

The Cathedral Congregation Committee (CCC) meets with the Vicar in regularly scheduled monthly meetings as representatives of the Congregation ministries and programs. These meetings provide an interface for communication between the larger Cathedral and the Cathedral congregation.

Lew Baylor
Chair



After a lifetime in the Diocese of Virginia, my wife, Mary and I came to the Cathedral in September of 2005 and later became members of the first Vicar's Advisory Council (now evolved to the Cathedral Congregation Committee [CCC]). I served on that committee for nearly a decade and was pleased to rejoin it in 2017. I chaired our early stewardship efforts which included community gatherings for our spread-out congregation. I'm a trained docent for All Hallows Guild and give occasional tours of the Bishop's Garden. Mary and I serve regularly as Lay Eucharistic Ministers. I am a retired Department of Justice environmental attorney of 29 years. Mary and I are very active in gun violence prevention work and keep amused and on our toes tending our 4 small grandchildren. It is an honor to serve Vicar Dana as Chair of the CCC and to share leadership with our long-time friend Joi Rutherford.

Chris Cannedy



I am the Community Engagement Coordinator at Friendship Place, one of the Cathedral's outreach partners, helping individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness rebuild their lives. My hobbies include mountain hiking, kayaking and i-Phone photography. My longest hike was a 30-mile hike in one day on the Appalachian Trail in the Virginia Blue Ridge Mountains. Born and raised in the Annapolis area, I lived for a few years in Los Angeles. I went on the 2018 Cathedral mission trip to Puerto Rico and consider it a life changing event. I volunteer at the Cathedral as a 9AM Sunday service usher, special events usher and second Sunday of the month cookie and coffee hour host which I enjoy immensely!

Edie Ching



Raised as a Presbyterian by an Episcopalian mother, my connection to the cathedral came via my work at St. Albans where I was the Lower School librarian and through the involvement of my 3 children at the cathedral schools. I started as an usher and have since become a Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM) and a Healing minister. I find the cathedral a place of comfort, inspiration and friendship. I joined the Christian Formation Committee in 2016 and co-facilitated with Karen Miles the first of our "brown-bag" Sunday discussion series on leadership called "Leadership Then and Now: Exploring the Servant Leader." I continue to be involved with children's literature as an instructor at the University of Maryland and active member of the American Library Association Service to Children.

Bobby Clark



My husband Kris and I joined the National Cathedral Congregation in 2017 after searching for a place of worship that reflected our values. We wanted to join a church where we felt challenged spiritually and intellectually; and be part of a community that welcomed everyone - no exceptions. It did not take long to know that the Cathedral was going to be our new faith family. We were married at the National Cathedral in May of this year by the Rev. Cannon Dana Colley Corsello. I have been active in the Gun Violence Prevention workgroup. Professionally, I have worked in Washington, DC, for 15+ years on federal healthcare policy. We live on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, with our 17-month old puppy, Bernie.

Carol Cropp



My guiding principal is service. As a marketing executive, entrepreneur, and non-profit fundraiser I help organizations navigate change and increase impact. Currently I work for Girl Up, an initiative of the United Nations Foundation that provides leadership development programming for teenage girls worldwide. I am the Congressional District Leader (MD-08) for the ONE Campaign to end extreme poverty and represent the Washington National Cathedral as a Partner Representative to Samaritan Ministries of Greater Washington. I also serve on the Cathedral Outreach and Social Justice Committee and the Cathedral Congregation Committee.

John Derrick
Secretary



I've been active with the Cathedral since 2014 when I moved from North Carolina where I was active in a number of churches. They laid the path for my current involvement with the Cathedral 20s & 30s group and service as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, amongst other programs. I'm also involved with my local running community, and serve on the board of the Shirlington Running Club. Other volunteer activities include sailing with a co-ed Sea Scouts unit of the Boy Scouts. A German-American, I enjoy visiting family from my Mother's side overseas, and I stay involved with other local church groups, including at St. George's in Arlington and St. John's Church, Lafayette Square. Professionally a journalist-turned-attorney, I'm honored to work as a civil servant and enjoy experimenting with recipes for coworkers, who I'd like to think find my cooking generally good, or at least interesting.

Peter Gentieu



My association with the Episcopal church began as a boy soprano in the choir at St. Luke's Church, Germantown (Philadelphia). I was confirmed in the Episcopal Church during the Diocese of Virginia's Day of Commitment at the National Cathedral in April, 1988. A few years later I started attending the Cathedral, joined the hospitality ministry at its inception, and later joined the congregation. I am working to restore the bell tower at Christ Church and Saint Michael's in Philadelphia where I play the chime of ten bells once or twice a month. Trains are my hobby with O scale model railways my primary focus.

Matt Klaus



My relationship with the Cathedral started in 2005, when I was a Music Performance and Computer Science student at American University, studying organ for a semester under the Cathedral organist. In 2015 I began regularly worshipping at the Cathedral and volunteering; helping plan the congregation's participation in the 2018 and 2019 Capital Pride Parades and Coffee Hour following the 2nd Sunday 9 am Eucharist. I was received into the Episcopal faith (from Catholicism) in May 2019. I'm originally from Newtown, CT and serve as Vice President of Enterprise IT Security at Genworth Financial in Richmond, VA.

Candy Lyons



I have lived in the D.C. area since I was three years old, so consider myself something of a native. I spent most of my working years in the field of law; first as a legal secretary and lastly as the Judicial Assistant to a Federal Judge. As a Cathedral greeter, it is my privilege to welcome people—members and visitors alike—to our wonderful church. It's one of the best parts of Sunday for me. My husband Jonathan Mook and I live in the Tenleytown area of the city with our two cats. I was surprised to find myself on the CCC, but am humbled, too, and hope I can be of some help.

Charlotte McKnight



I grew up in the Washington area without religion as a major part of my life. I made the Cathedral my spiritual home in 2012 after searching for a place to reflect, feel closer to God, and find comfort. The beauty of the liturgy, the music, and the architecture, and the thoughtfulness of the sermons found me.

Over the years, I became more active in the 20s and 30s group and the hospitality ministry and was honored to be baptized in the nave in 2015. Since then, I have focused more and more on how God is calling me to live in the world and how I might use my talents—such as they are!—to help others find peace, love, and connection. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the CCC and to help the Cathedral build its ministry and community.

Clay Perry



I have been affiliated with the Episcopal Church for more than thirty years and with the National Cathedral for thirteen years. I serve as a member of the Development Committee, Cathedral Scholars Committee, and more recently was appointed to the Cathedral Congregation Committee. I have been an usher for many years, and, for several summers, I served as tour guide under the Cathedral's extended visiting summer hours program.

Before moving to Washington DC in 2005, I was an active member of St. John's Episcopal Church in North Baltimore and served on the Vestry Board and was a lay reader. For seven years, I was a volunteer at St. Vincent's Home, a residential facility for abused and neglected children in Towson, Maryland.

Joi Rutherford
Vice chair



I am a cradle Episcopalian baptized at Trinity Cathedral in Omaha, NE and confirmed at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Columbus, GA, where I served as an acolyte for many years. My mother and I are original members of Washington National Cathedral's congregation. At a young age, I developed a strong passion for serving others and being a testimony of God's love and grace. I volunteered for various civic, social and religious organizations and often tagged along with my mom fighting for civil rights.

I am a Senior Recruiter for a global audio visual / event technology company servicing the hospitality industry. Currently residing in Alexandria, VA, I'm a die-hard Nebraska Cornhusker, swimmer and BBQ grill master. Often, I can be found on the Cathedral grounds serving as an usher and a member of the Cathedral's Racial Justice Task Force.

Rob Strassburger



When I moved to Washington, D.C., in January 1991, I was drawn to the Cathedral almost immediately. But over time, I slowly began to attend church less and less. With a friend in trouble, I came to the Cathedral in January 2014 seeking guidance and I have been attending services regularly ever since. I like starting the week in worship. It helps to ground and center me for the week ahead. When traveling, I often try to attend services via the Cathedral's web cast.

I am a Michigan native and I was raised in the Lutheran faith (Missouri Synod). I became an Episcopalian in November 2014. At the Cathedral, I have found not only an enriching spiritual home, but an opportunity to serve as well. I first became a Eucharistic Visitor and later a lay Eucharistic minister. I also serve on the Outreach and Social Justice Committee. I graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and I spend my work week trying to make the cars and trucks we drive ever safer.

Beverly Weaver



Being a Christian is full of joy and challenges. I first came to the Cathedral in 1975. I arrived in DC accepted as a graduate student at Howard University. While growing up in the Midwest, the Episcopal church was introduced to me by my mother and father at birth. My family instilled in me that my existence was based on something much greater than myself. The journey begins and enlightenment comes later and I believe it continues for the rest of our lives. For my husband and me, the Cathedral has become that place where family and friends share the Word of God, attending the Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 at 8 am. This service in St. Mary's Chapel has flourished into a warm kinship group that welcomes all. A special love, appreciation and joy has spilled over the entire congregation including newcomers and out of town visitors. This early morning service begins the day with prayer, mediation and fellowship. Every Sunday is new because we are worshiping and praying together. We are caring for each other. The Cathedral has enhanced my journey and encouraged me to step into God's light, grace, and love.