

Summer 2015 at the Cathedral

Behind the Scenes

In the fall, the next Cathedral-wide initiative, *The Value of Food*, will open. The exhibition, which has been on the minds of Cathedral staff and clergy since *The Value of Water* closed, will explore this basic requirement of life from spiritual, scientific, ethical and artistic perspectives. Though food is everywhere in American culture, carrying an array of meanings, our direct experience of how it grows and gets to us, and the implications of the choices we make with our shopping and dining habits, are often incomplete or obscured. The current droughts in California and Brazil imperil specific foodstuffs and will affect prices, most damagingly for low-income Americans. Colony collapse disorder in bees and the threat of climate change in America's breadbasket remain sources of worry. Food deserts and the prevalence of unhealthy foods affect millions of Americans—and one hungry person is too many. These and many other issues having to do with agriculture, waste, and the cultural meanings of food will be explored in art, film, music, poetry, conversations and workshops during the fall and winter months.

You may wonder how such Cathedral initiatives are birthed. Each week the Cathedral receives many proposals for events large and small, for programming, exhibitions and performances. These proposals are reviewed by an extended group, which includes, Liturgy & the Arts, Cathedral Programming & External Affairs and Cathedral Music. Other voices take part, depending on the nature of the proposal, including the Congregation, Public Education & Visitor Services, Adults and Children in Trust (ACT), The Cathedral School, Development, and Cathedral Community Cares (CCC). The Dean is involved at various stages—sometimes initially and sometimes much later in the process.

The Cathedral's three pillars, Liturgy & Art, Discourse and Advocacy, are the lenses through which proposals are imagined and vetted. These categories are distinct but not separate from each other; the Cathedral's belief is that art, activism and spiritual life not only nourish each other, but require each other for full expression. Of course, there are also decisions to be made about merit, feasibility and whether this would be the most appropriate venue for any given event or exhibition.

“Is cooking important? Few things in life are more so! My mind and my stomach are one! I think and work with whatever it is that digests.”

Willa Cather (1873–1947) was inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1990.

The kinds of questions staff consider are: does the event fit into or advance the Cathedral's mission? Is there a distinct approach that can only be taken by the Cathedral? What is the background of the individual or organization proposing it? Does the event conflict or offer dialogue with concurrent Cathedral activities? What are the logistics? What audiences/attention can we expect as a result of this event?

What gets chosen has to fulfill many criteria—and for large or extended events, there needs to be a special integration with the Cathedral and the art, performance or idea. Some examples of outside proposals that were accepted because of staff enthusiasm are the 2013 exhibition of sculptures by Jane Alexander, *Surveys (from the Cape of Good Hope)*, which was proposed by the Museum for African Art; and the recently departed *Phoenix: Xu Bing at the Cathedral*, which was proposed by Phoenix guest curator Judith Goldman and Cathedral Artist in Residence Judy Collins. These two exhibitions inhabited the Cathedral in specific ways, especially amplified by Cathedral spaces, that all who visited will long remember. Because of the many ways ideas arrive, and because each program is funded differently, while the Cathedral plans ahead as much as possible, many projects happen serendipitously. That can also allow for timely initiatives.

The Value of Water originated in the Cathedral, a natural outgrowth of 100 years of environmental activism. Christiana Peppard, Cathedral Scholar in Residence 2009–2010, was working on an early draft of her recently published book *Just Water: Ethics, Theology and the Global Water Crisis*; Christiana worked directly with Lisa Schubert, and the various panel discussions on water hosted by the Cathedral gave the Cathedral the idea for a larger exhibition. A discussion with Dr. Upmanu Lall, Alan & Carol Silberstein Professor of Engineering and Director, Water Institute, Columbia University, changed the

focus of the nascent initiative from panel-based programming to programming inspired by the vision of artists. At about the same time, artist Fredericka Foster had an exhibition of new paintings of water at the Fischbach Gallery in Manhattan. The Cathedral visited Fredericka to discuss showing some of her work and discovered that Fredericka, as well as being actively involved in protecting water, had spent years collecting the names of artists who depicted water. Fredericka came to a steering committee meeting and left it as the guest curator of *The Value of Water*—her first major curatorial experience and one that she approached with great passion and intelligence. The Panta Rhea Foundation immediately saw the importance of the initiative and became the first, and anchoring, funder. Others soon joined: The Compton Foundation, the Roy A. Hunt Foundation, Invoking the Pause, The Kalliopeia Foundation, The Lambent Foundation and others. The Cathedral remains grateful for their support and vision.

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The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine

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Bishop of New York

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Schedule of Daily Liturgical Services

Sunday

8 am

Morning Prayer
& Holy Eucharist

9 am

Holy Eucharist

11 am

Choral Eucharist

4 pm

Choral Evensong

Monday through Saturday

8 am

Morning Prayer

8:30 am

Holy Eucharist

(Tuesday & Thursday)

12:15 pm

Holy Eucharist

5 pm

Evening Prayer

Cathedral Information

The Cathedral is open daily
from 7:30 am–6 pm

For information:
(212) 316-7540
stjohndivine.org

Reaching the Cathedral

The Cathedral is located at
1047 Amsterdam Avenue,
at 112th Street.

By Subway:
#1 Train to 110th Street

By Bus:
#M4 to Amsterdam
& 110th Street
#M11 to Amsterdam
& 112th Street
#M104 to Broadway
& 112th Street

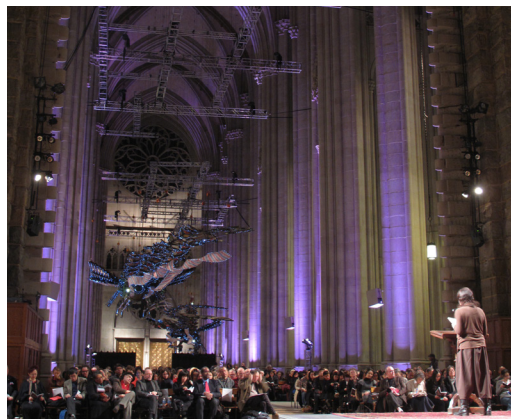
Looking Back

March came in like a lion—and went out like one as well, but the Cathedral managed to schedule the de-installation of **Phoenix: Xu Bing at the Cathedral** on some of the few days it didn't snow. It takes a lot of work to get such large sculptures down, out through the Bronze Doors, and onto trucks, and traffic being what it is, the process takes place in the wee hours. Lisa Schubert, Vice President for Cathedral Programming and External Affairs, was on hand one chilly midnight to oversee their departure. Everyone was sad to see the great birds go, but they left behind wonderful memories. There were a number of goodbyes to the Phoenixes: one of the most inspiring took place on February 25. **Birds of Metal in Flight: An Evening of Poetry with 5 + 5**, coordinated in partnership with the Weatherhead East Asia Institute at Columbia University, celebrated the great birds with an evening of readings by ten of the world's premier poets: **Bei Dao, Ouyang Jianghe, Xi Chuan, Zhai Yongming, Zhou Zan, Charles Bernstein, Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge, Pierre Joris, Afaa Weaver**, as well as the Cathedral's Poet in Residence, **Marilyn Nelson**.

On March 19, **Flutes of Hope**, an ensemble and music program established in 2012 to pay tribute to the resilience and compassion of the Japanese people following the devastating March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, gave the annual concert that has become a Cathedral tradition. On March 28, **Karin Coonrod's Everything That Rises Must Converge**, an adaption of the famous story by **Flannery O'Connor**, 2014 inductee of the Cathedral American Poets Corner, was performed to a spellbound audience.

On March 26, Great Music in a Great Space presented **Giuseppe Verdi's Requiem** in the Crossing. Director of Music **Kent Tritle** conducted a cast of dazzling soloists (**Jennifer Check**, soprano; **Sara Murphy**, mezzo-soprano; **Alex Richardson**, tenor; and **Matthew Boehler**, bass), leading this first-ever collaboration with the Oratorio Society of New York and the Manhattan School of Music Symphony and Symphonic Chorus. Over 2000 people attended.

Holy Week offered a plethora of beautiful services and special events, including **Dzieci Theatre's** performance of "**A Passion According to Matthew**," and two art exhibitions, **Gregory Botts' The Stations Project** and **Terry Flaxton's The Intersection of**



Poet Zhai Yongming reads beneath Xu Bing's Phoenixes.
Photo: Isadora Wilkenfeld

Dreams. Maundy Thursday brought the annual reading of **Dante's Inferno**; poets and friends shared their voices, lifted glasses, and gave thanks for an evening with friends and fellows in a setting far removed from that of the great and terrifying poem. On the following day, **Choral Lamentations for Good Friday** inspired reflection with its program of Gregorian chants and an ethereal work by **Meredith Monk**, Renaissance motets, spirituals, and poems by American Poets Corner poets **Walt Whitman, Langston Hughes, Phillis Wheatley** and **Emily Dickinson**.

On April 16, **His Eminence Samdhong Rinpoche** gave a talk, **Mind Training and Compassion Applied to Everyday Life**, sponsored by **The Tibet Fund** and followed by a far-reaching conversation with the Dean about why we must place compassion at the heart of public discourse on religion and morality.

On April 18, young people (high school age to 35) from all the Christian denominations were invited to meet at the Cathedral for a day organized in the pattern of the **Taizé Monastery** in Taizé, France. In keeping with the goals set out by **Brother Alois**, Prior of Taizé, this gathering emphasized a "new solidarity that can bring together all who are pilgrims of peace, pilgrims of truth, whether believers or non-believers."

It is not too much to say that every day is **Earth Day** at the Cathedral; we are always mindful of the great responsibility we bear to future generations of people, animals and plants to preserve the beauty and bounty of our imperiled home. April 22 is the day set aside to honor not only the planet, but those who have worked over the last half century to bring environmental issues to the world's attention. As Cathedral clergy, staff and visitors enjoyed the blaze of tulips and wandering peacocks on the Close, thoughts were on the climate talks set for December 2015 in Paris. The future is in our hands.

On April 25, in the Chapel of St. James, the Cathedral hosted **Perspectives Ensemble** with **Zulal A Cappella Trio** for a concert titled **Orori/Lullaby**, celebrating the beauty and endurance of Armenian culture. The program included works by **Gomidas, Sayat-Nova**, and **Kanachyan**, as well as traditional songs, and was presented in memory of the lives lost in the Armenian Genocide.

Cathedral partner **Working Theater** has commissioned five teams of artists to create new plays in collaboration with the communities surrounding venues in each of the five boroughs of New York City ("Five Boroughs/One City"). Playwright **Caridad Svich** (OBIE Lifetime Achievement Award) teamed up with activist/artists **Michael Premo** and **Rachel Falcone** ("Housing is a Human Right," "Sandy Storyline") to uncover what "sanctuary" means to the various populations who use the services of Cathedral of St. John The Divine. On April 29, in the Chapel of St. James, Cathedral audiences were treated to a sneak preview of a work in progress.

On April 30, **Mark Peyser** and **Timothy Dwyer** joined us for a discussion of their book **Hissing**

Cousins: The Untold Story of Eleanor Roosevelt and Alice Roosevelt Longworth (Doubleday). An error was made in the biography of Tim Dwyer (see box on back page) for which the editor of this newsletter apologizes. Tim is CEO of School Choice Group and a Cathedral congregant.

On May 2, **The Blessing of the Bicycles** brought cyclists and their steeds into the Cathedral, asking for safety on city streets in return for their choice of clean transport.



Bikers marvel at the Cathedral as they wait to be blessed.
Photo: Valeria Jara

On May 7, **Raymond Nagem**, Associate Organist at St. John the Divine and C. V. Starr Doctoral Fellow at The Juilliard School, presented **Olivier Messiaen's "L'Ascension"** and **"Messe de la Pentecôte."** Organist, pianist, composer, and visionary, Messiaen wrote music of vivid color and intense contrasts, ranging from delirious joy to profound stillness.

On May 13, Adults and Children in Trust (ACT) initiated a new event: **Project Playdate** at the ACT gym. Project Playdate, for children from 2-6, provides a three-hour, drop-off, social and educational experience with free play, a shared meal, arts and crafts, story time, dance time, and more.

From the early Middle Ages to the end of the 18th century, the Venetian republic was a major center of trade between Europe and the Levant. As a crossroads between the East and West, Venice became an extraordinarily fertile artistic environment. Great Music in a Great Space celebrated that period with **The Wingéd Lion** on May 14, featuring works from **Gabriel to Monteverdi** and the medieval era to **Stravinsky** as well as traditional music from Armenia, Turkey and the eastern Mediterranean. The Cathedral Choir, under Kent Tritle, and world music ensemble **Rose of the Compass**, led by recorder virtuoso **Nina Stern**, performed in the Chapel of St. James.

The annual **Memorial Day Concert** on May 25, featuring the **New York Philharmonic Orchestra** conducted by **Alan Gilbert**, sent audiences out into the summer night with hearts full of music. The program included **Beethoven's Egmont Overture** and **Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10**.

The season closed with the **Spirit of Pride** (see article) two-day celebration, a Kiki Ball for young people on Saturday night and a panel discussion on Sunday.

Looking Ahead



Photo: Courtesy ACT

Summer at the Cathedral is a time of ease, green grass, warm days, the sweet scents of our new rose and peony gardens, the laughter of ACT campers, and of course some provocative and inspiring events. June 20 marks the 20th anniversary of the **Summer Solstice Concert** with the **Paul Winter Consort**—a welcoming celebration for the sun as it rises behind the Cathedral. About the event,

Paul Winter has written, "When I'm awake in the darkness before dawn—as the birds begin to sing, and the Earth prepares for the Sun—I feel as if life is beginning again." Come share that magical moment with Paul and friends. On June 16, the Cathedral will host a conversation between The Very Reverend Dr. James A. Kowalski, monk/author **Matthieu Ricard**, psychologist/writer **Daniel Goleman** and neuroscientist **Richard J. Davidson** on the theme of altruism (see article). Throughout the summer, an exhibition of photographs in commemoration of the 80th birthday of the **Dalai Lama**, sponsored by **Tibet Fund**, will be on view (see article).

On July 27, Cathedral Community Cares (CCC) offers its summer **Health Fair**, sponsored by CCC in partnership with Sigma Gamma Rho Alumnae, Kappa Sigma Chapter. Free health screenings for many conditions, including hypertension and diabetes, as well as nutrition, health, and wellness information, will be available for all, as well as music and games.

The Value of Food opens in the fall, but a couple of artists have already begun their projects, which require the summer sun. **David Burns** and **Austin Young** are presenting **Fallen Fruit: Apples, Land and Country**, a multi-part art project that begins with planting apple trees on Cathedral grounds this spring; we hope to share the fruit with you for many years to come. **Claire Pentecost's** "vertical towers" are the vegetable version of the skyscraper, offering a vision of food production for crowded urban spaces. These leafy towers will adorn the Close this summer.

We are also looking forward to a new harvest of honey from the bees. The Cathedral beehives, maintained by **Nicole Toutounji** and **Jan Mun** of **Bee Village**, will be enhanced this summer by the planting of fairy rings of mushrooms around the hives. Mushrooms are believed to be beneficial to beehives: new research has suggested that components in the fungi protect the bees against viral disorders, as well as clearing toxins from the air.

Dean's Meditation: Dependence and Gratitude

“We know that a peaceful world cannot long exist one-third rich and two-thirds hungry.”

Jimmy Carter

“Eating with the fullest pleasure—pleasure, that is, that does not depend on ignorance—is perhaps the profoundest enactment of our connection with the world. In this pleasure we experience and celebrate our dependence and our gratitude, for we are living from mystery, from creatures we did not make and powers we cannot comprehend.”

Wendell Berry

“In a world of plenty, no one, not a single person, should go hungry. But almost 1 billion still do not have enough to eat. I want to see an end to hunger everywhere within my lifetime.”

Ban Ki-moon,
United Nations Secretary-General
at the Rio+20 Conference

Commodities are things that are useful or valued. They may be bought or sold, a good or service whose availability or rarity can make it subject not only to exchange but also to exploitation. Commodity markets have been physical, but in modern exchange are virtual as well—creating transnational means of buying, selling and trading raw or primary products. Those markets have their roots in the historical trading of agricultural products. The result today has been the creation of some 50 major commodity markets emerging worldwide, with trading possible in nearly 100 primary commodities.

Commodity markets are based on consensus with respect to the variations in pricing. Economists tell us that the economic impact of the development of commodity markets is hard to overestimate. By the 19th century, agreements as to how to trade and exchange things that spoil, or are found in select locations, motivated innovation and improvements in transport, warehouse and finance among states and nations. Promises to deliver by specific dates foreshadowed modern futures contracts and more intricate systems of commodity accounting. Many risks—the hazards of climate, piracy and theft, and abuse by rulers of kingdoms along trade routes—motivated collaborative efforts to keep open markets open for scarce commodities.

Such mechanisms helped to facilitate trade and to make it predictable, but there have also been and continue to be extreme abuses and exploitations in the name of commodity trading—especially when people have been treated as commodities through slavery or in unfair labor practices, or when things essential to life—like clean water—become saleable commodities which many cannot afford. The trading of resources within and among human communities will always be part of their undergirding economies and of sustainability of life. The risks of managing such trade may be different today, but the challenges remain. That is why power accrues to those who can mediate or manipulate trade and navigate the risk. As we saw in the 1840s, railroads and Chicago's central location created a hub for Midwestern farmers and producers who could respond to the East Coast consumer population centers. Farming cooperatives hedged or insured against poor harvests, for example, by purchasing futures contracts in the same commodity elsewhere. Then, if the cooperative had less of its product to sell due to weather or insects, it could make up its loss with a profit in the markets because they had acquired the now more valuable crops elsewhere, when their supply of the crop was short. When the systems work well and are not abusive, sellers and buyers benefit.

Since the '80s and for about twenty years, global demand for food had been steadily increasing. Although the world's population grew, so did harvest, incomes and the diversity of diets. Food prices declined through 2000. But starting in 2004, grain prices rose—great production outpaced by demand. A depletion of stock, followed by extreme weather caused a dramatic decrease. By 2006, world cereal production had fallen by 2.1 percent and then rapid increases in oil prices in 2007 drove up fertilizer and other food production costs. Countries tried to insulate themselves from food shortages and spiking prices as food-exporting countries imposed export restrictions. Some importers purchased grains at any price to maintain domestic supplies. Panic and volatility in international grain markets also attracted speculative investments in grain futures and options markets. Prices rose even higher. Even when food commodity prices appeared to be stabilizing, prices remained high over the medium to long term. Instability and long-term high pricing have devastating consequences for the world's most vulnerable populations.

That is why the Cathedral's next extended exhibit will be titled *The Value of Food*. Whenever we put a great conversation of our day under the roof of this Cathedral, we endeavor to use liturgy and art—and other forms of discourse—to invite people into conversation. We not only want those conversations to be transformational to them, but also to call all of us into advocacy-social transformation. We will use a food justice framework to engage people across faiths and cultures in an exploration of the benefits and risks of how food is grown and processed, transported, distributed, and consumed—asking also about how equitably all of that takes place. Farm workers face difficult and hazardous conditions. Low-income neighborhoods lack supermarkets and quality food choices but are surrounded by fast-food restaurants and liquor stores. We are sold convenience rather than wholesomeness. As Robert Gottlieb at Occidental College in Los Angeles and Anupama Joshi (the Executive Director and Cofounder of the National Farm to School Network, formerly based at the Urban & Environmental Policy Institute at Occidental College) describe in *Food Justice* (MIT Press), there is an international epidemic of “globesity.” *Food Justice* is the story of the emerging movement to combat these inequities and excesses and to transform the food system from seed to table.

An increasing disconnect between food and culture has resulted from our highly industrialized food system. Reducing global poverty and hunger will require accelerating growth in the agriculture sector. Studies have concluded that every 1 percent increase in agricultural income per capita reduces the number of people living in extreme poverty by between 0.6 and 1.8 percent. So, in 2011, when USAID and Swiss Reinsurance began a three-year partnership called **Feed the Future** to help vulnerable communities fight hunger, build resilience to climate change, and reduce the costs of natural disasters in the Americas, Africa and Asia, it was a big deal. With the world-class, global leader in innovative risk management expertise of Swiss Re, the plan was that with better access to customized, market-based insurance products, “poor farmers and their families would be better able to prepare for and cope with the impacts of droughts, floods and other severe weather events that are predicted to become increasingly common as the climate changes.” Farmers who can manage risk and who can more easily obtain the loans for technologies to increase yields and productivity have greater incentive to invest as they are buffered from extreme weather events.

The **Feed the Future** initiative is the U.S. government's global hunger and food security effort. It helps countries develop more resilient and productive agricultural sectors to address the root causes of hunger and under-nutrition. **Feed the Future** increases agricultural production and the incomes of men and women in rural areas who rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. Its agriculture-led strategy improves productivity, expands markets and trade, and increases the economic resilience of vulnerable rural communities. **Feed the Future** has said this is the most effective way “...to unleash the proven potential of small-scale agricultural producers to deliver results on a large scale.”

We will have six months starting at the end of September to enter the Cathedral and enter various conversations about the myriad issues at the heart of food justice. Can we create a more just and sustainable world, even by doing something as personal and direct as examining the power of our own food choices? This conversation will challenge us to become advocates for a more compassionate society—whether by looking anew at the abuse of animals on farms, the depletion of natural resources, and unfair working conditions for produce workers, the unavailability of healthy foods in communities of color and low-income areas, or the worst forms of child labor. As Nelson Mandela said, “Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings.”

Magna Carta

800TH ANNIVERSARY

Hidden close to the High Altar in the Cathedral is a historic treasure: the Magna Carta Pedestal, so named because it is supported by a shaft made of three stones from the ruins of the altar of the ancient abbey of Bury St Edmunds, England, where King John and English barons swore to its provisions.

The Magna Carta is celebrating its 800th anniversary in June of this year, and is the subject of a major exhibition at the British Library, which includes a video where Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer says, “The tradition of not imprisoning people without an ability to go to court and show that it's arbitrary is something that long predates our own Constitution... we were picking up a tradition that Magna Carta exemplifies, and the strength of that tradition lies in its history.”

The Magna Carta, drafted by the Archbishop of Canterbury to make peace between King John—a monarch not admired in his lifetime and with whom history has been equally unimpressed—and a group of his barons, promised the protection of church rights, protection from illegal imprisonment, access to swift justice, and limitations on feudal payments to the Crown. The original charter was only in effect for ten weeks—King John successfully appealed to Pope Innocent III to declare it null and void—though it was reissued several times after the king's death.

As Justice Breyer's words indicate, the Magna Carta has for many a symbolic power beyond its original intent or application. What was once an argument about the rights of noblemen in relation to the king became a rallying cry for the “free men” of 1776 (landowning white males). Protection from illegal imprisonment and access to swift justice are still works in progress in America and most of the world.

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama Turns 80

JOURNEY FOR PEACE AND SECULAR ETHICS: PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo: Helena Kubicka de Bragança

The Cathedral is pleased to host an exhibition sponsored by The Tibet Fund of photographic portraits of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in commemoration of his 80th birthday this July. When the Dalai Lama first visited the United States, in September 1979, he spoke at the Cathedral; and a reception in his honor was held at Synod House. Since then he has visited many times.

The Cathedral feels kinship with the Dalai Lama for many reasons, including his great personal kindness and humility; his words on the value of all religions and paths to truth; and his passionate warnings about climate change and the future of our planet. Throughout his long life he has demonstrated with extraordinary grace how to lead without arrogance and how to be at home in one's skin. The circumstances of his own life—early discovery as the 14th Dalai Lama, study, exile, political struggle, world travel and enormous influence—have been remarkable, yet when he refers to himself as “a simple monk” it is impossible not to believe that this too is who he is; and that without this awareness of the unchanging inner self no true wisdom is possible.

Most of the photographs—of the Dalai Lama with world leaders—were taken by Sonam Zoksang, who has followed His Holiness for over 20 years. In addition Mary Bloom, who was Cathedral Photographer in Residence throughout the 80s and 90s, has combed her archives for a number of shots that will be included. A few other photographers will also take part, and be identified in the Fall Newsletter.

Of the sponsoring organization for this exhibition, the Dalai Lama said, “The Tibet Fund has raised millions of dollars to help our people to build schools and provide housing and infrastructure, health care and education to the Tibetan community, in exile and in Tibet. The Tibet Fund has also provided resources to strengthen cultural institutions and projects that are essential for the preservation of our cultural heritage, the very seed of our civilization.”

Summer events 2015

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Services

8 am Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist
9 am Holy Eucharist
11 am Choral Eucharist
4 pm Choral Evensong

Daily Services

Monday–Saturday
8 am Morning Prayer
8:30 am Holy Eucharist (Tuesday & Thursday only)
12:15 pm Holy Eucharist
5 pm Evening Prayer

TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS

Tickets for all performances other than free or “suggested contribution” events may be purchased directly from the Cathedral’s website, stjohndivine.org, or by calling (866) 811-4111.

Your contributions make it possible for the Cathedral to offer the many programs listed below. Please fill out the enclosed envelope.

Please visit the Cathedral’s website, stjohndivine.org or call the Visitor Center (212) 316-7540 for updates and additional event and tour information.

Don’t forget to follow the Cathedral on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

ONGOING PROGRAMS, TOURS, WORKSHOPS

The Great Organ: Midday Monday

Cathedral organists provide a 30-minute break for mind, body and spirit at 1:00 pm with an entertaining and informative demonstration of the Cathedral’s unparalleled Great Organ.

PUBLIC EDUCATION & VISITOR SERVICES TOURS AND CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP

Public Education & Visitor Services offers Cathedral Highlights, Vertical, and Spotlight Tours. All tours meet for registration at the Visitor Center inside the Cathedral entrance, at 112th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. Highlights Tours: \$8 per person, \$7 per student/senior. Vertical Tours: \$17 per person, \$15 per student/senior. Spotlight Tours: \$10 per person, \$8 per student/senior.

Highlights Tours

Mondays, 11 am–Noon & 2–3 pm
Tuesdays–Saturdays, 11 am–Noon & 1 pm–2 pm
Select Sundays 1 pm–2 pm

Explore the many highlights of the Cathedral’s history, architecture, and artwork, from the Great Bronze Doors to the seven Chapels of the Tongues. Learn about the Cathedral’s services, events, and programs that welcome and inspire visitors from around the world. \$8 per person, \$7 per student/senior. No prior reservation necessary. Meet at Visitor Center.

Vertical Tours

Wednesdays, Noon–1 pm
Fridays, Noon–1 pm
Saturdays, Noon–1 pm & 2 pm–3 pm
On this adventurous, “behind-the-scenes” tour, climb more than 124 feet through spiral staircases to the top of the world’s largest cathedral. The tour culminates on the roof with a wonderful view of Manhattan. \$17 per person, \$15 per student/senior. All participants must be 12 years of age and older and reservations are recommended. For reservations visit the Cathedral website or call (866) 811-4111. Bring a flashlight and bottle of water. Meet at Visitor Center.

Spotlight Tours

Select Saturdays and Sundays
Spotlight Tours are specially created by Cathedral Guides to give visitors a closer look at unique aspects of the Cathedral’s extraordinary architecture, artwork, and history. \$10 per person, \$8 per student/senior, unless otherwise noted. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. For reservations visit the Cathedral website or call (866) 811-4111. Meet at Visitor Center.

Textile Treasures

Select Fridays, 2 pm–4 pm
Explore the Cathedral’s magnificent art collection with a special focus on textiles! This unique opportunity includes a behind-the-scenes visit to the Cathedral’s world-renowned Textile Conservation Lab, which conserves tapestries, needlepoint, upholstery, costumes, and other textiles. Particular attention will be paid to the Barberini collection of the Life of Christ tapestries, given before there was even a cathedral to display them in, and the Acts of the Apostles tapestries, based on cartoons by Raphael. \$20 per person, \$15 per student/senior. All participants must be 12 years of age or older and reservations are recommended. Visit stjohndivine.org for the tour schedule. Meet at Visitor Center.

Medieval Birthday Parties

Saturdays & Sundays, by availability
Celebrate your child’s birthday with a two-hour party in the Medieval Arts Workshop, where children sculpt gargoyles, weave, make brass rubbings, carve a block of limestone, and much more! For children ages 5 & up. Call the Public Education & Visitor Services Department at (212) 932-7347 for more information and reservations.

NIGHTWATCH

The Nightwatch program offers two exciting overnight series during the school year: Nightwatch Crossroads Christian and Nightwatch Crossroads Interspiritual. Stay tuned for Knightwatch Medieval in 2016! For more information visit stjohndivine.org or contact: (212) 316-5819/ nightwatch@stjohndivine.org.

ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN TRUST (A.C.T.)

To learn about the many nurturing year-round programs for young people offered by A.C.T., please call (212) 316-7530 or visit www.actprograms.org.

Children’s Quest Fund

Help us to invite children from many countries, religions and economic levels under the shadow of the beloved Cathedral. While any amount will help, \$1,000 enables a child from a low-income family to participate in a premiere summer camp experience. Please send donations to the Cathedral, designated “A.C.T.’s Children’s Quest Fund.”

Divine Saturday Celebrations

Celebrate good times with ACT’s new and improved Divine Saturday Celebrations, with a variety of birthday activities for kids to enjoy! It’s a great time for parents and children alike. Speak to a party manager for details at (212) 316-7530.

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY CARES (CCC)

All programs meet in the CCC office, the Sunday Soup Kitchen or the Cathedral A.C.T gym unless otherwise specified. Please visit stjohndivine.org for more information on CCC programs.

Nutrition, Health and Clothing Center

The Center hosts monthly HIV testing (in partnership with Care for the Homeless), as well as blood pressure, heart health, diabetes, and other screenings throughout the course of the year. Please visit our website for upcoming screening dates. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Director, (212) 316-7581.

Clothing Closet

Gently used men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing can be donated to the CCC office Monday through Friday 10am–5pm. Tax receipts available upon request. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Director, (212) 316-7581.

Sunday Soup Kitchen

Every Sunday in the A.C.T. gym.
Breakfast, 10 am; Lunch, 12:30 pm
Contact: Thomas Perry, Food Program Manager, (212) 316-7579 (T/W/Th after 12 noon)

SNAP/Food Stamps Program

(in partnership with the Human Resources Administration, The Food Bank for New York City, New York City Coalition Against Hunger, and Columbia University-SHOUT)
Tuesdays and Wednesdays (by appointment only)
Pre-screening and, if eligible, help with online applications and recertification is available. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Program Manager, (212) 316-7581.



Photo: Cathedral Archives



Photo: Helena Kubicka de Bragança



Photo: Cathedral Archives

June

SELECTED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Thirty-Fourth Annual Spirit of the City Awards Gala

Tuesday, June 2, 6:30 pm

For information on underwriting opportunities and to purchase advance tickets, please contact Marie Miranda at (212) 316-7498 or mmiranda@stjohndivine.org.

Gateway to the New Jerusalem: Spotlight on the Iconography of the West Front

Saturday June 6, 2 pm

The west front is the architectural equivalent of an overture, an exposition of the themes developed within the main body of the Cathedral. The tour introduces the interplay of modern and medieval motifs in the sculpture of John Angel and Simon Verity. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, June 7, 1 pm

The Cathedral spurred the growth of Morningside Heights into becoming one of Manhattan's most unique neighborhoods. Go back in time on an illustrated walking tour of the neighborhood and its historic architecture and institutions, and learn about its development into the "Acropolis of Manhattan." The tour begins at the Cathedral and ends at Riverside Church. Led by Cathedral Guide Bill Schneberger. All participants must be 12 years of age or older and reservations are recommended. This tour requires extensive outdoor walking and use of stairs. In the event of inclement weather, participants are advised to call in advance to confirm the tour.

Brilliant Walls of Light

Saturday June 13, 10 am

Each window contains a unique style of stained glass drawn from the English, French, and German traditions. Explore the beautiful narrative and geometric windows by modern English and American firms and view the memorial to a stained glass artist. Ascend over 100 feet of spiral stairs for a closer look at windows dedicated to medical and communications achievements. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko. Participants must be 12 years of age and older for the ascent.

Gothic Gardens Children's Workshop

Saturday, June 13, 10 am

Children and their families can celebrate the return of summer with a special tour of the Cathedral examining plants in glass and stone. They will then head to the workshop to sculpt plants out of clay, create seed superheroes, and illustrate their own book of plants, all the while learning about the basic needs of fauna. Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$8 per child, with accompanying adult. Meet at Visitor Center.

Congregation of Saint Saviour Strawberry Festival

Sunday, June 14, 12:45 pm

The Congregation of St. Saviour hosts their annual Strawberry Festival, featuring a feast of strawberries and whipped cream, after the 11 am Choral Eucharist, in the Cathedral House Conference Room. For more information, contact Christian DeRuiter at cderuiter@stjohndivine.org.

Enter the Conversation: Matthieu Ricard

Tuesday, June 16, 6 pm

Matthieu Ricard, with Richard Davidson and Dan Goleman, join The Very Reverend Dr. James A. Kowalski for "Altruism as an Agent for Personal and Societal Global Change"—a wide ranging exploration on the essence and science of altruism; how altruism is a vital thread that can address the main challenges of our time, from economic inequality to environmental sustainability, from life satisfaction to conflict resolution (see article).

Twentieth Annual Summer Solstice Concert

Saturday, June 20, 4:30 am

Join Cathedral Artist in Residence Paul Winter for an epic sunrise concert, as musicians and audience share the experience of the journey from total darkness into the dawn of this longest day of the year. The full glory of sight and sound will come alive with the light of this first sunrise of the summer.

Unfinished Symphony: Spotlight on Architecture

Saturday June 20, 2 pm

Learn about the architectural styles within the Cathedral, how it was constructed, who designed it, where it stands within American architectural history, what keeps it standing up, and why it's still not finished. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, June 21, 1 pm–3 pm

See description for June 7.

Cathedral Community Cares Health Fair

Saturday, June 27, 11 am

Free health screenings for many conditions, including hypertension and diabetes, as well as nutrition, health, and wellness information, will be available for all, as well as music and games. Sponsored by CCC in partnership with Sigma Gamma Rho Alumnae, Kappa Sigma Chapter.

Adults and Children in Trust: Summer Session 1

Monday, June 29–Friday, July 31

Adults and Children in Trust's 44th day camp season! Programs are available for toddlers through teenagers. Come and explore the outdoor magic and fun offered under the shadow of the world's largest gothic Cathedral. For more information, visit actprograms.org.

July

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, July 5, 1 pm

See description for June 7.

Within the Walls: Exploring Hidden Spaces

Saturday, July 11, 10 am

This extended vertical tour features "behind-the-scenes" climbs in both the eastern and western ends of St. John the Divine. In the east, descend into the unfinished crypt and then ascend Rafael Guastavino's beautiful spiral staircase to incredible views high above the altar. The western climb presents an amazing view down the entire length of the world's largest cathedral. Participants are responsible for carrying all belongings throughout the tour. Photography is welcome, though tripod use during the tour is prohibited. If you have concerns regarding claustrophobia, vertigo, or a medical condition, please call (212) 932 7347 before purchasing tickets. 20 per person, \$15 per student/senior.

Gateway to the New Jerusalem: Spotlight on the Iconography of the West Front

Saturday July 11, 2 pm

See description for June 6.

Grand Camp Visiting Day

Tuesday, July 14, 9:30 am

In the spirit of Willy Wonka, ACT Summer Camp will be opening its doors for the first time during the summer camp session to friends, families and neighbors. Enjoy a Game Assembly from 9:45 am to 10:30 am. From 10:30 am to 1 pm, share in cool waves of fun on monstrous Blow-Up Water Rides. Family reunion style, hot dogs and cheese sandwiches will be served off the grill. Visitors can also to join in on arts and crafts activities, games, and even insect-hunting in the garden. RSVP to act@stjohndivine.org by July 13 to reserve your spot.

Rock of Ages Carnival Days

Thursday, July 23–Friday, July 24

Kids and counselors will transform ACT Summer Camp into an amusement park with streets that are reminiscent of different worlds and other times. As you stroll through the grounds, you'll feel as though you have been transported to another place: anywhere from an ancient age to a futuristic biosphere. This park gives more than amusement: campers are educated about history, work-play balance, budgeting, autonomy and responsibility! To sign up for summer camp sessions and more, visit actprograms.org.

Revelation Revealed: Spotlight on the Apocalypse

Saturday, July 25, 2 pm

Discover the meaning of mysterious images from the Revelation in the sculpture and stained glass of the cathedral dedicated to its author, St. John the Divine. The tour concludes with an ascent above the High Altar for a birds-eye view of the breathtaking Clerestory Windows. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek.



Photo: Cathedral Archives

August

I Love NY: Spotlight on the City

Saturday, August 1, 10 am

Celebrate New York City and its indomitable spirit with a special tour of the Cathedral. Learn how the Cathedral and City serve as places of diversity, tolerance, and human achievement. Hear stories of New York's immigrants, inventors, and artists who have helped shape the City and the world. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, August 9, 1 pm

See description for June 7.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, August 23, 1 pm

See description for June 7.

The American Poets Corner: Elizabeth Bishop



Although we've yet to spot a sandpiper, the Close is home to many feathered residents, including a family of red-tailed hawks. Photo: Courtesy Morningside Hawks

SANDPIPER

The roaring alongside he takes for granted,
and that every so often the world is bound to shake.
He runs, he runs to the south, finical, awkward,
in a state of controlled panic, a student of Blake.

The beach hisses like fat. On his left, a sheet
of interrupting water comes and goes
and glazes over his dark and brittle feet.
He runs, he runs straight through it, watching his toes.

- Watching, rather, the spaces of sand between them
where (no detail too small) the Atlantic drains
rapidly backwards and downwards. As he runs,
he stares at the dragging grains.

The world is a mist. And then the world is
minute and vast and clear. The tide
is higher or lower. He couldn't tell you which.
His beak is focused; he is preoccupied,

looking for something, something, something.
Poor bird, he is obsessed!

The millions of grains are black, white, tan, and gray
mixed with quartz grains, rose and amethyst.

Elizabeth Bishop (1911–1979)

was inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1995

Elizabeth Bishop was born in Worcester, Mass and graduated from Vassar College in 1934. She published her first book, *North and South*, in 1946, and her final book, *Geography III*, in 1976. She traveled widely in Europe, lived in Key West, and in Brazil with her long-time lover, Lota de Maceda Soares. She returned to this country permanently only after Soares' death in 1967. Bishop won the Pulitzer Prize, National Book Award and National Books Circle Award, among many other prizes. She was a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a consultant in poetry to the Library of Congress. Her poetry is praised for its vivid description of the natural world, dry wit, and understated emotion.

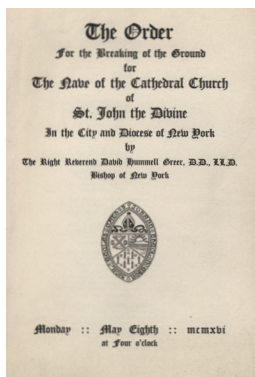
The Cathedral appreciates the generosity of the Drue Heinz Trust and Mrs. Edward T. Chase, whose support ensures that poetry continues to be an important part of arts at the Cathedral.

Architecture & Development



Construction and development has been a constant at the Cathedral. These images from 1916 depict the first breaking of the ground beginning work on the Nave. Photos: Diocesan Archives

In the first quarter of the 20th century, a few decades after the cornerstone was laid, an early history of the Cathedral remarked that, "the most long-lived things are the slowest of growth," with a footnote comparing the oak tree to the pine. The virtue is not in slowness for its own sake, but in the fact that the late-bloomers, the mountains that accrete over eons, and the buildings that remain hauntingly "unfinished" are radically available to the present moment, capacious in potential. The Cathedral was founded in a period of great optimism, a time when, for various reasons, there was more philanthropic money available for churches and religious institutions than there is today. In 1925, Bishop Manning announced a capital campaign with a goal of \$10 million (equivalent to \$134,000,000 today) and, with the young Franklin Roosevelt spearheading the campaign, met the goal. A similar infusion of funds today would ensure the completion of the Cathedral as well as providing a steady income stream for daily operations and maintenance, yet is exponentially more difficult to achieve.



In the first decade of the 21st century, the Cathedral identified two sites for development as a way of creating its own endowment, taking responsibility for its commitment to stewardship and its mission as a house of worship for all peoples. In September 2006, the Cathedral entered into a 99-year ground lease, retaining title to the land. The real estate investment trust AvalonBay Communities,

Inc., erected a residential building on the southeast site, with 20% of apartments set aside for low and middle-income tenants (those whose income does not exceed 50% of the area median, adjusted for family size). At the end of the 99 years, the land and the building revert to the Cathedral. A similar building is going up now on a second site (north of the Cathedral on 113th Street, between Amsterdam Avenue and Morningside Drive) with a different developer, The Brodsky Organization. Under the same lease terms, the plan includes a major new landscaped area for the public, with benches and an avenue of trees (now being planted), a new service entrance that will accommodate trucks for such events as the set up of

the annual Philharmonic Concert, a loading dock and an accessibility ramp to the Cathedral. These two leases provide the Cathedral with the ability to borrow against long-term revenue to invest in deferred maintenance and strategic projects. Borrowing at historically low rates means endowment can continue to produce operating revenues. Some of the benefits from these leases and other fundraising efforts have already been reaped:

- 1 Necessary repairs have been made, including the South Tower. Restoration of the 19th century Ithiel Town Building, which, as the Leake & Watts Orphan House, was the original tenant of the land, has been completed. The North Transept, which has been without a roof since the 2001 fire, is soon to be fitted with a steel barrel roof. New boilers that run on natural gas will be installed in time for next winter's cold.
- 2 The roof on the Triforium level is being repaired and will be completed by the fall (you may have noticed the scaffolding on the west side of the Cathedral). Two years ago, the Cathedral commissioned a comprehensive review of the interior stonework and now has a master database of the condition inside the Cathedral. An annual review of the stones allows for timely repair and a heads-up about future needs. This year, upon completion of interior stone inspection and related maintenance, the State Trumpets will be reinstalled in time for St. Francis Day. Columbia students in building conservation can often be found in the Cathedral taking stone samples, gaining valuable knowledge from this historic building as well as informing Cathedral staff of what they discover.

In the longer term, there are many possibilities for the Cathedral. Imagine the North Transept with expanded education facilities available to Cathedral School, ACT and citywide schoolchildren; a bigger shop, with the sort of merchandise sold in the Christmas Craft Fair; or a pleasant café for weary tourists and congregants. Imagine the space housing plays, small concerts and dance performances, doubling the number of nights per year such events can be mounted. There is room for all this and more, and the Cathedral is open to the ideas of its neighbors and friends. Development, like stewardship, requires both vision and commitment, and calls on the cooperative and sustaining spirit that built the Cathedral and the city around it.

It's A Policy: the Cathedral Close is Now a Smoke Free Zone



Environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) is classified as a known human carcinogen. Recent studies have shown that outdoor secondhand smoke can reach concentrations found in indoor areas particularly in places where multiple smokers congregate, such as near building entryways and outdoor eating areas. Additionally, cigarette

butts pose a health threat to young children. In keeping with current research on the dangers of secondhand smoke, the Cathedral Close is now a **smoke-free zone**.

Great Music in a Great Space 2015/2016

A Preview of Next Season's Highlights

One of the pleasures of the summer is looking forward to the cultural events of the coming year (the New York City cultural year, like school, starts in September). We can't tell you all the details of the coming Great Music in a Great Space season, because they are still being worked out as we go to press, but here are some highlights to put on your calendar. On October 14, Great Music in a Great Space will kick off with a special performance by the Cathedral Choir and Rose of the Compass entitled "Four Quarters of Jerusalem." A CD of the program, to be recorded in June 2015, will be available for purchase at the performance. On December 12, the Cathedral Choirs' annual Christmas program will include the *Magnificat* by J.S. Bach. On February 25, 2016, the second collaboration of the Cathedral with the Manhattan School of Music and the Oratorio Society of New York, following the sold-out success of Verdi's *Requiem* this year, will present perhaps the grandest work possible for

our grand space: Gustav Mahler's "Symphony of a Thousand," Symphony 8. Director of Music Kent Tritle will conduct all three performances. Be sure your name is on both our mail and email lists. The annual GMGS brochure will be released soon.

Great Music in a Great Space is indebted to Richard and Lois Pace for making possible the June recording, and to all our Friends of Music for supporting our concert series.



Photo: Valeria Jara

Enter The Conversation: Altruism & the Ethics of Global Citizenship

In commemoration of his most recent book, *Altruism: the Power of Compassion to Change Yourself and the World*, the Cathedral is pleased to welcome Matthieu Ricard on Thursday, June 16 at 7:30. Dean Kowalski will host a conversation between Matthieu Ricard, Daniel Goleman and Richard J. Davidson on the theme of altruism as a driver of successful action in the social, political and religious spheres as well as a source of satisfaction in personal life. The origins and effects of altruism constitute an important 21st century field of study that is of special interest to the Cathedral, now engaged in its 2014–2017 initiative The Dignity Project: a call to reframe an ethic of dignity to be rooted in shared values of religious freedom and interfaith communication; community building and care for the vulnerable; civil rights; immigration and labor rights; peace; education; stewardship and social justice.

Matthieu Ricard is a French Buddhist monk scientist and writer, author of *The Monk and the Philosopher*, a dialogue with his father, Jean-Francois Revel; *The Quantum and the Lotus*, a dialogue with astrophysicist Trinh Xuan, and *Happiness: A Guide to Developing Life's Most Important Skill*. His new book, *Altruism: the Power of Compassion to Change Yourself and the World*, represents years of thinking on this topic and offers an overarching vision for the 21st century. *Altruism* was a bestseller in France and will be published in the U.S. on June 2, 2015, by Little Brown.

Dan Goleman's 1995 book, *Emotional Intelligence*, brought world attention to the idea that human competencies like self-awareness, self-regulation, and empathy add value to cognitive abilities in many domains of life. The book was on *The New York Times* bestseller list for 28 months, with more than 5,000,000 copies in print worldwide. Goleman is a co-founder of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning, originally at the Yale Child Studies Center and now at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He currently co-directs the Consortium for Research on Emotional Intelligence in Organizations at Rutgers University. His most recent book is *Leadership: the Power of Emotional Intelligence*.

Richard J. Davidson is a renowned neuroscientist and one of the world leading experts on the impact of contemplative practices on the brain. He is the William James and Vilas Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry, Director of the Waisman Laboratory for Brain Imaging and Behavior and the Laboratory for Affective Neuroscience, and Founder and Chair of the Center for Investigating Healthy Minds, at the Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the author of the forthcoming book (with Sharon Begley) *The Emotional Life of Your Brain: How Its Unique Patterns Affect the Way You Think, Feel, and Live—and How You Can Change Them* (Hudson Street Press, 2012).

The Cathedral Invites You to Take a Pause to Consider Climate Change

“Look at birds: Even they respect their nests because they know their survival depends on it. This small blue planet is our only home. If we do not respect it, the entire planet and billions and billions of species will be affected. This is a question of life, a question of survival for the entire planet.”

Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama
The Dalai Lama has spoken at the Cathedral on many occasions

Behind the Scenes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



Mounting exhibitions in the Cathedral requires a strong team. Curators, art handlers and staff cooperate to install art in our somewhat unconventional space. Photo: Cathedral Archives

When *The Value of Water* closed, the Cathedral held a roundtable debrief, discussing what we could do better next time and how we could approach challenges differently. Participants discussed what affected them most strongly: many mentioned the way the exhibition used the whole Cathedral, how different art looked in the Cathedral, and how every visitor responded uniquely. Several people remarked on how much they had learned, including learning how deep their own commitment to the environment really was.

One thing everyone agreed on was that for the next initiative—*The Value of Food*—it was crucial to have sufficient lead-time for budgets, funding, scheduling, publicity, security and other details to be fully worked out before the exhibition opened. *The Value of Water* also made clear the importance of a dedicated educator for large, complex initiatives.

Granting Growth

SALLY BENNER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT & STRATEGY

What I did on my summer vacation—I borrow this classic beginning to tell about projects underway at the Cathedral this summer made possible because of crucial support granted to us by two foundations. Enticingly, they both involve food.

Sunday mornings underneath the Cathedral's Nave Thomas Perry, Food Manager for Cathedral Community Cares (CCC), directs the friendly factory that is our Soup Kitchen. Thomas leads a crew of volunteers from the Cathedral community and New York Cares to prepare and serve two nutritious meals plus prepare one more meal to go, making sure guests will eat three meals a day. As one of only four soup kitchens in Manhattan operating on Sundays, and the only soup kitchen operating in Harlem on Sundays, we are needed. In 2013–2014 our kitchen served almost 25,000 meals to over 7,500 homeless, poor and hungry neighbors who came to us seeking sustenance.

In support of our service, this year The Hyde and Watson Foundation made a grant to the Cathedral to upgrade to an industrial-quality oven for the CCC program. In addition to both expediting and easing the process of preparing meals on Sundays, the new oven also serves double duty during the week for ACT (Adults & Children in Trust). With pre-school and after-school programs for children soon to wrap up, and summer camp season around the corner, the timing couldn't be better for us to receive this gift.

On a more esoteric plane, *The Value of Food* will be the next original Cathedral-wide multimedia installation that will be exhibited for the public beginning in late September. Grants from one of New York City's renowned philanthropic couples, Jack and Susan Rudin, provided seed funding to hire co-curators, secure art for the exhibit, and plan programming for the period of its display between September and March 2016.

Join the Dean's Pilgrimage to Germany, October 7–17, 2015

Dean Kowalski and his wife, The Rev. Anne Brewer, M.D., will lead a pilgrimage to Germany, including Reformation sites, the National Buchenwald Memorial and the Rhine Valley. This is an ideal time: to explore the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017 (before the crowds); to examine aspects of the Two World Wars and the Holocaust; and to travel a gorgeous country with beautiful architecture, countryside, romantic rivers and castles. The food is splendid, too!

The Cathedral is pleased to have hired Tennessee Watson as Education Coordinator for *The Value of Food*. Ms. Watson will work directly with Public Education & Visitor Services (PEVS), Adults and Children in Trust (ACT) and The Cathedral School. The Cathedral also brought in seasoned registrar and exhibition manager Marian Kahan and art preparator John “John O” O’Connell. The partnerships and collaborations that made *The Value of Water* succeed—Magnum Foundation, Food and Water Watch, Grace Communications Foundation, Mother Jones, The Working Theater, Voice of Witness and Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS)—will also be an integral part of *The Value of Food*. Look for Magnum Foundation's visual billboards along the perimeter fence, VTS salons, innovative theatrical experiences, spoken word and more.

The Value of Food was slated to open in 2014, but fate intervened in the shape of the two gigantic phoenixes that hung in the Cathedral through 2014 and the first months of 2015. Initially, staffers thought the two exhibitions could occur simultaneously, but it soon became clear that *Phoenix: Xu Bing at the Cathedral* and related programming would require a lot of time and attention and that *The Value of Food* should be postponed. *Phoenix* guest curator Judith Goldman introduced the Cathedral to curators Kirby Gookin and Robin Kahn (profiled in the last newsletter) and the two are now in high gear, planning and scheduling art and programming. Many of the same funders from *The Value of Water* are onboard for this initiative, and we are very grateful for their support. The challenge ahead is one familiar to anyone who has planned a complex event: juggling schedules and availability; making sure supporting materials, in the form of educational workshops and ancillary events, printed matter and signage are completed; planning for security, insurance, and publicity; and keeping an eye out for new voices, faces and ideas that may add to the discourse and the emerging calls to advocacy.



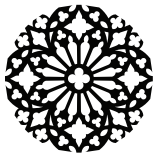
Photo: Courtesy ACT

In its founding charter the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine was called to convene the important conversations of our time. *The Value of Food* will be the next progressive step in the theme of this conversation begun with our 2011–2012 exhibit *The Value of Water*. Through exhibits, talks, interactive exercises, and action, we'll shine a light on issues of hunger, accessibility to healthy food, food production and distribution, factory farming and soil quality as well as experience the cultural, sacred, and spiritual symbolism of food.

Where else but at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine could we both examine a pressing issue of our day such as the quality of food and also serve it regularly to those in need? We're able to offer both ideas and action thanks to those who support our mission.

Airfare, four-star hotels, meals (except lunches), and fuel surcharges and taxes (subject to change) are included in the price of \$4,150 per person, double occupancy. “Tour protection plan” insurance is recommended and costs \$279. Tips are not included. Full payment is due by August 7th. Please note that passports should be valid for at least six months following return.

For more information, please visit the Cathedral's website or please contact Laura Bosley at (212) 316-7493 or lbosley@stjohndivine.org



The Cathedral
Church of **Saint John**
the Divine

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Gifts from Cathedral friends and supporters allow the Cathedral to plan for the future. Please take the time to fill out the contribution envelope in the pages of the newsletter. Your generosity is needed and is always appreciated.

Summer 2015 at the Cathedral

Spirit of Pride



The Spirit of Pride has been a signature Cathedral event since the 1980s, when the AIDS epidemic and the burgeoning gay rights movement sparked the Cathedral to engage with and advocate for the gay and lesbian community. From this engagement developed the AIDS Memorial in the Medicine Bay and an annual Cathedral celebration during Pride Month. As the LGBTQ (Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer) movement has grown, the Cathedral and the wider Episcopal Church have responded, supporting gay marriage, transgender rights, queer identity and most recently the needs of LGBTQ youth.

Last year, the Cathedral was awarded a substantial grant from the Calamus Foundation to support Spirit of Pride events and to explore the relationship between religious institutions and LGBTQ youth. The Cathedral is committed to expanding its involvement with the LGBTQ community, specifically homeless, at-risk youth in NYC. The Rev. Julia Whitworth, Canon for Liturgy & the Arts, is building upon the Cathedral's partnerships with advocacy organizations and other religious institutions to use our convening authority to amplify conversations about this important issue. Approximately 40 percent of homeless teens identify as LGBTQ—a statistic that equates to about 5,000 young people in NYC. There are fewer than 500 beds in the city's shelter system for this population.

For Spirit of Pride weekend (May 30–31) the Cathedral hosted three events: a Kiki Ball on Saturday night, a LGBTQ Youth

Speak Out on Sunday afternoon, and a Pride Evensong. Kiki Balls are a youth-oriented model of House Balls, a cultural phenomenon made famous to a wider audience by the 1990 documentary film *Paris is Burning*. Ball subculture, comprised of predominantly transgender, gender nonconforming and queer people of color, perhaps began with Harlem drag balls of the 1920s and '30s. The house system, with house "mothers" and "fathers," developed in '70s and '80s in New York—a time of gentrification, decreased funding for group homes, and a decline in social services, as well as the advent of HIV/AIDS. Houses provided an alternative kinship structure and support for people who felt exiled from mainstream culture. The balls, then and now, are festive, high-octane affairs, in which house members gather for voguing and costume competitions. The Kiki scene was created to provide safe spaces for young people to explore this mode of self-expression and competition in "an environment that is strengths-based and grounded in positive youth development" (kikicoalition.org).

The Cathedral's Kiki Ball, hosted in partnership with Housing Works, welcomed hundreds of youth from across the city for an evening of fun, food, and healthy competition. Ally Mulan, founder of the House of Mulan, organized the ball: arranging for DJs, judges and commentators, selecting the theme—based on *The Hunger Games*—and getting the word out to the community. The evening included a social hour and dinner, with various agencies offering information and services, including health screenings.

At Sunday's Speak Out, youth leaders and activists led a conversation, conceived by Levi Maxwell, on LGBTQ youth homelessness and housing insecurity. Moderated by Lazara Paz-Gonzalez of the cosponsoring Hetrick-Martin Institute, the Speak Out aimed to create new conversations and coalitions among religious leaders and LGBTQ activists in the city. After the Speak Out, a special Pride Evensong, officiated by The Venerable William C. Parnell, Archdeacon, featured music by LGBTQ composers and an address by The Reverend Winnie Varghese, Rector of St. Mark's in-the-Bowery.

"I am thrilled to be making good on our claim, 'This is your Cathedral,' for LGBTQ youth in New York," said Canon Whitworth.

Housing Works is a healing community of people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Its mission is to end the dual crises of homelessness and AIDS through relentless advocacy, the provision of lifesaving services, and entrepreneurial businesses. It operates 13 thrift shops throughout the city, offers direct services, and advocates nationally and globally.

Hetrick-Martin Institute creates a safe and supportive environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth between the ages of 13 and 24 and their families. Through a comprehensive package of direct services and referrals, Hetrick-Martin seeks to foster healthy youth development.

In Memoriam

Steadman H. "Ted" Westergaard
October 2, 1956–April 4, 2015

Correction

In the Spring issue, Tim Dwyer, author (with Mark Peyser) of *Hissing Cousins: The Untold Story of Eleanor Roosevelt and Alice Roosevelt Longworth*, was incorrectly identified as a professor at the University of Sydney, Australia. In fact, our Tim Dwyer is CEO of the School Choice Group and a valued member of the congregation. His writing has appeared in *Time*, *Washingtonian*, and *TheAtlantic.com*. The Cathedral greatly regrets the error and any confusion it may have caused.

Keep in Touch

We welcome your suggestions and comments on the newsletter. Please write us at editor@stjohndivine.org.