
ADULT
EDUCATIONAL
OFFERINGS
AND
PROGRAM
GUIDE

SPRING 2023



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL



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Dear Cathedral friends,

I have a confession to make: I don’t like to travel. I know I’m in the extreme minority here at the Cathedral, with all of our pilgrimages and the wonderful stories you all have of traveling around the world. It’s not that I don’t like new food, language and culture, or making new friends – I actually love that part. But still, almost always I’d rather stay home, or find a cabin within close driving distance.

Why don’t I like to travel? Partially it’s a bad case of motion sickness mixed with a propensity for getting sick and not being able to adjust to a new time zone. But what I can’t ever adjust to is the constant going of travel. My soul just doesn’t take all that going very well, and I feel unmoored, lost. My eyes are full, my brain is buzzing, but my heart is longing for something else.

Believe it or not, Becky Zartman craves stillness. I just really need to really be wherever I happen to be, so that I’m grounded, in touch with myself and God. If I can spend time in stillness with God, everything will be alright even when it isn’t alright.

This spring is an invitation into the stillness that sustains us. We will be exploring contemplative spirituality, bringing in some real heavy-hitters of the contemplative world like John Philip Newell, Carmen Acevedo Butcher, and Martin Laird. We’ll *Return to Love* for our Robert C. Stuart Lenten Series, and explore spirituality with guest speakers and programming.

Contemplative prayer, stillness and silence, can seem overwhelming when you start, especially if you haven’t done prayer like this before. But I hope that you might be able to see this new adventure as travel. Not travel outward, but inward. The funny part is, once you start walking in your own soul, you find that the inside is much bigger than the outside. Actually, infinitely bigger than the outside. There are no boundaries. God is already inside; God longs for you to journey to God within yourself and discover this boundlessness for yourself.

So come along for the ride this spring. We’d love to be your traveling companions.

Becky+

ADULT EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

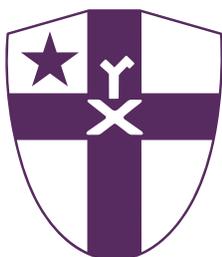
FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION PLEASE
VISIT WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCATHEDRAL.ORG/EVENTS

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Dean's Hour

10 A.M. REYNOLDS HALL

THIS IS A TIME FOR
ADULT CHRISTIAN
FORMATION.
CATHEDRAL
CLERGY,
OTHER PARISH
LEADERS, AND
GUEST SPEAKERS
ADDRESS MATTERS
OF FAITH,
CHURCH LIFE,
AND COMMUNITY.



CHRIST
CHURCH
CATHEDRAL

- **Beyond “Bellhops of History” – Unpacking and Reanimating the Treasures of Christian Tradition**

Jan. 29; Feb. 5, 12, 19

Join Interim Dean Gary Jones for a four-part series about how signs and sacraments are sources of power and portals to a deeper life that is only dimly intuited or altogether ignored in our over-busy, hyper-rational, and materialistic society.

- **Return to Love: The Robert C. Stuart Lenten Series in honor of the Very Rev. Barkley S. Thompson**

Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26

(see pages 6–7 for a description of the 2023 Lenten Series)

- **The 5 Senses of Holy Week: An Intergenerational Experience** *April 2*

Join us Palm Sunday as we experience with our five senses the story of Jesus’ walk from triumphal entry in Jerusalem, through the Passion, all the way to his glorious Resurrection. Come taste, touch, smell, hear and see — that the Lord is good!

- **Sunday Funday: May Fete Bow-Making Workshop** *April 16*

May Fete is around the corner! Become a part of this century-old Cathedral tradition by learning how to make the (hundreds of) bows that adorn our campus that day. No experience required!

- **Environmental Justice in Houston** *April 23*

In honor of Earth Day, Edward D. Pettitt II, MPH, Research Assistant with Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice will talk with us about Houston’s environmental justice issues.

- **A Conversation with Bishop Paul-Gordon Chandler**

April 30

The Rt. Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler, Bishop of Wyoming will be interviewed by Interim Dean Gary Jones about the opportunities and challenges of the Episcopal Church of the future.

- **May Fete** *May 7*

Celebrate one of the oldest, and most beloved, Cathedral traditions. Gather for a Sunday filled with special worship, favorite foods, games, and the crowing of the May Fete King and Queen.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 21, 6 p.m., Reynolds Hall

Commencement Reception with Poets Allison Seay and Jason Myers

Saturday, February 25,
4-6 p.m., Reynolds Hall

Martin Laird Lenten Retreat

Saturday March 4, 9 a.m., Reynolds Hall

Carmen Acevedo Butcher Saturday Event

March 25, 6:30-8 p.m., Reynolds Hall

Latino Ministry Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 11, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Latino Ministry Noche Familiar

March 17, April 14, May 12, 6-9 p.m., Reynolds Hall

In Search of a Prophet with the Rt. Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler

Saturday, April 29th, 6:30-8 p.m., Sanders Hall

May Fete

May 7

Confirmation Sunday

May 14

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

SUNDAY EVENINGS

JAN. 15 - FEB. 19

HOW-TO BIBLE

6:15-7:30 P.M., SANDERS HALL

Have you ever started to read the Bible but quit somewhere in Numbers? Ever wonder what is going on in the Sunday readings? This six-week course is an introduction to Scripture. Absolutely no prior knowledge required, and there is nothing that you "should" know. An excellent follow up class to The Anglican Way. Led by Canon Zartman.

APRIL 16 23, 30

SACRED EARTH, SACRED SOUL

6-7:30 P.M., SANDERS HALL

Join the Rev. Kathy Pfister in this 3 week series, as she explores *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul*, by John Philip Newell in preparation for his visit to the Cathedral in May. Newell shares the tradition of Celtic Christianity, explaining how this earth-based spirituality can help us rediscover the natural rhythms of life and deepen our spiritual connection with God, with each other, and with the earth. Examining the teachings of Pelagius, Brigid of Kildare, John Muir, and Teilhard de Chardin, Newell introduces timeless wisdom and hope for a perplexing age.



Barbara Brown Taylor and John Philip Newell

Join us as we welcome best-selling author, teacher, and Episcopal priest Barbara Brown Taylor and award-winning Celtic author and teacher of spirituality John Philip Newell. *Additional details forthcoming.*

- **Sunday, Newell will be joining us after *The Well*** May 14
- **Monday evening, Newell in a conversation with Barbara Brown Taylor** May 15

THE ROBERT C. STUART
LENTEN SERIES
IN HONOR OF THE
VERY REV. BARKLEY S. THOMPSON

*Return to what is genuine and true.
Return to what you know.*

Return to love.

This Lent, the people of Christ Church Cathedral and the larger city of Houston have a unique opportunity to learn from some extraordinary teachers and spiritual guides,

including two of the most esteemed and sought-after speakers on Christian spirituality in the world today:

MARTIN LAIRD (*March 4, 5*) and

CARMEN ACEVEDO BUTCHER (*March 25, 26*).

Return to **LOVE**



Join us for special lectures, retreats, and opportunities to learn and engage through spiritual practice with distinguished professors, poets, and priests throughout this holy season.

LECTURE SERIES

SUNDAYS DURING LENTS, 10 AM, REYNOLDS HALL

WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCATHEDRAL.ORG/LENT



FEBRUARY 26

A PLACE FOR THE GENUINE: JASON MYERS AND ALLISON SEAY

On the eve of the Feast of George Herbert, join poets Allison Seay and Jason Myers as they read and engage in conversation about the ways we can listen for the sounds and songs of the genuine in ourselves, others, and the more-than-human world. As we embark on the season of Lent, we might consider how poetry, careful attention, and connection with the earth can foster a stillness that allows us to be more aware and appreciative of God's presence and provision.



MARCH 5

MARTIN LAIRD

One of the world's most esteemed and sought-after teachers of ancient Christian contemplative practice, Martin Laird is a professor of early Christian thought whose three books on Christian Contemplative Practice are already regarded as classics. These short, beautifully written, and very accessible books plumb the depths of the human psyche and the simple but profound art of Christian meditation. We all go about our lives with false narratives and understandings about ourselves, and simultaneously, we live in complete ignorance of our union with God. Laird gently and effectively leads us to a deeper awareness of ourselves and shows a way to return to our true and unshakable identity in God.



MARCH 12

THE REV. TRICIA LYONS

Writer and apologist Tricia Lyons teaches evangelism at Virginia Theological Seminary where she works with the LifeLong Learning Team and serves as Senior Advisor to the Dean for Evangelism Initiatives. Tricia explores the great myths of our time: Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, and Harry Potter to inspire faithfulness.



MARCH 19

MARCIA BRENNAN

Professor Marcia Brennan of Rice University combines her studies of spirituality and mysticism with her background in contemporary art to explore images of love at the end of life. Her expansive areas of interest include spirituality and comparative mysticism, as well as medical humanities, modern art, and museum studies. Her presentation is titled: "Write the Truest Sentence You Know: Images of Love at the End of Life."

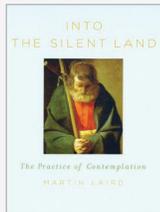
Return to **LOVE**

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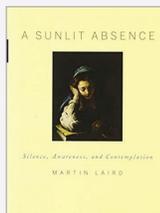
Recommended Books for Lent

BOOKS BY MARTIN LAIRD



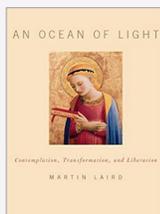
Into the Silent Land

A beautiful book of poetic prose and deep wisdom for people who are new to Christian Contemplative Practice, as well as for people already on the path. Just reading the introduction and first couple of chapters is a profound experience.



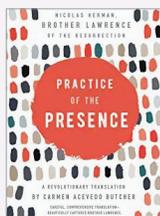
A Sunlit Absence

Addressed to both beginners and intermediates, the first part of this book gives a brief summary of the method of prayer that is taught in more detail in the first book, *Into the Silent Land*. But it also shows how, as our practice matures, so do the ways in which we meet inevitable trials, such as grief, anxiety, depression, arrogance, boredom, and more.



An Ocean of Light

This third book in the series takes us deeper still and is widely considered, like the other two, to be a modern classic. The final chapter, "Our Uninvited Guests," has been especially praised for its insights on depression.



BOOKS BY CARMEN ACEVEDO BUTCHER

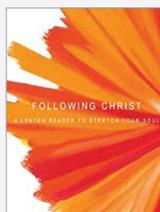
Practice of the Presence

For the first time, Brother Lawrence's work is translated by Carmen Acevedo Butcher, a renowned scholar of medieval texts, who creates a dynamic, faithful translation for a new generation of readers.



The Cloud of Unknowing

This 14th century classic by an anonymous author provides the foundation for what would become known as "Centering Prayer" for our own day. Her sensitive new translation brings home to modern readers some of the most profound spiritual truths.



Following Christ

A wonderful Lenten devotional with short daily readings from the likes of Francis of Assisi, Hildegard of Bingen, Teresa of Avila, Benedict of Nursia, the Desert Fathers and Mothers, and more. If you're looking for a daily discipline to take on, rather than just a luxury to



MARCH 26 CARMEN ACEVEDO BUTCHER

Award-winning translator Carmen Acevedo Butcher has a Ph.D. in Medieval Studies. She teaches in the College Writing Programs at the University of California, Berkeley. Her translation of Brother Lawrence's *Practice of the Presence* is called "the new standard." Her *Cloud of Unknowing* translation received a 46th Georgia Author of the Year Award, and is a Shambhala Pocket Series book and Audible book. You can hear Carmen on Spirituality & Practice's Off the Page, Contemplative Outreach International's Opening Minds, Opening Hearts, NPR's Dante's Old South, (Re)Thinking Faith, Messy Jesus Business, Encountering Silence, and more podcasts.



LENTEN SPECIAL EVENTS

TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER VISIT
WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCATHEDRAL.ORG/LENT

FEBRUARY 25

COMMENCEMENT RECEPTION WITH POETS ALLISON SEAY AND JASON MYERS

4-6 P.M., SATURDAY, REYNOLDS HALL

As we prepare for this spiritually rich Lenten series, please join us for a special address and conversation with poets Allison Seay and Jason Myers. Dean Jones and Canon Zartman will give an overview of the series with book recommendations by our authors.

MARCH 4

LENTEN RETREAT WITH MARTIN LAIRD

9 A.M. TO 3 P.M., SATURDAY, REYNOLDS HALL

Through a series of presentations and practice, one of the world's most esteemed and sought-after teachers of ancient Christian contemplative practice, Martin Laird, will help us recover foundational truths of our faith that have been lost to many modern Christians. God is the ground of our innermost being. We are already one with God. But daily we are tossed about by anxieties, worries, loneliness, and all manner of thoughts and emotions that create a narrative about our lives that simply isn't true. Yet, we believe this false narrative, and we go searching for what we believe we lack, while we already possess the greatest life-giving treasure of all. *Please Note: This event is free, but registration is required. Learn more and register at www.christchurchcathedral.org/lent*

MARCH 11

LATINO MINISTRY LENTEN RETREAT

8:30 A.M. TO 2 P.M. SATURDAY,
MCGEHEE CONFERENCE ROOM

Members of the Latino congregation gather in prayer and reflection upon the spirituality of Lent, and Holy Scripture, connecting this sacred season to our inner life and everyday living. For more information, please contact Assistant to the Latino Ministry, Sylvia García at: sgarcia@christchurchcathedral.org.

MARCH 25

UNKNOWING INTO THE JOY OF SIMPLICITY: FINDING OUR MEANING & PURPOSE WITH CARMEN ACEVEDO BUTCHER

6:30-8 P.M., SATURDAY, SANDERS HALL

Carmen Acevedo Butcher will guide us through Anonymous's *The Cloud of Unknowing* and Brother Lawrence's writings in *Practice of the Presence*. Our time with her includes experiential practice, teaching us how these two authors give us practical teachings for recognizing the divine in our lives and practicing this awareness more deeply. This event includes a book-signing.

Return to

LOVE



Join us for special lectures, retreats, and opportunities to learn and engage through spiritual practice with distinguished professors, poets, and priests throughout this holy season.

BIBLE & STUDY GROUPS

FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCATHEDRAL.ORG/BIBLESTUDIES

WEEKDAYS

WEDNESDAY

MEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

7-8 A.M., ZOOM

Join Interim Dean Gary Jones in a close reading of the Gospel of Matthew. Contact Louise Langford at llangford@christchurchcathedral.org to sign up.

WEDNESDAY

WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:30-11 A.M., HYBRID,
JEFFERS CONFERENCE ROOM/ ZOOM

Gather for a sincere conversation on the appointed scripture reading for the following Sunday. Led by Flo Ray.

TUESDAYS

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

9:30 A.M. TO 12 P.M. OR 6:30-9 P.M.

Education for Ministry is a transformational exploration of the Christian faith. To learn more or get on next year's roster, please contact Lucy Wagner at lmwagner1219@gmail.com.

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

CATHEDRAL BOOK CLUB

6:30-8 P.M.; FEB. 1, MARCH 1, APRIL 5, MAY 3

A different book is discussed each month. Everyone is welcome to attend and join the discussion. Sessions will be in-person, with Zoom options. To learn how to participate contact Louise Langford at llangford@christchurchcathedral.org

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

ST. THERESA'S SHORT STORY BOOK GROUP OF CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

2 P.M., THROUGH MAY, OFFSITE

Join Cathedral parishioners in this long-running short-story book club held in parishioners' homes. To learn more, please contact Valerie Meisel at vhxtexas@gmail.com.



BIBLE STUDIES THAT SHARE
A COMMON CURRICULUM

Cathedral Commons Bible Study

GENESIS' GREATEST HITS

Adam and Eve. Cain and Abel. Noah and the Flood. The tower of Babel. Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham and Sarah and Hagar, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Rachel and Leah. Close calls and family drama. Dive into these foundational stories for the first time or come experience them anew.

- **Tuesday Early Morning Bible Study**
7-8 A.M. ZOOM; JAN. 31-MAY 23, LED BY CANON VICAR KATHY PFISTER
- **Women's Evening Bible Study**
TUESDAY, 6:30-7:30 P.M. ZOOM; JAN. 17-MAY 9; LED BY CANON BECKY ZARTMAN

EXODUS: THE LIBERATING GOD

At the heart of Scripture stands the story of God's great liberation of the Israelites from enslavement in Egypt. Learn more about this pivotal story over nine weeks and come to a deeper encounter with the liberating God of Scripture. Led by Canon Bradley Varnell.

- **20s & 30s Tuesday Evening Bible Study**
7-8 P.M., JEFFERS CONFERENCE ROOM; JAN. 31-MARCH 28
- **Thursday Luchtime Bible Study**
12:05 -1 P.M., ZOOM, FEB 2 - MARCH 30

SPECIAL SERVICES

Ash Wednesday

February 22

Services will be offered at 7 a.m., 12:05 p.m., and 6 p.m. There will be a service in Spanish at 7:30 p.m.

Palm Sunday Evensong

April 2

Palm Sunday (The Sunday of the Passion) is the Sunday before Easter. You are invited to this special Choral evensong featuring the Cathedral Choir at 5 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

April 6

12:05 p.m., First Eucharist of Maundy Thursday (in-person, online)
7 p.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II, Stripping of the Altar, Bilingual, (in-person, online)

Good Friday

April 7

12:05 p.m., Rite II (in-person, online)

Holy Saturday

April 8

8 p.m. Easter Vigil, Rite I (in-person, online)

Easter Sunday

April 9

7 a.m., Rite I (in-person)
9 a.m., Rite II (in-person)
11 a.m., Rite I (in-person, online)
1 p.m., Rite II (Spanish) (in-person, online)
5 p.m., The Well (in-person, online)

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS PLEASE VISIT
WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCATHEDRAL.ORG/WEEKDAYSERVICES

WEEKDAYS

MONDAYS

CENTERING PRAYER

11:15 A.M., MELLINGER ROOM

Centering prayer allows us to quiet our minds and open our hearts, connecting us more deeply with God, our neighbors and ourselves.



Weekday Services

- **Morning Prayer**
MONDAY-FRIDAY
7:30 A.M., ZOOM
- **Evening Prayer**
MONDAY-FRIDAY
6 P.M., ZOOM
- **Oración del mediodía**
MIÉRCOLES Y VIERNES
MEDIODÍA EN FACEBOOK
- **Holy Eucharist**
WEDNESDAYS
NOON, GOLDING CHAPEL
- **Bilingual Holy Eucharist**
WEDNESDAYS
6 P.M., GOLDING CHAPEL

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

CONTEMPLATIVE CHAPEL

6:30-7:30 P.M., MARCH 1- APRIL 5, ZOOM

Online contemplative prayer led by Interim Dean Gary Jones. Sessions begin with a brief welcome and reflection, then a time of “Holy Reading” or Lectio Divina. Using a short passage of Scripture, participants are guided through a meditative engagement with the passage. Lectio Divina is often thought of as a way of listening to the words of scripture, as if we are in a conversation with Christ, and Christ is initiating the conversation. This is followed by a time of centering prayer or resting in God. You do not have to have any experience with these ancient contemplative traditions to join. You’ll receive helpful information about these Christian traditions and be led through it each Wednesday evening. There’s nothing simpler or more natural than our God-given capacity for contemplation. Many find that practicing with others provides the support we need to maintain a practice. Visit www.christchurchcathedral.org/contemplativechapel to learn more or contact Louise Langford at llangford@christchurchcathedral.org.

GET CONNECTED

FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCATHEDRAL.ORG/EVENTS

ALL ARE WELCOME

Events for Newcomers

MARCH 5

NEWCOMER LUNCH & LEARN

12:15 P.M., SUNDAY

For additional details or questions, contact Canon Vicar
Kathy Pfister at kpffister@christchurchcathedral.org

Fun and Games

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

BRIDGE NIGHT

6:30 P.M., MCGEHEE CONFERENCE ROOM

Join Cathedral parishioners to play Bridge or Rummikub. If you're a seasoned Bridge player or want in on a game night and Rummikub is more your speed, this is the perfect event for you! Bring a snack to share and enjoy a fun night of games.

Pastoral Care Groups

- **Walking the Mourner's Path**
ADDITIONAL INFO SOON
- **Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Group**
2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, 11:30-1 P.M.
- **Threads of Comfort & Joy**
2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH, 10 A.M.
- **Community of Hope (COHI) Circle of Care**
2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH, 6 P.M.
- **Dying in Christ: the end of life in the Anglican tradition**
WEDNESDAYS, 12:30 P.M.
BEGINS MARCH 1

3-week series on the theology, liturgy, and planning for a funeral.



Cathedral 20s & 30s

- **Crawfish Boil**
APRIL 29, SATURDAY, 2 P.M.
- **20s & 30s Bible Study**
TUESDAYS, 7 P.M., JEFFERS



Children, Youth & Families

- **Seed Group**
TUESDAYS, 6:30 P.M.,
JAN. 31-APRIL 25
- **Youth Service Day**
MARCH 25, SATURDAY
- **Instruction in Eucharist**
MARCH 26, SUNDAY, 10 A.M.
- **The Climb**
APRIL 30, SUNDAY, 9-11 A.M.
- **Graduating Seniors Sunday**
MAY 21, SUNDAY



Special Saturday Event with Dean's Hour Guest Speaker

APRIL 29

**IN SEARCH OF A PROPHET WITH THE
RT. REV. PAUL-GORDON CHANDLER**
SATURDAY, 6:30-8 P.M., SANDERS HALL

Paul-Gordon Chandler, Bishop of Wyoming, was born of missionary parents in North Africa, and has worked extensively on Christian-Muslim relations in Cairo. He's written several books about the expansiveness and inclusiveness of the Christian faith, and most recently *In Search of a Prophet: A Spiritual Journey with Kahlil Gibran* which is a spiritual biography of the poet, now re-released with a forward from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.



Baptisms at the Cathedral

SEE DATES BELOW

If you would like to be baptized, or would like to arrange for a child to be baptized, please contact Baptism Coordinator Louise Langford (llangford@christchurchcathedral.org, 713-590-3305).

- **Easter Vigil** *April 8*
- **Pentecost** *May 28*
- **Labor Day Weekend** *Sept. 3*
- **All Saints' Sunday** *Nov. 5*

SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERINGS



To learn more visit
[www.christchurchcathedral.org/
neighborhoodgatherings](http://www.christchurchcathedral.org/neighborhoodgatherings)

HOSTED IN THE HOMES OF PARISHIONERS
THROUGHOUT HOUSTON, FALL AND SPRING
GATHERINGS BRING TOGETHER CLERGY, STAFF,
AND PARISHIONERS IN A MORE INTIMATE
SETTING FOR A CHANCE TO MIX AND MINGLE.

Dates and locations to be announced soon.
We hope you'll join us at one of our four
Gatherings this season.