



The Cathedral Church  
of Saint Paul  
*A House of Prayer for All*

Episcopal Diocese  
of Massachusetts

February 4, 2019

Dear friends,

I met Tina Rathbone at a diocesan event in 2005. An unhoused man in distress had come into the venue, and he needed medical attention. Of the hundreds of people in the building, it was Tina who noticed, found a doctor in the crowd, and stayed with the man until he was on his way. Thirteen years later, she is still inviting me and others to the mutual transformation that happens when we attend to, advocate for, and build community with those in the greatest need.

I am so thankful that my tenure as Dean at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul has overlapped with Tina's as Canon Missioner. She is a wise pastor, an extraordinary preacher, and a creative companion who has given 150% to everything she's done here. But more than all of that, she is a faithful follower of Jesus, and so she must follow where He is leading, and that means leaving this ministry to make room for the next in a new place. While I grieve her departure, I celebrate her faithfulness. And having recently left a ministry I loved because God was calling me to something new, I testify to the importance of saying "yes." I can't wait to see what the Spirit does next through Tina's ministry. I know it will not only change lives, but also challenge us and model for us something we need as the Body of Christ.

And I could not be more thankful that the Rev. Jennifer McCracken, who has served as Head Pastor to the MANNA community for two years, will be taking on the leadership of the MANNA team and moving from part-time to full-time status here at the cathedral. Jennifer is a gifted, prayerful priest, and her extensive experience leading teams and working in solidarity with those on the margins mean that not only is the MANNA program in good hands, but the whole cathedral community will be greatly blessed as she lives into this new role. Until mid-June, when Jennifer is able to join us full-time, the MANNA team has made excellent provision for staffing to ensure their programs continue uninterrupted.

Please plan to join us in celebrating Tina's ministry here at a party in Sproat Hall on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4 pm. Gifts in honor of her ministry in support of MANNA should be sent c/o Kevin Vetiack, made out to Cathedral Church of St. Paul with "Thank you Tina!" in the memo.

Faithfully,

The Very Rev. Amy McCreath  
Dean