Dr. Keller initiated organized soccer in central Arkansas. The project began with his writing of a letter to the presidents of the other high school student bodies, challenging them to form soccer teams. Hall High School and Catholic High School for Boys formed teams, as did a group from the Little Rock Air Force Base. The new, four-team league, playing in the fall of 1972, marked the beginning of youth soccer in Little Rock. Central has fielded a team every year since. Dr. Keller was a striker (forward position) on the first team.

Following high school, Dr. Keller attended Amherst College. At Amherst, he was an American Studies major, with a focus on southern history, and an accent on ethnicity and race. His honors thesis, titled "Busing," included a chapter on

his experience at Central, when the era of true racial diversity in the Little Rock public schools began, through court-ordered busing. Dr. Keller was awarded the top prize for an American Studies thesis. In college, he switched from soccer to rugby.

Planning to become a scholar in American History, Dr. Keller was a Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University in a program called, "The History of American Civilization." It was as a first-year student at Harvard that he began to discern a calling to become a priest. Acting on the call, Dr. Keller left Harvard and enrolled in the Episcopal Divinity School, located across Massachusetts Avenue from Harvard, where he earned a Masters of Divinity. He also became a Red Sox fan.

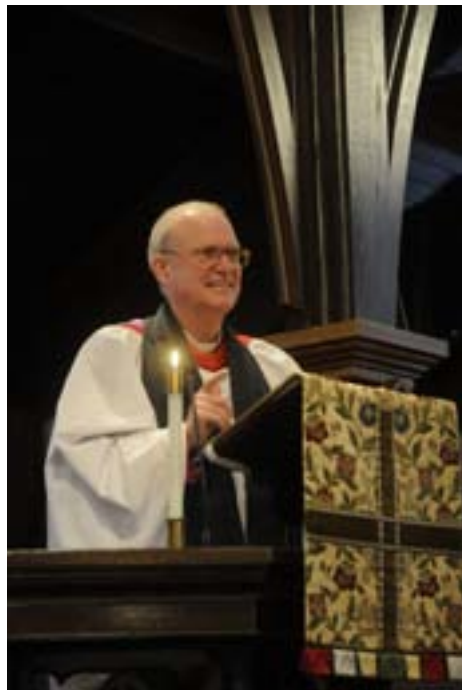
Dr. Keller's parish ministry has included churches in Pine Bluff, Fort Smith, and Van Buren, Arkansas. While at Trinity Church in Van Buren, he challenged the rectors of the Fort Smith churches to form softball teams and create a league. They did. During this period, Dr. Keller also learned to fly, and is a licensed private pilot with an instrument rating—although he hasn't found time to continue flying.

In 1990, Dr. Keller and his family moved to Little Rock where, in 1991, he founded what became St. Margaret's Church. From its first Sunday in a bargain movie theatre, Dr. Keller led St. Margaret's through growth to more than 500 members, and the construction of the church campus on Chenal Parkway in west Little Rock.

In 1999, he moved with his family to New York to pursue advanced study in theology. Dr. Keller holds a Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) in Anglican Studies (2009) from General Theological Seminary, where his field was systematic theology, focusing on theology and science. His dissertation, "Darwin's Science in Chalcedonian Imagination: Barth, Double Agency and Theistic Evolution," explores and affirms compatibility between Christian faith and evolution. The pursuit of his doctorate also included reading knowledge of Greek, French, and German. Dr. Keller admits being as rusty at those languages as he now is at flying airplanes.

After five years in New York, Dr. Keller was invited to return to St. Margaret's as "Theologian-in-Residence," in which capacity he founded and served as director of the "Institute for Theological Studies at St. Margaret's." At the institute, Dr. Keller lectured regularly, especially on topics pertaining to religion and science.





Through the institute, Dr. Keller founded SUMMA: A Student Theological Debate Society. SUMMA, a program he conceived to offer high school students intellectual tools for in-depth reasoning and knowledge of the Christian theological tradition, was begun as a pilot project in Little Rock. The program has expanded nationally through the Beecken Center of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, drawing students from across the United States. Dr. Keller holds the title of “Senior Fellow at Beecken Center,” where, each summer, he teaches the depth of Christian faith as an intellectual experience, and the subtleties of argument and debate.

Dr. Keller is an Episcopal Church Foundation Fellow, and an honorary Canon of the Diocese of Arkansas. He serves on the boards of directors of the General Theological Seminary, Deltic Timber Corporation, MurphyUSA, and Episcopal Collegiate School.

A long and meaningful connection to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Little Rock was begun in 1967 when Dr. Keller’s family joined the Cathedral parish upon the election of his father, Christoph Keller, Jr., as Bishop of Arkansas. In those years, Dr. Keller served as an acolyte, and was an active member of Episcopal Youth Community (EYC). He was ordained Deacon in the Cathedral in 1982.

Serving as Interim Dean and Rector of the Trinity Cathedral since December 2013, Dr. Keller has provided transformational guidance to better prepare the parish for new leadership. Those preparations have borne fruit through meaningful worship, enlightened teaching, financial stability and innovative programming. As the search for a new Dean and Rector experienced an unexpected pause, Dr. Keller felt called to offer himself. That personal call allowed the Bishop and the parish’s Search Committee to include Dr. Keller in the search process, and prayerfully discern his request to be considered and his commitment to serve. After careful deliberation, the Search Committee recommended Dr. Keller to the Bishop and the Vestry. The Bishop then appointed Dr. Keller as Dean of the Cathedral, and the Vestry elected him as Rector of the parish. The installation of Dr. Keller as Dean and Rector is scheduled for Sunday, December 6, 2015.

Dr. Keller met his wife, Julie Honeycutt, in the seventh grade in the Trinity Cathedral Sunday School. They were married in the sanctuary of the Cathedral on April 15, 1978. Julie and Chris Keller have two grown children. Mary Olive lives in New York, where she is Special Events Coordinator for Barneys New York department stores. Son Christoph, a recent graduate of the University of Arkansas School of Law, is serving in Little Rock as a clerk for U.S. District Judge, Kristine Baker. He and his fiancé, Laura Porter, will be married in the sanctuary of the Cathedral on June 4, 2016. Dr. Keller will officiate at that service as the 20th Dean and Rector of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

The Installation of the 20th Dean

The Installation of the Rev. Dr. Christoph Keller as twentieth Dean and Rector of Trinity Cathedral will take place on Sunday, December 6, at 4:00 o’clock in the afternoon.

Come one, come all!

Email Addresses Needed: Can’t wait for The Message to arrive? Want to know what is happening at Trinity? Make sure we have your email address so you receive the weekly Trinity Update. It contains a brief look at the many events on the block. Send your email address to dhowe@trinitylittlerock.org and we’ll make sure you are added to the update list.



November 7th at 6:30 p.m: Trinity Episcopal Cathedral presents INSIGHTS: with Eric Metaxas.

Eric Metaxas is the author of the New York Times #1 Bestseller, *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*. Named “Book of the Year” by the ECPA, *Bonhoeffer* also won the 2011 John C. Pollock Award for Biography awarded by Beeson Divinity School and a 2011 Christopher Award in the Non-fiction category. Called a “biography of uncommon power,” *Bonhoeffer* appeared on numerous 2010 “Best of the Year” lists and was featured in the Wall Street Journal, Publishers Weekly, The New Republic, Harper’s, Kirkus (starred review), NPR, FoxNews, C-SPAN’s Book TV, Christianity Today, The Weekly Standard, and First Things. *Bonhoeffer* has sold more than 700,000 copies and has been translated into 17 languages. It was recently ranked #21 on the Amazon.com listing of Most Highlighted Books of all time. ABC News has called Metaxas a “photogenic, witty ambassador for faith in public life,” and The Indianapolis Star described him as “a Protestant version of William F. Buckley.”

Metaxas was the keynote speaker at the 2012 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington DC, an event attended by the President and First Lady, the Vice President, members of Congress, and other U.S. and world leaders. Previous keynote speakers have included Mother Theresa, Bono, and Tony Blair. That speech and Eric’s essay on the experience, were put into a book, *No Pressure, Mr. President: The Power of True Belief in a Time of Crisis*.

Metaxas will be speaking at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on his latest book, *Miracles: What they are, Why they happen, and How they can change your life*. Metaxas is made possible by generous donations from Ben & Walter Hussman, Julie & Chris Keller, the Arkansas Democrat Gazette, Terri & Chuck Erwin, Jonann & Chip Chiles and Bill Dillard III.

Tickets to the event are \$25 for general admission or \$100 for patron tickets (which includes admission to the Sponsor & Patron Reception at 5:30 with Mr. Metaxas and reserved seating).

You may purchase tickets through our website (www.trinitylittlerock.org) or by calling Annie Burton at (501) 588-3663.

Brown Bag Discussion and Happy Hour

The Theological Enrichment Committee will offer a lecture follow up discussion on November 9 at 11:45 in the conference room (brown bag it!) and on November 10 at 5:30 for Happy Hour. Childcare is available at 5:30 with advanced reservations.

Please sign up on line at www.trinitylittlerock.org or by calling Annie Burton at (501) 588-3663.

Metaxas Book Study #2

A second book study on *Miracles* by Eric Metaxas will be offered on Tuesdays, beginning November 24 and ending December 15. There are two studies available: Brown Bag discussion at 11:45 or Happy Hour at 5:30. Childcare is available at 5:30 with advanced reservations.

Please sign up on line at www.trinitylittlerock.org or by calling Annie Burton at (501) 588-3663.

Please remember Trinity Cathedral in your will.

Coming to Dean's Class – November 8th



Jamie Coats serves as the director, Friends of SSJE - Society of Saint the Evangelist, an Episcopal religious order of Brothers and as a trustee of the Trustees of Donations to the Protestant Episcopal Church. He directed SSJE's the Stone & Light Capital Campaign to renovate SSJE's beautiful monastery in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Jamie also helped initiate "Brother, Give Us a Word" a daily email meditation from the Brothers.

Every morning, he prays: "Ride out! With gentle voice. In name of Christ, celebrate a whole life with no dichotomy, a riot of visual imagery, to open eyes, to spiritualize."

Jamie is the father of a teenage daughter. He lives in Rockport, Massachusetts where he enjoys being part of a village community, bicycling, rowing, and writing poetry. He shares his personal writing at www.wingedboots.com.

UTO Sunday on November 8th

Please join us on UTO Sunday!

What is the UTO? What does it do? Where does the money go?

The United Thank Offering addresses compelling human need through grants to projects that alleviate poverty, both domestically and internationally, within the Anglican provinces, dioceses, and companion dioceses.

We work hard to foster relationships between dioceses around the world. From distributing offerings to lending a helping hand, we're strengthening ties across communities within the church.

Through the United Thank Offering, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who participate in the United Thank Offering have discovered that thankfulness leads to generosity. UTO combines these generous offerings to fund significant projects that make a real difference in the work of the Episcopal Church and in people's lives.

Companion Diocese Relationships

Groups throughout the Anglican Communion partner with each other to broaden awareness of Christ in the world and to encourage mutual learning for believers of both dioceses.

Good Friday Offering

One of our vital partners is the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem. We founded the Good Friday Offering to benefit this church and others in the Middle East, helping promote peace and support a variety of local humanitarian missions.

Governor Asa Hutchinson to Preach on Thanksgiving Day



Thanksgiving Day Service - 10:00 a.m. - Thursday, Nov. 26

Please join us for the Annual Convocation Thanksgiving Day service. The Honorable Asa Hutchinson, Governor of Arkansas, will be the preacher.

Chapel Talk with Annie Burton

Annie Burton will be doing a chapel talk for Episcopal Collegiate School students, faculty and staff on November 18 at 9:20 a.m. Her topic is Gratitude - God is Good All The Time. All are welcome to attend chapel at ECS on November 18.

Alternative Market on November 22nd

The Alternative Market at Trinity Cathedral will be held Sunday, November 22, 2015 from 9:00 am. until noon. Please join us and begin the season of Advent in a thoughtful, giving way. There will be gifts available from many non-profits in our community and beyond.

We look forward to seeing everyone for a festive beginning of the season.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Corner (Children's Formation/Sunday School)



More on Prayer with children.

Try praying with your child on a special occasion: taking a trip away from home, losing a tooth, some dying, someone ill, someone recovering from illness, a new pet, moving to a new house, the first sleep-over away from home, healing during a divorce.

-Simply light the candle. Introduce the candle light as a reminder that God is there also.

-Invite your child to sit with you. If you want to pray aloud, you might try, "I'm going to say aloud what I want to tell God. When I get through, you can pray aloud, if you want, or you can pray silently in your heart." Let your language be as natural as possible. Choose phrases like, "God, I am so happy today because we have a new pet! Thank you for our puppy and help me to be good to her." Or "Today is very hard, God. I feel sad because we are leaving our old house that we have loved. I feel a little excited about our new house, but right now, I know I will miss this old one."

-Give your child the chance to talk to God. No matter what he/she chooses to do or say, allow time. If they say nothing, allow silence. Silence is prayer.

-You might end by saying, "Amen." You might ask your child, "What could we sing to end our prayer?"

-the, ceremonially, snuff the candle. If you show your child how to safely snuff a candle, she/he can enjoy that task.

Email Sarah Bennings at sbennings@polkstanleywilcox.com, Christy Poindexter cpoindexter@trinitylittlerock.org, or Dawn Howe dhowe@trinitylittlerock.org if you can help.

Congratulations to Mitch Ross!

Robert "Mitch" Mitchell Ross Jr., son of Kelly and Robert Mitchell Ross Sr., in Troop 395, of St. James United Methodist Church planned, developed and organized the construction of benches for Jefferson Elementary (LRSD) front car pool area. The project included sanding, prepping and painting.

He also refurbished, repaired and repainted benches at the school and freshly painted 6 picnic tables for the school's front area. The paint for the project was donated by Fuller and Sons' Maumelle location. The work took many hours to complete and the organization of fellow scouts and volunteers.

The Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Mitch will be held at Trinity Cathedral on Sunday November 15 at 4:00 p.m. Congratulations to Mitch on this great achievement.



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Weekly Worship Schedule:
Sunday - 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
11:15 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
Morning Prayer at 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday
Healing Eucharist at 5:15 p.m.

The Cathedral is open for visitation, prayer, and meditation weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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The Advent Event

Bring your family and friends
for an evening designed to invite you and yours
into a holy celebration of the Advent season.

Sunday, November 22

4 – 6 p.m.

Trinity Cathedral - Morrison Hall

Ideas for Celebrating at Home
Crafts - Music - Food - Liturgy

- Additional Details Coming Soon -

Sponsored by Trinity's Family Ministries Committee

"The people who walked in darkness have
seen a great light.."

— Isaiah 9:2