

A Review by Owene Courtney Continued

The Weekend

The weekend offered the opportunity to dig deeply into the gospel narratives about Jesus' resurrection and to explore what that resurrection might look like in our own lives.

Questions were posed such as

How might we live and breathe resurrection long after Eastertide is over?

How might we share the hope of restoration and new life with a world which often seems unbearably broken?

Throughout the weekend, Susanna used music, poetry and art to enrich textual study and stimulate new insights. As well as space to reflect and to enjoy the creativity of others, the weekend offered participants the chance to be creative themselves.

Beginning with a well-attended supper Friday night, Susanna wove her story about Easter gardens and the importance of loving your own Easter Garden into being through the entire weekend.

On Saturday, 40 or so people listened and responded to her message about recognizing God in the scars in the world, places where all hope seems lost and yet the Risen Jesus draws alongside. As Barbara Brown Taylor said, "Hope in the past tense is one of the saddest sounds a human can make." And yet as Easter people, we can remember the road to Emmaus story. Susanna then reminded us of the bounty of the devastatingly empty nets of the disciples whose hearts were empty until they were restored by the Risen Jesus. Finally on Saturday, we were encouraged to love our own Easter Gardens into being with bits of dishes, grass, soil, rocks, twigs and scraps of white linen... preparing the ground for change and finding hope in the bit of earth with which we worked.

On Sunday, Susanna preached at both services at the Cathedral (sermons available on the Cathedral You Tube channel) and was interviewed by our own Dean Kate in a beautifully revealing conversation about Susanna's spiritual journey and her vision for the church and the world.

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Each 'map' takes you on a reflective journey through a key episode of the Gospels or the liturgical season with the help of art, poetry and music and invites an interactive response. No prior knowledge is required, yet even for those who know the gospel and the seasons of the church well, there's something new to discover. Unfolding each reveals a wide range of tools to help you navigate your way around a particular episode. Music, art and poetry are

offered to stir the imagination and stimulate new insights. As well as links between the text under the spotlight and the Old Testament, connections are made with issues of our own time.

A Prayer for re-creation and the risen life

At the close of the Saturday workshop, we prayed this prayer composed by Susanna beautifully summing up our time together:

*May we go in risen life,
and find this life rising within us,
within our homes and communities
and spreading across the universe,
as God goes on recreating all that is,
in every age and every place.
May the endless re-creating God fill you with hope;
may Christ crucified and risen transform you daily;
and may the Spirit heal and help you to be open
to Life in all its fullness.
Amen.*



Mapping the Trinity. A series with six maps including Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity



An Easter Garden