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The Cathedral Star

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Tri-Covenant

Whereas it is the will of our Lord Jesus Christ "that they may be one"; and

Whereas the Episcopal Bishop of Kentucky, the United Methodist Bishop of Kentucky, and the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Louisville have expressed full support and encouragement of covenant relationships among the congregations of these Churches;

Now therefore we solemnly and reverently enter into the Covenant and we do pledge:

- 1. to pray at Sunday worship for each other's Bishops, Pastors, and Congregations by name;*
- 2. to maintain a joint Covenant Committee;*
- 3. to gather regularly for worship, formation, and social outreach; and*
- 4. to exchange newsletters and other appropriate communications.*

We pledge ourselves to these objectives and pray the Blessing of Almighty God on this Covenant, that we may be faithful to it, to God's Honor and Glory.

With the signing of this pledge at a Tri-Covenant Service held on May 20, 2007, a tri-covenant was officially established among the Cathedral of the Assumption, Christ Church Cathedral, and Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church. The Cathedral of the Assumption and Christ Church Cathedral have had a covenant relationship for more than 25 years. However, since joining together for "Gospel Call" in 2005, the three churches have worked together on various issues and projects, and church leaders decided to formalize the relationship. Archbishop Kelly on behalf of the Louisville Archdiocese, Bishop Edwin F. Gulick, Jr. on behalf of the Episcopal diocese, and Bishop James R. King on behalf of the Methodist Conference, each signed the pledge during the service, as did Father Fichte-

man of the Cathedral of the Assumption, the Very Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas of Christ Church Cathedral, and the Rev. Dr. Jean G. Hawxhurst of Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church. The Tri-Covenant pledge was also signed by members of each of the congregations on behalf of their respective Covenant Committees.

On June 3, 2007, two weeks after the signing of the tri-covenant, members of the respective congregations experienced a more visible representation of the pledge. On that date, Trinity Sunday, the three churches took part in a pulpit exchange. Rev. Bourlakas spoke at the 9:30 am Mass at the Cathedral of the Assumption; Rev. Hawxhurst spoke at the 10:00 am service at Christ Church Cathedral; and Father Fichteman spoke at the 10:45 am service at Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church.



Archbishop Kelly signing the Tri-Covenant document.

Rev. Bourlakas began his delivery of the homily by introducing himself to the congregation of the Cathedral of the Assumption and expressing his pleasure in being with us. He also related his initial feeling of anxiety in preaching outside his own pulpit, a feeling that most of us can readily identify with. After interjecting a note of humor, Rev. Bourlakas recalled that he had only been in Louisville and at Christ Church Cathedral for four months when he participated in a very tangible and visible sign of the covenant - the Easter Vigil lighting of the Easter candle with the congregations of the two cathedrals. In discussing the joint covenant later in the homily, Rev. Bourlakas spoke in terms of a movement of the three churches to join in endeavors to move toward becoming one with God.

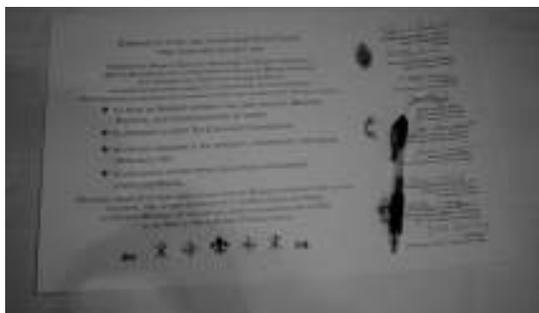
(continued on page 2)

In keeping with the pledge to pray for and support one another, Rev. Bourlakas closed his homily with the Episcopalian prayer for the unity of the Church. During the General Intercessions, the Cathedral congregation then prayed that the Trinity would be a model for our covenant with Christ Church Cathedral and Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church.

The Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines a "covenant" as a written agreement or promise between two or more parties for the performance of some action. Our written tripartite agreement commits us to cross denominational lines and engage in joint prayer and community service. With a joint summer Bible study program, the joint blessing of the animals on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, home renovation projects, and the recent pulpit exchange, the words of the covenant have been put into action. In her address to those gathered at the Tri-Covenant service on May 20, the Rev. Nancy Jo Kemper, the Executive Director of the Kentucky Council of Churches, voiced a goal of eating together at the table in our efforts to serve God. As the three congregations continue to pray together and join in social outreach projects, turning the words of our pledge into actions, the Covenant moves us closer to that goal.



Above, Archbishop Kelly, Bishop James R. King and Bishop Edwin F. Gulick Jr.
Below, Tri-Covenant Document
Photos by Martha Villiger



Wrapped in Prayer

May God's grace be upon this shawl . . . warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing. May you be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace and wrapped in love.

With this prayer attached, when members of the cathedral, relatives, or friends are going through difficult times, such as illness, divorce or the death of a loved one, the Cathedral Prayer Shawl Knitting Ministry reaches out by giving these persons a knitted shawl, showing that the sufferer is not alone, is surrounded by God's love, and is blessed with many prayers.

When Karen Hensel read about the knitting ministry in an article by Susan Izard in the magazine *Spirituality and Health*, she was inspired to start a group at the Cathedral. She asked Melanie Ahr for her help and in 2005 the new ministry began. Karen said that she knitted as a teenager, and had recently started knitting again. Forty people showed up at the initial meeting, but now there are between ten and fifteen regular attenders. However, Karen explains that they don't have to always come to the meetings because the knitting can be done anywhere.



The deeply spiritual activity of knitting the shawls affects both the knitter and the recipient. As Susan Gordon Lyda states, "The important thing is not so much what you knit as what happens to you while you knit it. Where the interior takes you. What you find there. How you are transformed when you come back home." In her article mentioned above, Susan Izard explains, "One day I realized that the click of the needles and the movement of my hands had become a mantra. The rhythm of the needles had the same effect on me as the word I used in contemplative prayer."

-Sharon Mattingly



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The shawls take approximately forty to sixty hours to knit, so obviously they can't be completed during the meetings, which occur once a month for nine months out of the year. Melanie says she has come to look forward to waiting times in her day as an opportunity to knit. "My knitting goes with me everywhere, traveling, appointments, waiting for appointments, or going with a friend somewhere." As the shawls are made, the knitters pray for the recipients, so basically, by the time the shawl is completed, forty to sixty hours of prayer have been said on their behalf.



The ministry keeps a record of shawls given and has a book with the notes of appreciation they have received. Among the 175 shawls given out so far one was given, to a Presbyterian missionary to Africa who was struck with leukemia, one to Father Fichteman to show support, and one to Father Knott in thanks for his recent Lenten Mission.

Knitting a shawl is not without its hazards as Carolyn Reilly is willing to attest. She missed an entire night of sleep trying to unravel a tangled ball of yarn, and she may have uttered a few censored-type words. In the morning when her husband came upon this distressing scene, he asked, "Why didn't you just buy another ball of yarn?" She had thought of this but was afraid a new one wouldn't match.

The man who received this shawl wrote "This shawl represents to me the love and caring of a wonderful group of people who are so thoughtful of those who cannot be at Mass every time they would like to be. As I wrap the shawl around my shoulders or put it on my lap, I can certainly feel the love and prayers of the people, and this means so very much to me. I thank them and you and all that were involved in starting this group of individuals interested in following through with the making of these shawls and pre-

senting them. Carolyn made mine and it meant so very much to me to take on this project. Although she said there was a lot of cussing going on as she knitted it, she assured me those curses were prayed out by the group on the 17th before she brought it to me. Of course, I had to laugh because I could relate to that too."

Before a shawl leaves for delivery, two prayer cards are attached, one stating who made the shawl with the date, and the other a prayer appropriate to that person's difficulty. Measuring approximately six feet by 2 feet, the shawl is blessed by the members as they lay their hands on it during their meeting. Recalling the importance of threes, such as birth, life and death; past, present and future; body, mind and spirit; faith, hope and love, members use a pattern in the knitting: three knits and three purls, symbolic of the Trinity. Some shawls have fringe and some have crosses; all are different. The leaders stress that you do not have to know how to knit to join this ministry; others will gladly teach you. Shawls can also be crocheted.

A prayer by Susan Jorgensen closes the meetings: "Compassionate God, we ask you to bless all the people for whom these shawls are being knit. May these shawls be a reminder of your presence in their lives. May these shawls bring them love and light, hope and joy."

If anyone would like to request a shawl, contact E.A. Cole, our parish nurse.

-Martha Villager

Information was contributed by the founders of the prayer shawl ministry, Melanie Ahr and Karen Hensel

Some features in our next issue:

- Archbishop Kurtz Arrives
- The Archdiocese of Louisville Bicentennial
- Mass in the Syro-Malabar Rite celebrated monthly at the Cathedral
- Cathedral All Star Team highlights Parish Council
- Stars in the Seats highlights parishioner Patricia Cervera

Preserving Kentucky's Past is Donna Neary's Future



In May, Governor Ernie Fletcher appointed Cathedral parishioner Donna Neary as Executive Director of the Kentucky Heritage Council and State Historic Preservation Officer.

The Council is the state agency charged with overseeing the preservation of Kentucky's cultural and historical heritage.

Any Kentucky development projects that are funded by the federal government must be reviewed by the Council. Donna and her staff examine the impact of new development on Kentucky's historic sites and recommend ways to lessen any potential harm.

Although Donna has served as Director of the Heritage Council for a short period of time, she can already recognize the most challenging aspect of the position. While most Kentuckians agree that historic preservation is important, Donna's new appointment requires her to advocate preservation even when it comes into conflict with projects that promise to create jobs or improve the Commonwealth's transportation infrastructure.

Despite this challenge, she has already met many people around the state whose dedication to preserving their local heritage is a source of great encouragement. These people are the true stewards of Kentucky's heritage, Donna said, acknowledging that without them, it would be really difficult for the Heritage Council to fulfill its purpose.

Another important function of the Council is to provide local communities, organizations, and small businesses the support and training they need to capitalize on their local heritage.

"Preserving our history and heritage can have a direct economic benefit today," Donna said, listing tax credits and tourism dollars as examples of such benefits.

But Donna's commitment to historic preservation transcends the potential for economic gain. She believes Kentuckians' strong connection to the land and to landmarks has been challenged in the last 30 years, due to the spread of urbanization. Donna explained that the Heritage Council "works to preserve those connections so they can continue to have meaning throughout time."

In this way, Kentucky's past is the key to its future well-being. "We're working to reconnect with

people about the importance of rural heritage," Donna said.

Before her appointment to the Heritage Council, Donna worked as an independent historical consultant. This pursuit allowed her to spend more time with her family and stay involved in her preservation work. During the 1990s she worked for the Jefferson County Fiscal Court as the administrator of its Historic Preservation and Archives office.

Donna studied journalism and history at Murray State University, where she met her husband, Ed. After completing her undergraduate studies she moved to Ed's hometown, Chicago, and earned a Masters of Arts in Public History from Loyola University.

The Nearys married in 1984, celebrating the sacrament at Donna's home parish, Most Blessed Sacrament in Louisville. In the mid-1990s, they joined the Cathedral parish, which is where their two children, Jackson, now 16, and Brigid, now 11, each received their first Holy Communion and celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. According to Donna, both Jackson and Brigid have really enjoyed their time in the Cathedral's religious education classes.

Donna has shared her preservation expertise with many community organizations, including the Cathedral parish. She served on the Cathedral's Archdiocese Museum committee and 150th Anniversary committee. She also wrote two articles featured in *Hallowed Ground: Louisville's Historic Cathedral of the Assumption*, a 2002 Louisville Archdiocesan publication edited by Clyde Crews. Donna currently serves on the Abraham Lincoln 200th Anniversary committee at Farmington Historic Home.



~ Jaelithe Lindblom

AUGUST

Upcoming Events

August 11

Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite, 2PM

August 12

Sold Out! - Feastday Fest on the Belle of Louisville after 5:30 Mass

August 15

Feast of the Assumption, Holy Day of Obligation, Masses at the Cathedral at 7:45AM, 11AM, 12 Noon. NO 5:30PM Mass

Installation of Most Rev. Joseph E. Kurtz as Archbishop of Louisville, 2:30PM, at Louisville Gardens, all are invited to attend

August 26

9:30 AM Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral. A reception in his honor will follow in the Undercroft.



Kelly Baker
Margaret Ball
Rachel Best
Janice Buchanan
Scott & Jennie Condra, Abe
Brian Dizon
George and Mary Lee Fischer
William Frederick
Susan Gardner, Parker
Jeff & Meri Hamby, Anna, Lucas
Michael Heitz
Lindsey & Jennifer Hemsell, Cole
Stacie Henehan

Jay & Iya Ignacio
Evelyn Likens
David May
Joe & Linda Medley
Susan Mills
Gary Newton
Liz Novak
Tristan Padua
Stephan & Helen Phelps
Billy Reed
Timothy Riordan
Jenna Rodgers
Elda Sicat

*We welcome
you into the
Cathedral of the
Assumption parish!
We are pleased you
have chosen to
worship
with us.*

Jackie Smith, Gage
Sean & Missy Sullivan, Patrick, Ryan, Nate, Evan
Joan Tully
Buzzy Tunstall, Monika Lopez, Brooke, Nico
Bill Wagner
Wayne & Patricia Walker
Bob & Christine Wiley, Nico
Mary Williams, Charles, Ella
Keoni & Trina Wright-Frederick

Congratulations and blessings to all our newlyweds!

Anne Means & Jason Frye - September 16, 2006
Mary Wasielak & Les Skaggs - October 21, 2006
Dianne Adams & Rob Wimsett - October 28, 2006
Roseanne Schaffer & Jeremy Byers - January 6, 2007
Cindy Goheen & Jimmy Capehart - February 17, 2007
Sharon Soriano & Phillip Perkins - May 19, 2007
Barbara Hale & Mark Sipek - June 1, 2007
Melody D'Ambrosio & Philippe Deprez - June 16, 2007
Deanna Durrett & Jared Wells - June 29, 2007
Emily Mountjoy & Chris McRae - June 30, 2007
Melissa Kraft & Jeff Watts - July 7, 2007
Amy Wathen & Jonathan Stevens - July 13, 2007

Lunch Program Receives Grant

The Cathedral Free Lunch Program has received a grant in the amount of \$9,800, appropriated by the Louisville Metro Council, to purchase food for the program. We thank Mayor Jerry Abramson and the members of the Council for their support!

Our camera captures Springtime at the Cathedral



“The air is crisp,
the grass green,
the flowers bright,
and summer lurks
in the distance...
The towering
gold cross
of the Cathedral of the
Assumption reflects
in the
Meidinger Tower
windows.”

*Bob Hill,
Courier-Journal,
May 19, 2007*



Spring cleaning - and then some....Mass was celebrated in the Undercroft for a week this spring when the Cathedral floor was refinished. A contingent of staff and volunteers removed all chairs and furniture before the project began and then replaced them in the church afterwards. But that was just one of many things on the “to do list” that parishioners and staff have been working on.



Left column: Ken Garrett painting; Lora Taylor in the Kitchen; Carolyn Denning in the Kitchen; Derek Shontee dusting in the Cathedral; David Puckett, computer guru, working on the server for Cathedral’s computer/communication system.

Center column: Sam Patton changing light bulbs in Cathedral chandeliers; Beth Dent, George Kaissieh, Judy Silva, Don Stallard, Connie Stallard, Bob Silva taking a breather after preparing for an event; Sam Patton changing filters in Mechanical Room.



Right column: Derek Shontee cleaning interior church windows; Jaime Vaideles in Sandefur Dining Room.

~ Mary Blandford

Come One, Come All, to Germany and Austria

The Cathedral of the Assumption Choir is no stranger to traveling in Europe. In the past they have been to Italy, France, England, and Ireland and in the summer of 2008, they will be traveling to Germany and Austria on a 12-day choir pilgrimage. This trip is open to anyone who wants to go and they don't have to be part of the choir.

The trip will include six nights in Germany. These will be packed with plenty of things to see and do including a cruise on the Rhine, a highlight tour of Munich, daytrips of site seeing to Rothenburg, a Medieval town, the Baroque city of Salzburg where Mozart was born, as well as, a full day in Munich to explore the city and do whatever you want!

Then the journey to Austria will begin with a day trip to Melk Abbey, an impressive example of Baroque architecture along the Danube. Next they will travel to Vienna for a three-night stay. Vienna is overflowing with site seeing opportunities including the Hofburg Palace, the Vienna Opera, Burgtheater, Belvedere Palace, and the Schonbrunn Palace. If this isn't enough, you will have an entire day to explore the many exciting possibilities Vienna has to offer at your leisure.

This trip includes roundtrip airfare, hotel accommodations, breakfast daily, seven dinners, and a 90-minute cruise on the Rhine, not to mention all of the sites listed above! The rest of the adventure is up to you, so don't miss the opportunity to join in on this memorable experience! For more information about going on the trip, contact Deve Vetter, at (502) 366-0249 or email her at deve@insightbb.com.

A trip with the choir, no matter where you go in Europe, is a rewarding and memorable experience.

Here's some testimony, "It was incredible to see the place where many of my ancestors came from. All these reactions were very personal." Says choir member Hollace Cox, speaking of the trip in '04 to England and Ireland. Another choir member, Don Wooldridge said, "Every time I have gone on a European trip with the choir, I have found that the enjoyment we share, the music we share, and the sights and sounds we share, surpass my expectations. It's always exciting!" One pilgrim (who wishes to remain anonymous) said, "There's just something about Europe that is indescribable if you haven't been there; and once you have, it's addicting!"



With the success of the Mayfest under their belts, the choir plans to have another event next year closer to the trip. This will most likely be a dinner and silent auction. The Mayfest introduced those who took part, to great German food, music, and of course entertainment! So, what are you waiting for? Come join the choir on their trip to Germany and Austria, and see what everyone's talking about! Thanks to all those who have supported the choir on past trips and those who have shown their support for the Germany/Austria trip!



-Amy Stemmler

Mayfest photos by Carol Schroerlucke

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Tri-Covenant
Signing
Day

May 20, 2007

Cathedral of the
Assumption

Christ Church
Episcopal Cathedral

Fourth Avenue
United Methodist



*Photos by Carolyn Denning
and Martha Villiger*

The Cathedral Star

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