



Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour  
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**October 2021**

## **THE CATHEDRAL OF OUR MERCIFUL SAVIOUR THE CHIMES**

### **Dean's Desk**

I start my 3<sup>rd</sup> month as Dean of the Cathedral. I love being back in Faribault, serving as Dean and renewing old friendships with all of you!

My main concern is to bring back the Cathedral to be a vital part of the Faribault community and the Diocese of Minnesota. Things will not be the same as before Covid 19 and the closing of the Cathedral for almost a year.

Together we are creating a new Cathedral!

This is a familiar task for me, because being an artist I do this every time when I create a new painting.

One way to accomplish this task will be reading the book, [The Post Quarantine Church](#) by Thom S. Rainer. Anyone is welcome to read this book. They are available in the Cathedral Cloister. We will study the book during Adult Forum on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. The Chapter Members will read this book and conduct a retreat on this book, Saturday, October 23, 9:00 am until Noon. We are all in this together through prayer. Through prayer our Lord will lead us out of the Covid wilderness to being a new congregation.

Father Jim

# Deacon Bonnie Holt

This week I want to share some thoughts about an article that appeared recently on the editorial page of the Faribault Daily News. The piece was entitled; "We're all in this together. What a 1500 year old parable has to teach us today." Written by Rabbi Avi S. Olitzky, this is Shimon bar Yochai's parable from the 2nd century CE:

"A group of people were sitting in a boat. One person pulled out a hand-made drill and proceeded to drill a hole beneath his seat. The fellow passengers screamed at this incredulous sight and asked, "What do you think you are doing?" The hole driller dismissed the question and responded, "What do you care? Am I not drilling under my own seat?" They replied: Because you are sinking the boat with us in it!"

Sounds kind of obvious, doesn't it, that one could be so unaware that drilling a hole under one seat would sink the whole boat? One can even dismiss this parable as a simple lesson from the past that doesn't have much to do with our time...except, except - from a parable told 1500 years ago to a twitter feed posted on May 7, 2020 by writer/editor Bethany Mandel: "you can call me a Grandma killer, I'm not sacrificing my home, food on the table, all of my docs, dentists, every form of pleasure (museums, zoos, restaurants), all my kids teachers in order to make people comfortable. If you want to stay locked down, do it. I'm not." This is a sad and disappointing 21st century attitude that justifies "drilling holes in our common boat."

It is astounding that 1500 years later, some of us are still mistakenly choosing "rugged individualism" in opposition to protecting the common good. Believing one need not sacrifice comfort in the face of a world wide health crisis has deadly consequences for all the rest of us in the "boat." The I can do what I want because it doesn't impact you is a mindset fundamentally flawed in two ways:

1. What we do always impacts someone else even when others do not see it.
2. We have an intrinsic obligation as human beings to be responsible for each other.

Because our country has a value of individualism we sometimes convey the idea that we can do whatever we want because of freedom. Individualism, though, must also be balanced with our responsibility to and for the protection of the common good. Individualism as a concept isn't bad; it can be good if it supports the individual but not if it is hurting other people. Unfortunately, in our country, our individualistic frame work is deeply unsuited to coping with an infectious pandemic.

When this individualism gets in the way of helping people or saving lives, then it is simply callous selfishness and has no right to be accepted, tolerated or celebrated. When we fail to follow the recommended safe practices of wearing masks or social distancing to protect ourselves and others by saying "these practices are hurting our freedom" is liken to saying "traffic lights hurt freedom..." When "rugged individualism" keeps us from helping each other, caring for each others' well being and preventing death, it becomes toxic selfishness,. And that is not ok...not as a fellow human being...and certainly not as a Christian.



## Deacon Bonnie's Letter Continued

Our connectedness is part of the very meaning of life. As Rabbi Olitzky writes "love your neighbors as yourself...this is a categorical command to love other as if they are you. We are all ONE - together. We have all been created in the image of God. "If we remember to love others and care for them as if they were us, this is how we connect and keep them, and ourselves, from drilling more holes in the boat. We are ALL ONE TOGETHER.

The words of John Donne beautifully remind us: "no man is an island entirely of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, part of the main...any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore, never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

~John Donne

Faithfully,  
Deacon Bonnie

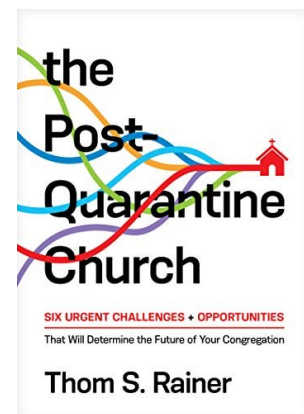
Let us pray:

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## Adult Forum

We will kick off Adult Forum on September 26 at 9:00 am. We will be reading the book, *The Post Quarantine Church: Six Urgent Challenges and Opportunities That Will Determine the Future of Your Congregation* by Thom S. Rainer. Books are available from the Father Jim for \$10.



# Bishop's Letter

Beloved in Christ,

One question it's often suggested congregations ask themselves when assessing their mission, vision, and unique identity is, "If this congregation ceased to exist, what would the community miss about it?" That's a good question to ponder for sure, but it seems to me a more important and foundational question is: "when the community sees our congregation, do they see Jesus?"



Our core work as faith communities is to so deeply root ourselves in the person of Jesus that our life together re-presents Jesus and his gospel of love to the world around us. When people see what happens in our buildings, does it look like the Jesus who welcomes the outcast and the forgotten? When people see how we show up at community meetings, or school gatherings, or non-profit committees, or even soccer practice on a Wednesday night, do they see the Jesus who signals God's intent to reconcile and heal all that has been broken down and wounded? When people join us in person or online for worship, are they invited to tether their lives to the living God, whose love alone has the power to pierce the darkness that so often surrounds us? When ethnic, racial, or religious groups are targeted by small or large acts of violence and hate, do we join Jesus in declaring "no more of this"? When despair and death feel like they will crush us and our neighborhoods, do we join Jesus in shouting the defiant alleluia of resurrection? When all appears lost, do we show up as a people who simply won't count God out, and always hold onto the hope of new life?

Grace and Peace,

**The Right Reverend Craig Loya**  
X Bishop  
Episcopal Church in Minnesota



Check out Episcopal Church in Minnesota news: <https://episcopalmn.org/>



# Merner Mini Jazz Festival



The 2nd Annual Merner Jazz Festival was held the last weekend in September. We hosted 3 great bands, Jivin' Ivan and the Kings of Swing, Southside Aces and The Café Accordion Orchestra. We are very fortunate to have the Merner Endowments so we that we can continue to host these musical events. A special thanks to Joel Raen for organizing our concert series. Mark your calendars and watch for details about our winter concert series. The dates will be February 13 & 27 and March 13 & 27. The concerts will all take place at 1:00 pm. Contact the church office if you would like to or know someone who would like to be added to the Merner Mailing list.





I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU FED ME

COMMUNITY CAFE  
CHARITY FUNDRAISER  
A CANDLELIGHT  
CELEBRATION

NOVEMBER 13, 2021  
CATHEDRAL OF OUR MERCIFUL SAVIOUR  
515 2ND AVE NW FARIBAULT

6:00-Hors d' oeuvre and Cash Bar

7:30-Loony Lutheran Christmas Comedy

8:30-Dessert and Raffle

Advanced Tickets \$30 Contact Missy @ 507-334-7732; Karen @ 507-332-8372;  
Dave @ 507-210-4066; Cindy @ 507-323-4272

**It is through generous community donations that  
our mission is accomplished**

**HOLD THE LUTEFISK:** It's Beginning to Smell a Lot Like Christmas  
This trio of warm, witty women help the audience enjoy the spirit of  
the season, the Lutheran way. (But you don't have to be Lutheran to  
love 'em.)

*"Building community one meal at a time"*

## October Birthdays



- 12 Vern Holt
- 14 Albert Ennis
- 17 Rose Erickson
- 17 Mary Truax
- 22 Evan Babcock

## October Anniversaries



- 11 Mary Lynn & John Andrews
- 12 Joe & Maddie Babcock
- 28 Chris & Butch Rodewald



# Father Henry's 70th Birthday Party

We celebrated Father Henry's 70th Birthday on September 12. It was a huge success and a lot of fun celebrating our dear friend.





# The Star Quilt of the West Wall of the Cathedral Nave

Tom Winkler was the Dean of the Cathedral from 1979 to 1991. In the last several months when Tom served as the Dean; the congregation gave the Star Quilt which hangs on the west wall of the Cathedral Nave. The beautiful Dakota quilt was won in a drawing at the Diocesan Convention in 1991. The Cathedral Congregation thought it should go to Tom as a gift for his service as Dean. Tom told me that because of its size and design showing the 4 directions of creation that it should hang at the Cathedral.



## *Rice County Piecemakers Fall Splendor Quilt Show*





## Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour September Chapter Minutes 9/9/2021

### Opening Prayer

Father Jim led the opening prayer

### Roll Call

June Muchow, Jan Batchelder, John Andrews, Joel Raaen, Julie Baehr, Bonnie Holt, Father Jim, Jeannie Mortenson, Lesley Dudley. Not Present: Donna Bremer

### Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Joel to approve August 2021 minutes, seconded by Lesley, all in favor, none opposed.

### Dean's Report

Bishop Loya sent out Gospel-based 'Dwelling in Scripture' that Jim would like to have a Chapter retreat based on, to complete what the Bishop sent out and also talk about the book, the "Post Quarantine Church". We need to understand how times have changed since shut-down.

Suggesting October 23<sup>rd</sup> 9am-noon for this Chapter retreat.

Bonnie did a reading from the Gospel, from the "Dwelling in Scripture".

Bishop Loya will be seated at St. Marks on Sept 19.

Bishop Loya will be seated at the Cathedral along with Father Jim on the same date, but still waiting on what that date will be.

The Chimes newsletter was sent out this week.

On October 31<sup>st</sup> there will be a going away party for Pastor Tom at the Triumphant Life Church – they've requested they use the Cloister that day. We should do a coffee hour elsewhere.

Missy is requesting more hours, to increase to 29.

This coming Sunday is Henry's celebration. The CDC is recommending ALL wear masks at this time, vaccinated or not. There is discussion on whether we need to mandate masks for the party after the service or not. Will encourage people to gather outdoors if possible.

### Senior Warden

Welcomed Father Jim and Carol.

Adult forum starting September 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Junior Warden

### Buildings and Grounds

Had some problems with our wireless smoke detectors and wireless expander. Job estimate is \$2500 to replace 13 wireless smoke detectors (in Guild House and Cathedral). We have \$5000 left in budget under Repairs and Improvements. We typically try to use this up before end of year. June suggested we take the money out of Repairs and Improvements.

- Joel made a motion to spend the \$2500 on the smoke detectors, Jeannie seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

Grant – waiting on the Historical Society for decision on stone work. Architects are coming up with a new scope of work. Hopefully this new scope of work is approved soon by the Historical Society. We have to wait until the approval. Possibly push ahead on Guild House Chimney Repair Grant. Construction documents are complete on that grant. June will be talking to the Architect.

Community Café is asking to use the Cathedral's Christmas decorations. We will allow them to do so.

Next weekend is the Quilt Show.

The sound system – we need two bids to replace the sound system. Tabled till next month.

We need an outside sign – Father Jim will get bids on a new electric sign. Father Jim will also solicit donations to replace the sign.

The dedicated bench for Henry has been purchased. Jan Batchelder has the plaque which will be placed on the bench.

### Treasurer's Report

Refer to reports provided by Treasurer for month of August 2021.

Gifts and Awards expenses – most went to cost of Henry's bench.

Audio/Visual – that's mainly the salary for Travis.

Clergy/Housing – This will be separated out properly.

Month - Excess of about \$4,000 for the month.

YTD – Ahead by about \$8,000.

Balance Sheet – Capital Campaign - letters that are sent out are still surprisingly effective.

Joel made motion to increase Missy's hours to 23, Lesley seconded, all in favor, none opposed. The idea will be to see how this increase goes with the thought of possibly further increasing to 29 hours (as Missy requested).

Joel made motion to accept Treasurer's report, June seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

## NEW BUSINESS

Father Jim would like to start using the old Cathedral songbook. Will cost \$225/year to purchase remaining copyright to be able to use the book.

- June made motion that the Cathedral pays \$225/year for second copyright for Cathedral songbook, Jeannie seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

## OLD BUSINESS

Father Jim searched Bylaws and Canons to find reason why the Deacon wasn't allowed to have a vote, could find nothing.

- Joel made motion to allow Deacon Bonnie to have a vote, Jan seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

## Worship

Music and worship meeting will be on September 19<sup>th</sup>

Pastoral Care (Deacon Bonnie)

Visited with the Truax's and Jean Roosmalen – every Tuesday.

Father Jim visited 3 nursing homes (St. Lucas/Emerald, Pleasant Manor, New Perspectives).

## Capital Campaign

We have approximately \$122,000; another letter going out in November.

## Outreach (No Chair)

Suggestion to put in newsletter that we are looking for a Chair.

## Community Café

Board meeting will be on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Other Outreach events in September

Merner Concerts

Joel will be on radio September 17<sup>th</sup> on KDHL at 9:30am to talk about the Merner concerts. Will be putting information in the Newspaper.

## Lord's Prayer

Motion to Adjourn

Jeannie made motion to adjourn, Bonnie seconded, all in favor, none opposed.



# Upcoming Events

October 2, Crop Walk  
October 2, Anne Mullinax- Jones Memorial Service  
October 3, Pet Blessing  
(Bring your pets to our 10:00 am Service)  
October 5, Staff Meeting, 10:00 am  
October 9, Southwest Region Meeting via zoom, 9:00 am  
October 14, Nursing Home Visits  
October 14, Buildings & Grounds, 4:30 pm  
October 14, Chapter Meeting, 6:00 Pm  
October 16, Guild Meeting, 9:30 pm  
October 23, Chapter Retreat, 9:00 am  
November 7, Cannon Valley Regional Orchestra  
November 13, Community Café Gala



Watch for the Cathedral on KSTP TV on October 4. Joe Mazan a reporter for KSTP came and interviewed Father Henry about Bishop Whipple and The Cathedral. It is very exciting to share our beautiful building and our deep history with greater Minnesota.



## Connect with the Cathedral:

Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior  
101 Northwest 6th Street, PO Box 816  
Faribault, MN 55021  
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Email: [faribaultcathedral@gmail.com](mailto:faribaultcathedral@gmail.com)

Website: [www.thecathedralfaribault.com](http://www.thecathedralfaribault.com)

Check us out on Facebook at Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am – Noon.

# The Cathedral and Climate Change

A problem that seems natural for the followers of Christ to be involved in solving is man made climate change. When trying to understand the meaning of Christ in our world the idea of destroying our natural environment seems to be contrary to Christ's life on earth.

When Jesus began his adult ministry it began with his baptism in the Jordan River – not in a temple. He next went into the wilderness for forty days and nights. Was this to toughen him up for his future trials? I personally think it was a purification of a sort to reconnect with God through an intense experience with the natural world. The cleansing and rejuvenation of ones spirit through an extended period of time with the natural world has long been established.

My eldest son has spent the past couple of years working for a program where young people who have become addicted to various items are taken out into the wilderness for sixty days and nights to help end their addictions. The success rate of this program is around 80%.

- Most of Jesus' teaching was done in a natural environment. The most known events were the Sermon on the Mount and the feeding of the 5,000.

- During the last days of his life Jesus chose to go to a garden to pray.

The future of our species on this earth will depend on our willingness to modify some of the behaviors, which we have become accustomed to. It seems to me, however, that in order to make an effort to save the environment we need to make an effort to reconnect with our natural world.

Living in a town like Faribault makes access to the natural world relatively easy. The most obvious places because of nearness and easy access are the Riverbend Nature Center and the trails around Faribault. Also nearby with great hiking trails are Falls Creek and Cannon River county parks. A little farther away are Sakatah and Nerstrand Woods State Parks. The nearby cities of Northfield and Owatonna also have nature centers with trails.

We are now in one of the most beautiful times of the year to be outside in the woods. The multiple colors of the leaves, the smell and crunch of the already fallen leaves and the feel of the crispness of the air all make for a multiple sensory experience. One of my family's favorite times to go for a walk was Sunday afternoons after church and Sunday dinner.

It seems to me that if one can personally reconnect with God's creation one will be more likely to do the things that we will need to do to save the natural environment for our grandchildren.



# Sunday School

Let's get Sunday School Started!



My name is Carol Zotalis. I am Fr Jim Zotalis' wife. I attended the Cathedral from 1998 – 2013. During that time, I held many leadership positions and taught Sunday School for a short time. I was also involved in youth activities.

From 2017 until March of 2020, I taught Sunday School at St Peter's Episcopal in Kasson, MN. Fr Jim was the priest-in-charge. At one time we had two classes (one for preschool to kindergarten and one for school age children). After all the children were school age except one, we gathered in one class.

I like to structure the class for 30 minutes. We pray, read a Bible story that aligns with the readings for that Sunday, do a project or learn a song, and end in prayer.

I would like to offer Sunday School for children 3yrs old (or soon to be 3) to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Often, I use the older children to help with the younger ones. Fr Jim is willing to teach Confirmation classes for those that are 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Sunday school will be between 9:15 am and 9:45 am.

Please contact me if you are interested in having your children involved in Sunday School and also if you would be willing to help me with the children.



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