

## The Cathedral's History of Social Activism

Established in 1819, Christ Church Cathedral is known for its history of proactive ministry in the light of Christ's gospel. At the turn of the twentieth century, this meant a ministry to the girls who worked in the nearby factories under appalling conditions. In the early 1900s, the Cathedral started the Episcopal City Mission, providing chaplains to youth in detention, which continues to this day.

Outstanding contributions in recent decades include: starting the Downtown Children's Center, the first daycare center for downtown workers; and ministering to those with AIDS during the 1980s and beyond. This led to our involvement in starting Doorways, a housing program for those living with HIV/AIDS.

The first active ministries to our homeless downtown neighbors began in the 1980s when the Cathedral housed a night shelter for men, staffed by the Salvation Army and volunteers. Later, we opened a night shelter for women and children, followed by the only daycare for homeless and low income workers. Around 2000, the Cathedral continued this work, with the assistance of Peter and Paul Community Services, offering breakfast and social services every weekday. Currently, we offer breakfast on Saturday mornings, followed by chapel services led by Community of Hope chaplains.

"Just as you have done for the least of my children, so also have you done for me."

Matthew 25:40

"And with justice comes peace..."

Isaiah 32:17



# Sharing Our Service



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**The Community Ministry Committee of  
Christ Church Cathedral**

The Episcopal Cathedral in St. Louis

## Our Mission

The Community Ministry Committee is a standing committee of the Chapter (the governing board of the church), which has charged us to provide faith-filled outreach through external programs. We follow Jesus' strong example of caring for those in need and advocating for those without power or voice. We organize the Cathedral's ministries of mercy and advocate for social justice in the greater world. Our meetings are the second Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m., in the Davis Room of the Bishop Tuttle Memorial Building.

## How We Fulfill Our Mission

The Community Ministry Committee strives to find new ways to answer Christ's call to feed the poor, clothe the needy, and welcome the stranger. We offer congregants a chance to shape the Cathedral's commitment to living out the social gospel in our daily lives. Our primary activities include:

- Monthly meetings, which are a time for inspiration, team building, and education.
- Service to the various programs the committee oversees, including the Saturday Morning Breakfast Program, Habitat for Humanity, Oasis, and Food Outreach Drives.
- Study groups, which provide the opportunity to prayerfully consider and reflect upon social issues and formulate responses that evidence Christian action and the presence of God's kingdom.
- "Sharing Our Service" forums, in which congregants speak about specific ministries they have found rewarding, whether sponsored by our church or not. Cathedral members share a meaningful call to community ministry.
- The activities listed above are open to everyone.

## Why We Are Involved

We are something of a faith family within the greater family of Christ Church Cathedral. While current committee members participate for many varied reasons, a recurring common bond is our need to lean on one another as we serve the broader world. Sharing our service is an essential component of our faith journey. We believe we are more effective when we work together to address social ills, rather than struggling in isolation. Community Ministry is the place where we seek our own growth, renewal, and healing as individuals and as a parish, in the process of seeking mercy and justice for all. It's also an important place to explore our differing viewpoints and comfort levels in ministering to the needs of the world.

Often, the Holy Spirit is obvious in the inspiring dedication of one another's service. At other times, the Holy Spirit is present in our hesitations, as we struggle to determine the best course of action. Addressing the brokenness in the world and in ourselves leads us to diminish the idea of "the other." Through it all, and in it all, we seek mercy and justice for "just us," for all human beings as children of God.

## Why You Should Consider Joining Us

Have you also been moved by the Holy Spirit to consider faith-filled action in a needful world? Have you been hesitant because you weren't really sure where to begin? This committee is the place for you. ***Joining us is easy — simply jump right in and attend our meetings!***

## For More Information

Whether or not you actually join the committee, your inquiry may help you discern your spiritual calling, while offering us new ideas and perspectives. Please contact our chairperson, Laura Lambrix (lambrix@swbell.net) for more information.

## Programs under Our Care

- **Saturday Morning Breakfast Program:** for more info, contact Pat Cleary at patppm@aol.com
- **Habitat for Humanity:** for more info, contact Lennell Jackson at Lennjacq@aol.com
- **Oasis Missouri** for more info, contact Kelly Glossip at kellyglossip@aol.com.
- **Social Justice Group:** for more info, contact Mary Randlett at mmcrandlett@sbcglobal.net
- **Food Outreach Drives:** for more info, contact Rev. Sluss at msluss@christchurchcathedral.us

## Current Committee Members

**Laura Lambrix**, Chairperson .(lambrix@swbell.net)  
**Bob Lipscomb** . . . . .(cccrel@aol.com)  
**The Rev. Susan Nanny** . . . . .(snanny@christchurchcathedral.us)  
**Mary Randlett** . . . . .(mmcrandlett@sbcglobal.net)  
**The Rev. Mark Sluss** . . . . .(msluss@christchurchcathedral.us)  
**Joe Thompson** .....(joseph.thompson@wustl.edu)  
**Jane Wallace** .....(jane\_wallace@sbcglobal.net)

*Please contact any of us if you're interested in learning more.*