In 2008 I participated in Washington National Cathedral’s pilgrimage to Iona, that remote and rugged holy island off the western coast of Scotland. During my time there, I explored virtually every square foot of the island.

One afternoon, I explored a “dun” or high rocky hill that marks the island’s northwest corner. I scrambled to the top of the small mountain and edged as close to the precipice as I dared. From there I could see virtually the whole island. To the east, I could see the lights of the abbey blinking on, as dusk settled over the land.

I realized night was coming too quickly for me to return the way I’d come, so I decided to head straight across the northern end of the island, where there was no path and the landscape appeared to be tall grass. Before coming down the small mountain, I made a mental picture of the landscape.

Within a few steps of trudging across the island on my new route, I discovered that the tall grass masked boggy ground. The wet mud sucked at my boots and made walking difficult. To add a comic note, at that moment Jill called me on the international cell phone I carried, and just as I reported to her, “Honey, I’m stuck in a bog and I don’t know my way out,” the call was dropped! From the valley I couldn’t see my way to the abbey, and as darkness fell I feared getting lost.

I said a quick prayer, and (maybe for the first time in my life) I was able to recall with crystal clarity the mental picture I’d constructed of the landscape.

Jen Moss and six-year-old Mia meet every Tuesday for an hour through a program called Kids Hope USA, which matches students with mentors. They read, play games and talk. Just an hour a week seems like a small amount of time, but for Mia, it has made a big difference.

Kids Hope is a national mentoring program that partners churches with local public schools. Eighteen Cathedral volunteers currently mentor students at the Rusk School, a magnet elementary school just east of downtown.

“The Rusk School serves the poorest of the poor,” said the Cathedral’s program director Susan Jackson. “Kids Hope matches at-risk kids with mentors. These relationships often have a profound effect on the kids’ in-class behavior and have been statistically proven to change the trajectory of the kids’ test scores.”

“Mia is quite bright,” said Moss, a Cathedral member. Jen Moss and her Kids Hope mentee, Mia.

Mentors provide one-on-one support for at-risk children

Ways to get involved, give back this Lent

Looking for a way to help out this Lenten season? Here are just a few of the many ways you can get involved at the Cathedral this spring.

May Fete

Preparations are now in full swing for our annual May Fete celebration on Sunday, May 5. Committees are forming and the entire parish is invited to get involved. The May Fete Committee is looking for volunteers to head up activities, provide underwriter support and sponsor our games and entertainment.

Lord of the Streets

About 300 people attend Sunday Eucharist every week at the Lord of the Streets Episcopal
Our Cathedral Family

We celebrate with
- Sally Anne Schmidt and Marc Tabolsky, who were married January 12 in the Golding Chapel.
- Cathedral members Rodger and Jacqueline Brown upon the birth of Gwendolyn Louise Brown on January 15.
- Stephanie Engelking and Seth Michaelson, who were married January 26 in the Cathedral.
- Meredith Rugg and Davis Zapffe, who were married February 2 in the Cathedral.
- New members Susan O’Connor; Hansita Hansen; Nick Shumway; Les and Molly Young; and Jim and Jo Wiginton.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to
- the family of Owen Cochran Finch Sr., who died January 17. He was the father of Owen Cochran Finch Jr.
- the family of Cathedral Member Chester Jones, who died January 18. Chester was the spouse of member Charlotte Jones.
- the family of Lillis Anne Jane Gibson Weber, who died January 21. Lillis was the mother of Cathedral member Keith Weber.
- the family of Cathedral member Lois Reynolds Murray, who died January 24 in Houston. Lois was the mother of Cathedral member George Murray.
- the family of Cathedral member Charles “Charlie” B. Sanders Jr., who died February 4 in Houston.

The Flowers on the Cathedral Altar
- on March 3 are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Edmund McAshan Dupree, Earline Trone Larson, William A. Larson, Mary Trone White, William B. White, William Trone White, Virginia Woodward Houghton and Evelyn Briscoe Irby by Dorothy Knox Howe Houghton.
- on March 10 are given to the glory of God in honor of Augustus George Avery on his birthday by Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Avery.
- on March 17 are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Mary Savage Donalson by her family.

The Flowers in the Floor Vases
- on February 24 were given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for our new dean, Barkley Thompson, and in deep gratitude for the leadership of our Search Committee Chair, Kay Pieringer.
- on March 3 are given to the glory of God in loving memory of his parents, Paul Lester and Dorothy Guthrie Berry Rudisill, and his sister, Dorothy Kay Rudisill, by Clifford Rudisill.

The Flowers in the Floor Vases and on the Organ Console
- on February 17 were given to the glory of God by the Search Committee in honor of the Cathedral clergy and staff with gratitude for their faithful and dedicated care and management of this holy place during the search for a new dean.

A final word from your Search Committee

We would like to express our deep gratitude to the Cathedral clergy and staff for their exceptional care and management of this holy place during our search for a new dean. Your faithfulness and dedication to our Cathedral family were nothing less than extraordinary!

In addition, we offer our profuse thanks to each parishioner for your prayers, patience, support and confidence in our efforts to identify and call a compelling preacher and teacher who would affirm God’s love for all persons and support the spiritual growth of Christ Church Cathedral.

And we thank God for the guidance and grace to make it possible!

— The Search Committee

Cathedral member Gill Mccord prepares a meal for clients at The Beacon Day Center.

VOLUNTEER, from cover

Church, which ministers to the homeless and to those in crisis or in transition. A hot breakfast follows the service. Four times a year, the Cathedral organizes a group of volunteers for a two-hour shift to cook breakfast. The next service day is Sunday, March 17.

The Rusk School

Volunteer to read to students, be a teacher’s aide or shelve books in the school library at The Rusk School, the Cathedral’s partner school through Kids Hope USA.

The Beacon

All Cathedral members, family and friends ages 13 and up are invited to spend a day together at The Beacon Day Center on Saturday, March 9, folding laundry and serving meals to clients.

For more information about these and other service opportunities at the Cathedral, and to submit your name as a volunteer, visit our website at www.christchurchcathedral.org/volunteer or call 713-222-2593.
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Visit [www.christchurchcathedral.org](http://www.christchurchcathedral.org) or call 713-222-2593 to learn more about these and other events at the Cathedral.

- ● Registration recommended
- ▲ Registration required
- ❌ Registration closed

#### HOLY WEEK

**MARCH 24**  
The Way of the Cross for Children  
10 a.m., McGehee Conference Room. In language and pictures appropriate for children.

**Palm Sunday Evensong**  
5 p.m., Cathedral. Sung by the Cathedral Choir.

**MARCH 30**  
Church offices will close at noon.

**March 30**  
Easter Vigil  
8 p.m., Cathedral. At sundown, the first Eucharist of Easter. With incense.

#### THIS MONTH

**MARCH 1**  
Bridge Night  
6–9 p.m., McGehee Conference Room. Newcomers and all levels welcome.

**MARCH 2**  
What Sweeter Music  
7:30 p.m., St. John the Divine. Cathedral outing to hear the Houston Chamber Choir perform English a cappella music. ($)

**MARCH 3**  
Rhythms of Grace  
1 p.m., Jones Basement. Worship experience for special needs children and their families.

**MARCH 3 – APRIL 21**  
Cottage Meetings  
6–8 p.m. in parishioner homes. A series of gatherings for fellowship and interaction with our new dean.

**MARCH 5**  
Women’s Seder  
6:30 p.m., Reynolds Hall. Story of the Exodus from Egypt. Women of all faiths will be seated at tables of 10, each led by a Jewish woman. ($)

**MARCH 8 – 11**  
Youth Spring Break Trip  
Port Aransas, Texas. Head down south with the Cathedral youth for a part mission, part fun trip. ($)

**MARCH 9**  
Cathedral Day at The Beacon  
11 a.m., The Beacon. Fold laundry and serve meals along with other Cathedral members. Ages 13 and up.

**MARCH 10**  
Daylight Savings Begins  
Don’t be late! Remember to set your clocks as we spring forward one hour.

**MARCH 17**  
Lord of the Streets Service Day  
6:15 a.m., Trinity Episcopal Church. Help cook eggs, meat and grits during a two-hour breakfast shift.

**Pittman McGehee Book Signing**  
9:30 a.m., Bookstore. Pittman McGehee will sign his recently published book of poetry, Growing Down.

**MARCH 26**  
20s & 30s Hockey Outing  
6 p.m., Toyota Center. Houston Aeros vs. Texas Stars. ($)

**MARCH 30**  
Easter in Memory of Her  
4 p.m., Cathedral. Remembering women who followed Jesus. Featuring members of the Houston Chamber Choir.

#### WEEKLY

**SUNDAYS**

- **Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)**  
  4–6 p.m., BYC. Gathering of youth for dinner, games, teaching, movies and worship.

**TUESDAYS**

- **Women’s Bible Study**  
  9:30–11 a.m., Jeffers Conference Room.

**WEDNESDAYS**

- **Lenten Preaching**  
  12:05 p.m., Cathedral Chancel. Eucharist with Lenten preaching and hymns. Begins Feb. 20.

- **Women’s Seder**  
  6:30 p.m., Cathedral. Eucharist, Rite I, with incense. Bishop Doyle presiding.

- **Cathedral Day at The Beacon**  
  11 a.m., The Beacon. Fold laundry and serve meals along with other Cathedral members. Ages 13 and up.

**WEDNESDAYS**

- **Cathedral 20s & 30s**  
  6:30–8 p.m., Mellinger Room. Weekly discussion group and social gathering of young adults.

### UPCOMING

**APRIL 1**  
Easter Monday  
Church offices closed.

**APRIL 5**  
Celebration of a New Ministry  
7:30 p.m., Cathedral. The installation of the Very Reverend Barkley S. Thompson as dean and rector of Christ Church Cathedral. Reception to follow.

**APRIL 17**  
Tartuffe  
6:30 p.m., Latham Auditorium. Rescheduled. Staged reading of Molière’s comedy. Proceeds to benefit COMPASS. ($)

**JULY 21–26**  
Middle-School Mission Trip  
Bastrop. Helping those affected by last year’s wildfires. Sign up by March 4. ($)

**AUGUST 4–10**  
High-School Mission Trip  
New York. Hurricane Sandy relief and serving the underserved. Sign up by March 4. ($)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**VENUES**

- **Cathedral of St. John the Divine**
- **Christ Church Cathedral of Houston**
- **St. John the Divine, Port Aransas, Texas**

**EVENTS**

- **HOLY WEEK**
- **Easter Vigil**
- **Palm Sunday Evensong**
- **Way of the Cross**
- **St. John the Divine**

**REGISTRATION**

- **Registration recommended**
- **Registration required**
- **Registration closed**

**CONTACT**

- [www.christchurchcathedral.org](http://www.christchurchcathedral.org)
- 713-222-2593

**LOCATION**

- **City of God, City of Need**
  6–8 p.m., McGehee Conference Room. Three-week Lenten series on responsibilities of the urban faith community. Includes dinner ($10). Ends March 6.
Did you know you can read The Bulletin on our website? If you’d like to go “online-only,” contact Anne Shepard at ashepard@christchurchcathedral.org or call her at 713-590-3301.

In the Cathedral Bookstore:
Growing Down
The Rev. J. Pittman McGehee’s new book of poems is now available. McGehee, who will sign books on March 17, is a former dean of the Cathedral and a Jungian analyst.

MENTORS, from cover

Member for around 18 months. “She is in kindergarten, and she is probably reading at a third-grade level. But she is not well-behaved in the classroom … She has hit her teacher and she throws temper tantrums.”

But since beginning the mentoring program, Mia has done better. With the extra attention and moments of guidance, her teachers and parents have reported better behavior.

“It’s not that I have a curriculum on behavior improvement,” Moss said. “It’s just spending one-on-one time with her.”

And Mia looks forward to that hour every week.

“She asks me when I leave if I will be here next Tuesday. She is very concerned that I am always going to come,” Moss said.

On a recent visit, Mia was confronted with the idea of Moss not coming on Tuesdays. “I would just be sad,” she said. “We made a deal that even when I’m in first and second and third grade, she can still come and see me on Tuesdays.”

The charming six-year-old then gave Moss a special fist bump to seal the deal before reading the next chapter in their book together. On first glance, you wouldn’t guess that Mia had any troubles at school or elsewhere. A polite, talkative and intelligent girl, Mia already has plans to attend college and become a teacher.

“At first I wanted to be a veterinarian,” she said. “But then they said I had to take care of snakes, and I just didn’t want to do it. I hate snakes! Now I want to be a teacher because I can tell the kids what to do and give them homework. I want to try to teach kindergarten or first grade.”

Moss says that Mia’s home life is still a bit of a mystery, and she is not sure which stories are real or embellished. But Moss understands the constraints of poverty. Although this is her first time mentoring a child, Moss spent two years as a Teach for America corps member working with lower-income, second-grade students.

She then went to law school, practiced law, got married and had children. Now that her youngest has begun pre-kindergarten, she is looking at what to do next.

“For me it is a way to start giving back again,” Moss said. “I like the idea of starting with Mia as a youngster so I can see the progression.”

If Mia has her way, Moss will see the progress for years to come.

VIEW, from cover

In my mind’s eye, I could see the narrow gap at the other edge of the bog, which would lead to the solid ground near the coast and then to the abbey. Eventually, I made it home without incident. If I hadn’t remembered the view from the mountain, I’d never have made it through the valley.

On the last Sunday after Epiphany, we read the Gospel account of the Transfiguration, when the disciples on the mountain see Jesus transformed into glory. After their vision, Jesus leads them down the mountain and begins the long trek to the cross on Calvary. It is the journey of Lent. It is difficult and arduous, and on the way it is easy to get lost. What will direct the followers of Jesus through those difficult days, and what will guide us through this Lent, is the view from the mountain, of the One who is the Son of God, the fulfillment of every promise God has ever made. The vision of the glorified Christ will illumine our hearts, minds and souls, and with it in the center of our vision, we will walk with confidence through this and any valley.

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