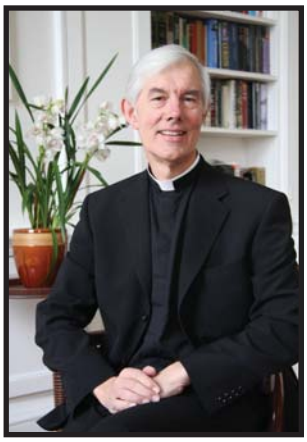
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Friends of Canterbury Cathedral in the United States

March 2010

LETTER FROM THE VERY REVEREND DR. ROBERT A. WILLIS DEAN OF CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL



Dear Friends,

It is very good to be able to greet you from Canterbury Cathedral as a new year begins. Canterbury celebrated a wonderful Christmas, and a very snowy one, for we have had the coldest winter for a very long time but it did not dampen the enthusiasm of those who came to worship here and to sing their Christmas carols and enjoy the festival. Throughout the whole month of December we celebrated one Carol Service after another with the various organisations and schools and universities of Kent taking their turn but the two great Cathedral Carol Services, and particularly the one on Christmas Eve, were fully attended and afterwards it was a wonderful thing to go with the Archbishop into the streets of Canterbury where 8,000 people had gathered to sing carols to the music of a brass band and listen to the Archbishop. In the same way, the Service on the afternoon of the Martyrdom of Thomas Becket, the 29th of December, which some of you will have attended in the past, brought many more people to re-enact by candlelight the events of the afternoon of the 29th of December 1170.

As I write this letter the activity of the new year has begun and 28 newly consecrated Bishops from across the Anglican Communion are beginning to arrive for their Course here in the International Study Centre from all parts of the world; from Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe and North America, so there is great diversity represented in the Course. This Course, together with the Seminarians Course in the summer has always been a focus for FOCCUS and each year it has proved a time when friendships are made and barriers are broken down.

Meanwhile, an enormous amount of work is being undertaken on the Cathedral itself. Some of the work, on the Corona and on the Library and the South East Transept, was work that we were expecting to do this year but the work on the South West Transept was unexpected and has involved us in removing the huge mediaeval window for its own protection while the stone mullions are strengthened and restored. The staff of the Cathedral have responded magnificently to this challenge and are in excellent heart while this work goes on and both the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral and the Development Office are being greatly supportive.

I very much hope that we shall be welcoming many of you individually or in groups at some time in 2010 in order that we can show you some of the work, both of the Cathedral and of the International Study Centre which you support so generously. This letter, however, gives me an opportunity to thank you all personally for your huge support for Canterbury and also to thank the Chairman, Officers and Committee of FOCCUS for their constant work on our behalf and vision for the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral in the United States.

The Very Reverend Dr. Robert A. Willis
Dean of Canterbury Cathedral



Join FOCCUS' Facebook

Friends of Canterbury Cathedral in the United States has a Facebook group. Facebook, the world's largest social networking site, allows users to share ideas, discussions and photos with people of similar interest.

The FOCCUS group is a great way to keep up with the latest news from Canterbury Cathedral. The creators search news sites to bring you news of interest concerning the Cathedral. In addition you can post your thoughts and share photos of your trips to Canterbury.

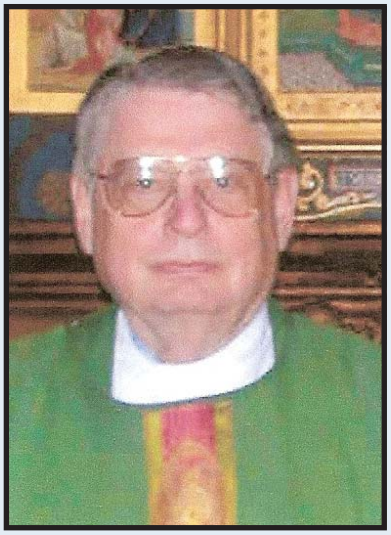
If you are not a member of Facebook, please consider joining and then become a member of the FOCCUS group. If you are already a member of Facebook, type Friends of Canterbury Cathedral into the site's search box.

www.facebook.com
http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=90862204701&ref=mf

Don't Forget FOCCUS' Website

A comprehensive website for FOCCUS has been designed for us by the Web Developer at Canterbury Cathedral, and is updated on a regular basis with news and publications. In addition, the website has become an invaluable tool for spreading the word of our mission and information about upcoming events.
The website address is www.canterburyus.org

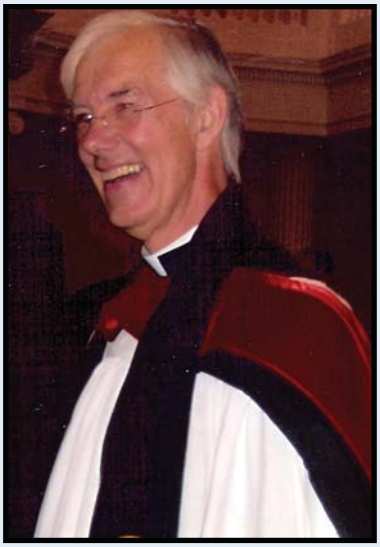
GERDAU NAMED TRUSTEE OF FOCCUS



The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee announced that the Rev. Canon Carlson Gerdau has been elected a Trustee of the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral in the United States (FOCCUS). Canon Gerdau received his undergraduate degree from Harvard and graduated from General Theological Seminary in 1959. After serving several parishes in the Diocese of Michigan, he was named Archdeacon of the Diocese of Missouri. Later he held a variety of positions in the Diocese of Chicago before serving as Canon to the Ordinary from 1988-1997. In 1998, Gerdau became Canon to the then Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold. He has been a deputy to ten General Conventions and served on the Board of the Church Pension Fund. Canon Gerdau retired from the Episcopal Church Center in 2008 and currently resides in New York City.

Bishop Lee, Chair of FOCCUS, commented on Canon Gerdau's election by saying, "We are very pleased to have someone of Carl's experience as a Trustee. He has been a parish priest and an administrator for the national church. He knows the importance of Canterbury Cathedral to the entire communion and to the United States in particular".

A DOCTORATE OF DIVINITY FOR DEAN WILLIS



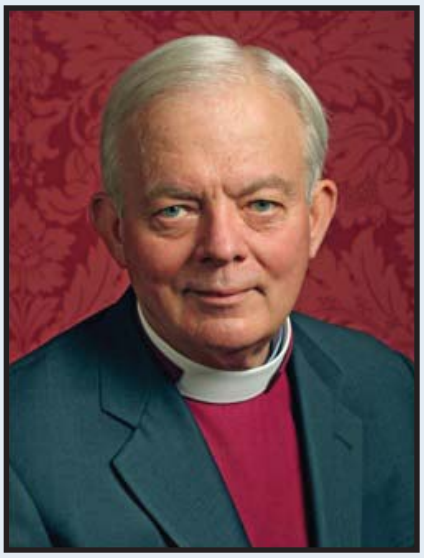
After preaching a superb sermon at a special service of Evensong at Yale Divinity School in New Haven, CT on October 14, 2009, The Very Rev. Robert A. Willis was awarded a Yale Doctorate of Divinity by Berkeley Divinity School. It was a great but well deserved honor for Canterbury's dean and thrilling to have it conferred by an American institution of learning. A close relationship has developed between Berkeley Divinity School and Canterbury Cathedral. Under the able leadership of Berkeley's dean, The Very Rev. Joseph H. Britton, Berkeley's senior class makes a pilgrimage to Canterbury each January. In addition to their studies, the students are treated to Dean Willis's famous hospitality in the Deanery.

The Citation for Dean Willis's Doctor of Divinity degree reads in part, "… for your witness to the centrality of the common history and shared core belief of all Christians, your steadfast leadership of Anglicanism's mother church, for your care and concern for all God's people and for your engagement in the cares and concerns of the world around you."

Congratulations, Robert!

CANTERBURY INFLUENCE IN THE WEST

On Oct 1, 2009, I became Interim Dean of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. Grace Cathedral is the third largest Episcopal Cathedral in the United States, after St. John the Divine in New York and Washington National Cathedral.



Its design and its stained glass are reminiscent of Canterbury Cathedral. So is its liturgical life. Morning and Evening Prayer are said daily, along with daily celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. Evensong is sung most Sunday and Thursday afternoons by our splendid choir of men and boys.

The Cathedral's Christmas tradition includes a series of five identical concerts by the choir. The combined attendance at our four services on Christmas Eve and two on Christmas Day was close to 6,000 people. Like Canterbury, Grace Cathedral attracts people to its principal feasts who may not be active in their parish churches but who value the rich heritage of Anglican liturgy.

One Friday in January, the heating system in the cathedral stopped working and the workers could not fix it until Monday. Fortunately, San Francisco winters are mild compared to New York, Washington and Canterbury this winter but the chill in the air was evident. I used the breakdown in the heating system to remind the congregation of the need for generous support of the Cathedral.

Canterbury Cathedral's needs, in these months of worldwide recession, are great. I hope you will continue your support of Canterbury, whose influence reaches worldwide.

The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee
Chair, FOCCUS

The Board of Trustees of FOCCUS

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Barbara Q. Harper, Vice Chair
The Very Rev. Dr. Robert A. Willis, Dean of Canterbury Cathedral

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FOCCUS Board of Trustees Meetings

FOCCUS held its fall Board of Trustees meeting at St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square, Washington, DC on October 20, 2009. The meeting was led by the Very Rev. Dr. Robert A. Willis, Dean of Canterbury Cathedral. FOCCUS Chair, The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee, participated in the meeting by conference call from San Francisco, where he had just begun his duties as Interim Dean of Grace Cathedral.

In addition to the regular items of business discussed at the meeting and an update on Canterbury from the Dean, the attendees were treated to a beautiful PowerPoint presentation of Canterbury Cathedral by Board member Eugene Johnston and a tour of the recently renovated St. John's Church.

The spring Board of Trustees meeting will be held in New York City on April 26, 2010 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church.



Members of the FOCCUS Board of Trustees pictured here:

Left to right, front row: Eugene Johnston, Debby Hailey, Barbara Harper, Anne Ritchie, Milo Coerper
Back row: Sam Van Culin, Robert Willis, Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, Powell Hutton

A SCHOLAR'S PILGRIMAGE TO CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

Thirty-eight seminarians, deacons and newly-ordained priests from twenty-one countries of the Anglican Communion spent two weeks together as Canterbury Scholars last summer at Canterbury Cathedral. The program, in its ninth year, is offered twice annually: one for the above mentioned group and the other for "baby" (newly ordained) bishops.

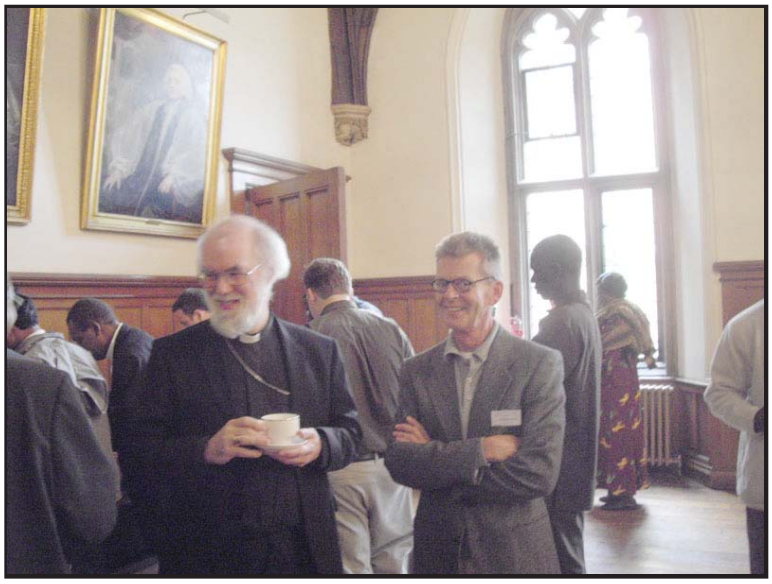
Our schedule included daily attendance at three offices: Matins, the Eucharist and Evensong. One of the highlights was most certainly listening to the Cathedral choir of men and boys singing three psalms every afternoon! We also had bible study each morning along with two daily teaching sessions. Our housing was in the new International Study Center on the grounds of the Cathedral where the accommodations and food were delightfully superior to what we expected.

The program was under the direction of The Rev. Canon Edward Condry, a Cathedral canon and able mediator. Kathy Grieb from Virginia Theological Seminary and a Pauline scholar concentrated in her sessions with us on St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians, a timely subject dealing with matters of inclusion and diversity. It set the tone for the entire gathering as we came to know one another and to understand differing points of view. Joshua Fearon from Nigeria spoke to us about interfaith dialogue and conflict between Islam and Christianity and another of our leaders discussed the essentials of Anglican identity.

One of our day trips was to visit the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace in London, another highlight. We were most impressed by this humble man who spoke to us about the problems of human sexuality and inclusion in the Communion. On another outing we walked the Pilgrimage Trail, seven miles from where St. Augustine first landed in England back to the Cathedral where we were locked inside and continued the Trail by ourselves, each carrying a lighted candle to the Shrine of St, Thomas. At that spot we made a circle and each of us said prayers in our own language.

I came away with a new respect and understanding of what it means to be a member of the Anglican Communion. I also gained new respect and understanding for the diverse people who make up the Communion. Although we may disagree, that does not prevent us from eating and worshipping together and loving each other.

The Rev. Jefferson Bailey
Canterbury Scholar



The Rev. Jefferson Bailey was ordained in 2006 and is a Deacon at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Tucson, Arizona. He is also the coordinator of the Food For Life program of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation. Bailey, a cousin of FOCCUS Treasurer Henrietta Humphreys, was a Canterbury Scholar during the summer of 2009.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Stay in the beautiful grounds of the magnificent Canterbury Cathedral!

Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, a unique and purpose-built venue located within the beautiful private grounds of Canterbury Cathedral, has had all its 29 bedrooms refurbished to enhance the superb meeting and event building. The refurbishment forms part of an extensive development program, which now includes a stylish and contemporary look throughout the Lodge.
The first stage of the programme has seen all bedrooms upgraded to a high standard. As well as enjoying stunning views of the Cathedral, all rooms now enjoy luxury furnishings, LCD screen TVs with free-view and free Wi-Fi access throughout.

In keeping with the ethos of the Cathedral, good quality locally sourced food is an important part of each event at the Lodge. To complement the great food, the Refectory Restaurant has also been updated with new luxury furniture and polished wood flooring.
James Perry, General Manager for Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, comments, "Our newly refurbished bedrooms fit perfectly with the overall feel of the Lodge, which is unique, tranquil and contemporary. We are excited about the creation of this stage of our refurbishment works which will provide a fantastic enhancement to the hotel".

Overnight B&B stays are available throughout the year from between £60-£109 per room and include full Continental Breakfast, VAT and free entrance to the Cathedral. Limited car parking is also available for guests staying overnight within the Cathedral grounds.

A little oasis in the centre of a bustling historic city, Canterbury Cathedral Lodge is the ideal base to explore Canterbury's picturesque cobbled streets and visit the City's excellent eateries, shops, bars and cafes.

Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent,
CT1 2EH
Tel: 01227 865350
Fax: 01227 865388

Email:
stay@canterburycathedral.org
Website:
www.canterburycathedrallodge.org



HOW FIRE WATCHERS SAVED CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL DURING THE BLITZ

We've heard the stories of the grit of Londoners during the Blitz in World War II when the German Luftwaffe bombed the capital incessantly. What we may not know is that other more innocent targets, such as Bath and Canterbury, were also heavily bombed in a strategy designed to demoralize the British by destroying symbols of their culture and history. These latter were the so-called Baedeker Raids, because the planners in Berlin had a Baedeker Guide to England that served as a blueprint for selecting key cultural targets.

One such nighttime raid on Canterbury in June 1942 was particularly horrific. The attack destroyed about a third of the old town of Canterbury. At the Cathedral, the Canon House and the Library were badly damaged by high explosives, but it was the incendiary bombs that were most feared for the intense fires they could create.

When the warning sirens sounded, air-raid wardens sought to locate the bombers, while fire watchers took their posts at key places to mitigate as much damage as they could. Many of these were from the Home Guard, veterans of World War I too old to be at the front, and proudly taking the name of "The Old Contemptibles" from the dismissive way the Kaiser had once referred to British soldiers in the First War.

That night, four Old Contemptibles climbed to their positions on the Cathedral roof as fire watchers. They tied themselves in, the way mountain climbers rope themselves to keep from falling off a cliff face, but with enough slack to perform their duties. Even with the city in blackout, there was enough light from the multiple explosions and fires for them to do their job. As incendiary bombs and burning fragments fell on the sheets of lead roofing and the stone towers, these fire watchers caught, threw, or shoveled the incendiaries off, sometimes with just their thickly gloved hands. Incredibly, all bombs with high explosives missed.

A young girl, who at the time of the raid had been hiding terrified under stone stairs nearby, remembered the deafening noise of the continuing explosions all around the Cathedral grounds. She was convinced that the Cathedral had been was destroyed. Imagine her relief when she heard the tolling of the big bell to announce the end of the raid; the Cathedral itself still stood. Even so, the replacement windows (the ancient stained glass ones had been removed for safekeeping) were all blown out.

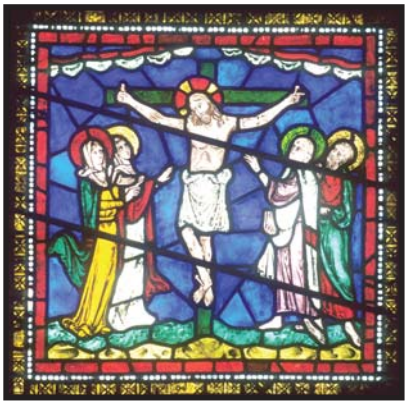
The Cathedral survived because of the extraordinary display of courage and devotion of a few stalwarts. They saved the great building that we know and love today. A plaque on the floor at the west end of the nave commemorates their heroism.

Many Americans who have heard this story since 9/11 have found comfort in the fact that in spite of what damage we might witness during our lives, great buildings and great cultures are resilient and can come back to be symbols of renewed strength and resolve.

Col. C. Powell Hutton
FOCCUS Board Member

THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2010





HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Canterbury Cathedral 2010

PALM SUNDAY: March 28
8:00am Holy Communion
9:00am Matins (said)
10:50am Blessing of Palms
Palm Procession and
Sung Eucharist
3:15pm Choral Evensong
6:30pm Sermon and Compline

MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK: March 29
7:30am Matins
8:00am Holy Communion
5:30pm Evensong (said)
7:30pm Lecture; History & Memory
The Archbishop

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK: March 30
7:30am Matins
8:00am Holy Communion
12:00noon Eucharist, Blessing of the
Oils, and Renewal of
Ordination Vows
5:30pm Choral Evensong
7:30pm Lecture: Unveiling Secrets
The Archbishop

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK: March 31
7:30am Matins
8:00am Holy Communion
11:15am Holy Communion
5:30pm Choral Evensong
7:30pm Lecture: A Lifelong Passion

MONDAY THURSDAY: April 1
7:30am Matins
8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Eucharist, Blessing of the
Oils, and Renewal of
Ordination Vows
Celebrant: The Archbishop
5:30pm Evensong (said)
7:30 pm Sung Eucharist, Washing of
feet and Stripping of the
Altar: The Archbishop

GOOD FRIDAY: April 2
9:30am Liturgy of Good Friday and
Singing of the Passion
12:00noon The Three Hours Devotion
5:30pm Choral Evensong
7:30pm Requiem by Maurice Durufle

EASTER EVE: April 3
9:30am Matins
3:15pm Choral Evensong
10:00pm Easter Vigil with Baptism
and Confirmation

EASTER DAY: April 4
8:00am Holy Communion
9:30am Choral Matins
11:00am Sung Eucharist: Celebrant
and Preacher; The Archbishop
3:15pm Choral Evensong
6:30pm Sermon and Compline

The FRIENDS of CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL in the UNITED STATES

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Becoming a Friend

Enclosed in this Newsletter you will find an envelope we hope you will use to become a member of Friends of Canterbury in the United States. Membership includes such benefits as free admission to the Cathedral and personalized tours, notification of FOCCUS events, as well as priority consideration for a place on future pilgrimages.

FOCCUS - 888 17th Street, NW, Suite 220 - Washington, DC 20006
202-822-8994 - Email: canterburyus@gmail.com
Website: www.canterburyus.org