



# PIER REVIEW

THE MINISTRY JOURNAL OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, ORLANDO, FLORIDA

## The On-Purpose Paper

By The Rev. Canon J. Gary L'Hommedieu

It's not  
always easy  
to discern  
one's purpose,  
but when we're  
off-purpose,  
at some level  
we know it.

**T**HE SWITCH IS EITHER ON OR OFF. That's the logic of what mathematicians call the binary system. I remember my personal dismay at being told in middle school that  $1 + 1$  was no longer 2, that now  $1 + 1$  equaled 10! Every equation ends up in a long string of ones and zeros—and this was supposed to make life simple! This was not good news to one who would later have trouble balancing a checkbook with a calculator.

Another form of binary system is the logic of purpose. The world of purpose is not a world of numeric simplicity, since it is the world of persons who must discern purposes and then act on them. Still the principle holds: to state it in Kevin McCarthy's words as a question, "*Am I off- or am I on-purpose?*" (*The On-Purpose Person*, by Kevin W. McCarthy, p. 30.)

Not everything in life seems to be purpose-driven, even some of the things nearest to our hearts. It could be that the purpose runs below the surface. For example, the purpose of a family meal is to stay connected with our most immediate social circle on earth. We may not look at it this way while we're sitting at the table, but families who do not share this basic fellowship drift apart, until suddenly the family is one in name only.

Young people are confronted by the need to decide what they will do with their lives. This too is a matter of purpose. It is implied by comments like, "I want my life to be meaningful." It is not always easy to discern one's purpose, but when we're off-purpose, at some level we know it. We are aware that we are drifting, wandering aimlessly, and that our lives are becoming chaotic. All of these words come back to purpose.

*Pier Review* is a new publication from the Cathedral. It's not really a newsletter, since it doesn't just send out news alerts and "bullet points", as important as those are. Stay tuned to the *e-Courier* and departmental *e-pistles* which will continue to serve that particular purpose.

This ministry journal is meant as an ongoing reflection on our purpose as a Christian family. It is rooted specifically in what the Dean

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# Revealing Majesty

## The Purpose Quadrant

By The Very Rev. Anthony P. Clark



**Shaping Living  
Stones describes  
our Cathedral Vision  
because the Living  
Stones, you and I,  
are shaped by the  
Lord to build  
and complete  
His holy temple.**

**W**ELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF *Pier Review!* A primary work of this publication is narrating and illustrating the Purpose, Missions, Vision and Values—the Purpose Quadrant—of our Cathedral.

The architectural Perspective in the upper left hand corner of this page was my first understanding of the Lord's Purpose, Missions, Vision and Values for our Cathedral congregation. Prayerfully re-reading *The On-Purpose Person* (OPP) and *The On-Purpose Business* (OPB) by Kevin McCarthy, followed by several personal conversations with the author, helped focus my understanding of the Lord's unique call for us.

We have all been created by God with a common purpose: "Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him for ever" (Westminster Shorter Confession). Likewise, each of us has been created by God with a unique purpose. From Kevin's view, this "Purpose is God's will for your life...." (OPB, 34) and answers the question, "Why do I [or we] exist?" (OPP, 82)

I believe "The Cathedral Church of St. Luke exists to serve by Revealing Majesty" expresses the Lord's purpose for our Cathedral congregation. The shorthand for that purpose statement is simply Revealing Majesty. At a primary level, we are about Revealing the Majesty of God. On a related level, we are about Revealing the Majesty of the *imago dei* (image of God) within humankind. That *imago dei* is tarnished by our sin and rebellion and can only be restored by Jesus Christ.

From Revealing Majesty—the missing roof of the architectural Perspective?—come our Missions. If Purpose is a matter of the heart, Missions are a matter of the hands and feet, "our doings in the present, right now, today.... Missions answer the question, 'What do we need to be doing today to fulfill...our purpose and advance us toward our vision?'" (OPB, 35).

I believe the four piers—the architectural term for pillars of a Gothic cathedral—summarize God's primary Missions for our Cathedral. We are called to Gather for worship, formation and fellowship; Heal the spirit, mind, body and relationships; Send witnesses, apostles and evangelists; and Renew the city in which we live and work.

The architectural Perspective is incomplete. That incompleteness relates to our Vision: "Where we are going?" As Kevin McCarthy says, "Vision is seeing our future" (OPB, 35). If Purpose is a matter of the heart and Missions a matter of the hands and feet, then Vision is a matter of the eyes.

Imagine a fully complete architectural Perspective. While Revealing Majesty is the roof that covers it all, it is the stones that form the walls. Shaping Living Stones describes our Cathedral Vision because the Living Stones—you and me—are shaped by the Lord to build and complete His holy temple.

Values complete the Purpose Quadrant. According to Kevin, "Values are learned and re-

**PILLAR TALK CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

# Feeding the Sheep

By The Rev. Christine L. Maddux



Theo and Ross Gordon

**H**OW DO AN EPISCOPAL BOY FROM South Orange, New Jersey and an unchurched girl from Sacramento, California, meet, marry, and become pillars of the Cathedral Church of St. Luke in Orlando? That's the interesting tale of Ross and Theo Gordon, active Cathedral members since 1978. To see them now, it might seem that they have always known the Lord and always understood their niche in ministry. But they are the first to say it hasn't always been so.

Ross and Theo met in an English class at the University of California at Berkeley in the '60s. They were married by a notary public in Ross' parents' back yard in Winter Park in 1972. Their family grew with the arrival of sons Andrew (now married to Heather) and Cameron (recently engaged to Amanda Paul). Their connection with the local Episcopal Church began at the urging of a friend named Jane, who was concerned that Theo was not yet baptized. Jane called Theo, telling her that she was coming over to take her to choir practice at All Saints Church. "I didn't want to sing in some dumb church choir," Theo said, "but I literally could not say no."

Although Theo had not sung in a choir since high school, and was madly sight-reading the music at that first practice, she immediately realized how much she had missed it. She has been singing in the choir ever since. She and Andrew were both baptized at All Saints in 1977 (by then-rector Donis Patterson who later served in his retirement as Bishop In Residence at the Cathedral).

The next year they bought a house in downtown Orlando and joined the Cathedral, where Ross' first foray into church ministry was also singing in the choir. His motivation was somewhat less than pious: "I joined the choir to spend time with Theo," he said. While Theo is still in the choir 30 years later, Ross left after 19 years and continued down the path where he sensed God was leading him, toward intercessory prayer.

"Cursillo was a major turning point in our spiritual lives," Ross said. That led him to the Wednesday healing service, into intercessory prayer during the Men's Retreat, and into the Order of St. Luke (a Healing ministry). As members of OSL, first Theo and then Ross began serving on the prayer teams which provide individual prayer during the Sunday eucharist.

Developing concurrently was their kitchen ministry, starting on the ground floor of Bach's Lunch in Advent 1978 and continuing with that until 1986. Along the way, they also offered to make Christmas Eve dinner for those serving in the liturgy at more than one service. And in 2002, Ross began helping with the Wednesday night parish suppers. When the leader of the dinner crew moved away the following year, Ross inherited his post. "Somehow, we just keep feeding the sheep," he said.

It's not just stomachs that get fed. At present, the kitchen team of about a dozen people cooks, prays and studies scripture together. "The best

**"In the midst of a horrible time God picked me up and put me at the front desk of the Cathedral."**

Theo Gordon

# MOE: Something Old, Something New

By The Rev. Christine L. Maddux

**T**HERE'S A FRESH WIND BLOWING THROUGH THE mission of the Cathedral. It is becoming known as MOE, which stands for **M**ission, **O**utreach and **E**vangelism. While those central aspects of Christianity have always been part of Cathedral life, the new effort called MOE includes new leadership, new perspective, new energy and new levels of participation.

The new leadership is headed by Anne Taylor, Canon for Youth and Missions. Canon Taylor said her new responsibilities with MOE are an outgrowth of her experience in youth ministry, which has included mission work for more than a decade. "This has been a natural fiber of our youth ministry," she said. "And over the years, the adults kept asking 'Why can't we do what the kids do?' MOE is a way to bring this to the adults in our congregation."

Canon Taylor and the MOE Committee took a fresh perspective by reexamining the criteria for Cathedral support of various mission efforts. Beyond being a worthwhile cause, any ministry receiving financial support from the Cathedral must now be clearly Christ-centered, must have at least five Cathedral members actively serving it with their time and effort, and must lend balance to a ministry mix of international, national and local efforts. These criteria are designed to sharpen the focus and enhance the impact of our support. Requests for financial support for a mission organization may be submitted to the MOE Committee prior to the annual budgeting process in October. But MOE is clearly NOT all about money. It is about time and talent, as well as treasure. That is where the new energy comes in.

The work of MOE involves every Pillar of the Cathedral. The most prominent one is Renewing. Every project supported by MOE strives to renew the lives of those it touches. "We are also Sending people out to help change lives for the better," said Taylor. "We are Restoring people, and Healing. And every time we get together to plan or to work, we are Gathering." All this requires the attention and commitment of every member of the Cathedral, not just the MOE committee.

"Everyone has a gift that can be used in missions," Taylor said. "It doesn't matter how old you are, what your background is, how much money you have, or how busy you are. We are ALL called to these ministries. You DO have something to

offer." And the MOE ministry at the Cathedral promises to help you find your place according to your gifts and talents, to make it satisfying for each of us to do our part.

This new level of involvement is essential to MOE. Without the participation of everyone at the Cathedral, we will fall far short of the vision God has for us as we supply human instruments for His divine plan. "Can you imagine what might happen if everyone at the Cathedral did something in MOE?" asked Taylor. All we need to do is mobilize...or should we say MOE-bilize. **PR**

**Canon Anne Taylor discusses youth and family ministry...or is it missions, outreach and evangelism?**



## CORNER

**Looking for a way to get MOE-bilized?** Contact a representative (see box on right) and ask how you can participate in one of the current Cathedral ministries.

**Already involved in a good project, but reluctant to “blow your own horn” to attract other volunteers?** Contact Canon Anne Taylor (407-849-0680, ext. 215; email [awesumanne@hotmail.com](mailto:awesumanne@hotmail.com)) to tell her what you are already doing in Mission, Outreach and Evangelism. She will help connect others with your project.

**Don’t know what you have to offer, or where your talents are needed?** Call Anne and she will help make a good match.

**Don’t understand how your Spiritual Gifts fit in?** Contact Deacon Christine Maddux (407-849-0680 [aclmaddux@mac.com](mailto:aclmaddux@mac.com)) to make the Spiritual Gifts connection.

**Want Cathedral support for your favorite mission organization?** Call Anne to find out how to submit a proposal to the MOE Committee.

## CATHEDRAL MISSIONS AND MINISTRY CONTACTS

- ◇ **St. Philip’s VBS**  
Robin Jagoe  
407.872.3213  
Cell 321.689.4157  
[Jagoes@juno.com](mailto:Jagoes@juno.com)
- ◇ **Kairos Prison Ministry**  
Joe Moine  
407.620.7953  
[Moine@aol.com](mailto:Moine@aol.com)
- ◇ **Christ Church Jerusalem**  
Martin McKinney  
314.409.7658  
[Martin.McKinney@kerry.com](mailto:Martin.McKinney@kerry.com)
- ◇ **Our Little Roses, Honduras**  
Becky Gay  
407.518.9490  
cell 407.847.6007  
[Rebecagay66@hotmail.com](mailto:Rebecagay66@hotmail.com)
- ◇ **Grand Ave. Primary Learning Center**  
Susan Gardner  
407.898.5852  
cell 321.217.8573  
[susan@gardner-rpgw.com](mailto:susan@gardner-rpgw.com)
- ◇ **Christian Service Center**  
Anne Taylor  
407.849.0680, ext. 215  
[awesumanne@hotmail.com](mailto:awesumanne@hotmail.com)

## PILLAR TALK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

vealed internal governors of right and wrong.... They help us choose what is most important” (OPB, 35). If Purpose is a matter of the heart, Missions a matter of the hands and feet, and Vision a matter of the eyes, then Values are a matter of the gut.

The cornerstone and foundation of the architectural Perspective provide insight into important Values for our Cathedral. Jesus Christ is the cornerstone and we proclaim forgiveness of sins through his name. The teaching of the prophets and apostles form the basis of Holy Scripture and we consider God’s word our primary authority in matters of faith and practice.

The Purpose Quadrant of Purpose, Missions, Vision and Values will be the topic of future Dean’s Pillar Talks. I hope and pray that Revealing Majesty will focus the ministry we share on behalf of the Lord to one another and to a broken world. PR

## ON-PURPOSE PAPER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

has called the Four Ministry Pillars (see “Dean’s Pillar Talk,” page 2). Each of us is a “living stone” built upon the foundation of Jesus Christ, our Foundation. The Pillars support us as we live and grow as a Spirit-filled body. The purpose implied in these particular Pillars—Renewing, Healing, Gathering, and Sending—is what makes up our unique personality as a congregation.

Much of our Cathedral day-to-day living does not resemble a lightswitch. We cannot always examine our motives to make sure they conform to one of the Four Pillars. (That would be too much “Pier” pressure!) But, if we find over time that they do not, then we are wandering aimlessly and the vitality of our congregation will begin to weaken. The family will soon be one in name only.

I invite you to look forward to these monthly reflections. Many of you will be asked to contribute one way or another. If nothing else, you will grow accustomed to the language of purpose and to architectural jargon, with all the plays on words one editorial team can muster!

Even jokes (bad ones at that) can reinforce the purpose of a family. PR

# Architecturally Speaking

By The Rev. Don Duer, Architect

**T**HE ORIGIN OF THE WORD “PIER” COMES from the Latin word *petra* which means rock. In *A History of Architecture on the comparative method* by Banister Fletcher, first published in 1896, he defines a pier as “A mass of masonry, as distinct from a column, from which an arch springs.” A pier is often referred to as a pillar in Gothic Architecture. I believe that piers evolved from columns that were prevalent in Egyptian, Roman and Greek times. Early in Anglo-Saxon history, piers were short, stumpy cylinders crowned with square blocks of stone, somewhat like their Doric predecessors. This image changed in European Gothic churches when piers were used to support high vaulted naves. From humble beginnings, artist began decorating the pier capitals with carved stone foliage of oak, maple, ivy and vines to satisfy a naturalistic movement. Fast forwarding into the 19th and 20th century Industrial Age, piers became more functional and slender with the introduction of new materials, cast iron and concrete. This follows the old saying that, “Form follows Function.” French architect Le Corbusier designed buildings on stilts called *pilotis*, another form of a pier. In the 20th century, walls grew taller and needed additional supports. A rectangular pillar shape was created, called a *pilaster*. Many structures built today are supported by pilasters.

Applying this information to building the church today, we turn to the diagram created by Dean Clark (see page 2). You will note that every good building must have a strong foundation in order to grow. In Dean Clark’s model the foundation is rooted in the work and words of the prophets and apostles. In other words the Bible. Most important in any building and especially the church is the corner stone, which is Jesus Christ. In order for the church to grow strong

and resist the forces of the evil, each member must have a great framework. This is where we insert piers, pillars and pilasters. The Dean named them the Healing, Gathering, Renewing and Sending piers. He backs each of these structural elements with references from the Bible. Now the most important element in building the church are the Living Stones. Literally, each one of us is a Living Stone. If each of us dedicates our life to Jesus Christ and goes out into the world to pronounce the Good News, then the church can’t help but grow. Putting aside all other issues we have, taking our Living Stone and inserting it in the framework of piers, supported by a strong foundation and anchored by the corner stone of Jesus Christ, the Church will certainly grow into God’s vision of His kingdom. PR

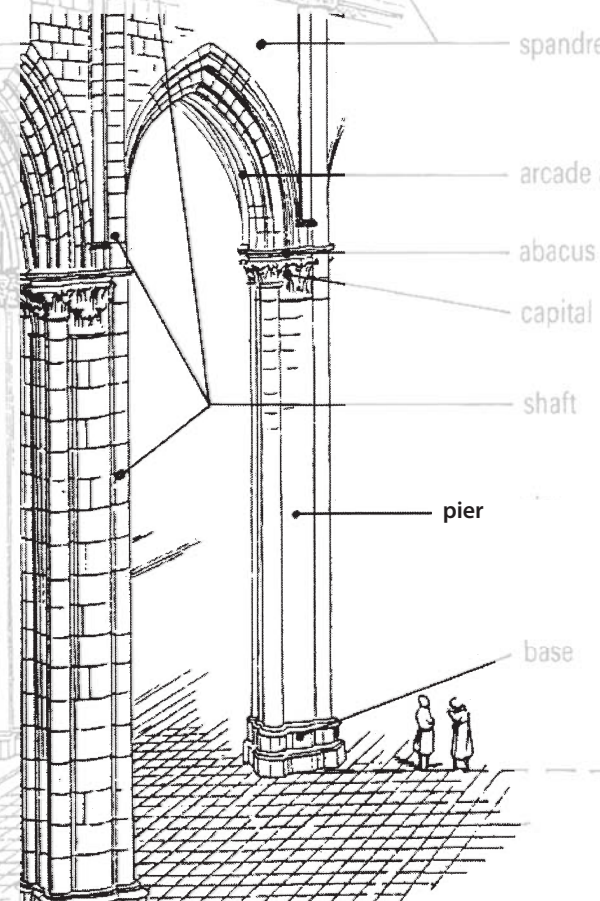


Illustration: Architectural cross section of a medieval cathedral, by E. Viollet-le-Duc, *Dictionnaire raisonné de l'architecture française du XIIe au XVIe siècle* (Paris 1858-68), used by permission.

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## Pillars of the Church

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# St. Martha's Guild

By Rosemary Atwater

**S**T. MARTHA'S GUILD WAS FORMED IN 1982 by a group of friends from the Cathedral who were interested in the art of quilt construction. This ancient practical art form had just enjoyed resurgence in home décor. Heirloom quilts were bringing substantial prices in the marketplace, and many companies were quick to make less expensive yet still pricey machine stitched copies of inferior quality.

The Cathedral group set about to produce quality handmade quilts for purchase at reasonable prices. These were sold and raffled with the proceeds going to the Cathedral Charities fund that provided assistance for parishioners who had a short term need for unforeseen necessary expenses.

Over time new members added other forms of needlework and craft items. These are sold at annual winter holiday bazaars during November and December, and occasionally a bazaar is held in the spring prior to Easter with appropriate seasonal items. Each bazaar usually presents a handmade project to be raffled; this year's project is an appliquéed Christmas tree skirt. Previous years' items have included quilts and wall hangings done in the cathedral window pattern, a white on white quilt, a parish signature quilt, a quilt in the log cabin pattern with matching pillows, a poinsettia table runner, and an Advent calendar. Our largest and most time consuming creation has been the Cathedral Centennial signature quilt which was a gift by the guild to the Cathedral celebrating the anniversary of being designated a cathedral; it shows the Cathedral in appliqué as central to the city with the silhouette of Orlando's skyline surrounding it, and the blocks of the border done in the courthouse steps pattern are signed by the members of the Cathedral family of the centennial year.

**Rosemary Atwater has been an active member of the St. Martha's Guild since she retired from teaching in 1991.**



All profits are still administered by Cathedral Charities, and the majority of the proceeds go to programs for young people. Several of the groups which have benefited from these events are the Cathedral EYC, Our Little Roses Home for Girls in Honduras, the Diocese of Honduras, Cathedral Church School, Resurrection House, Camp Wingmann, Anchor House, Cathedral Choristers, and others.

In addition to their preparation for bazaars the ladies of St. Martha's make simple tied baby quilts which are given to The Coalition for the Homeless, The Crisis Nursery, Arnold Palmer Hospital nursery and other groups who may have a need for them. St. Martha's made several of the quilts, which are in the Cathedral Nursery. The guild also participates in the Thanksgiving basket project and hosts the reception for the first program of Lessons and Carols every December. In February of 1997, St. Martha's Guild presented the Cathedral Garden Tea to raise funds for the newly established Resurrection House. The tea is now a biennial event scheduled for the Saturday prior to Mother's Day of even numbered years, and the proceeds are given to several different organizations.

The "official" weekly meeting of St. Martha's is at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Education Building's Activity Room, however, many members who have jobs or other obligations make their items at home, and assist with other activities, as they are able. Occasional social activities are scheduled on Saturdays so that everyone can attend. You do not have to be an accomplished crafter or needle worker to participate; we frequently "learn as we go". If you would like to join us call Pat Nichols at (407) 839-0451 or Rosemary Atwater at (407) 625-0140 [rwajna@wmconnect.com](mailto:rwajna@wmconnect.com).  
PR



**The Cathedral Centennial signature quilt shows the Cathedral in appliqué as central to the city.**



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. LUKE  
130 NORTH MAGNOLIA AVENUE, STE. 200  
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**pier** \pîr\ *n.*

1. *Architecture* Any of various vertical supporting structures, especially:
  - a. A pillar supporting an arch or roof.
  - b. The portion of a wall between windows, doors, or other openings.
  - c. A reinforcing structure that projects from a wall; a buttress.
2. Staff of the monthly ministry journal of The Cathedral Church of St. Luke, Orlando, Florida.
  - a. Editor, Designer  
The Rev. Canon J. Gary L'Hommedieu
  - b. Contributing Writer  
The Rev. Christine L. Maddux
  - c. Production Supervisor  
Mara Majewski
  - d. Proofreader  
Rosemary Atwater
  - e. Photographers  
Gary L'Hommedieu, Ian L'Hommedieu,  
William Maddux

**AMONG PIERS** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

part is the fellowship,” Ross said. “It’s definitely the Gathering pillar.” Ross also gathers with his Men’s Group, which has been meeting once weekly at 6 a.m. for several years, for study and breakfast.

God lead Theo into a different sort of Gathering. In 2002, “in the midst of a horrible time,” she said, “God picked me up and put me at the front desk of the Cathedral.” She is now “the voice of the Cathedral,” answering the telephone, receiving those who come to the door, and working on a variety of administrative projects as well. It’s an opportunity for much listening and prayer, as she deals with people on both sides of the window.

Recently, God elevated Theo’s knitting hobby to a ministry. Inspired by the “Care Squares” she saw used in hospitals, she developed “Prayer Squares” to be given to active military members. “I saw a real connection to military family and friends,” she said, “and God said ‘Run with this.’ So I did.” She also makes Prayer Shawls for Cathedral members undergoing extensive medical treatment.

Both Theo and Ross credit such responsiveness to God’s leading for the blessings they have seen flow from their several ministries. “If it’s God-inspired, it will bring blessings,” Ross said. “It all depends on God, and on us being obedient to His call.” PR