

ISSUE

25

May 31, 2009

WEEKLY MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

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Dear People of God,

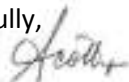
A dear friend of mine once said that he loved to visit other churches on Trinity Sunday so he could see what heresy the preacher was going to fall into! I am sure that will not happen this morning because we are in the very competent hands of Dr. Karen Rezach! But actually many of the earliest heresies of the church were defined by people trying to make sense of the Trinity.

The first Sunday after Pentecost is Trinity Sunday. On this day we focus on an essential theological component of the Christian faith. Our One God is self-revealed in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This mystery of ONE God in three persons who are neither three gods, nor three modes of God, but co-equally and co-eternally God, has baffled and perplexed people throughout Church history. We read in Deuteronomy 6:4, "The Lord our God is one Lord" and the claims of Galatians 3:20 that "God is one" and yet realize that our finite minds have trouble comprehending infinite truths.

The Nicene Creed (BCP p358-9) affirms this understanding of one God, as does the Creed of St. Athanasius (BCP p.864-5) affirm this three-fold understanding of worshiping "one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confounding the Persons, nor dividing the Substance." The first of the Articles of Religion (BCP p.867,) acknowledges "There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body, parts or passions; of infinite power, wisdom and goodness; the Maker, and Preserver of all things both visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there be three Persons, of one substance, power, and eternity; the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." The term Holy "Ghost" is an archaism from Anglo Saxon times when the vernacular word for spirit or breath was "ghost."

There are many rational attempts that seek to explain this mystery- the classic is H₂O, being available in solid ice, liquid water, and gaseous water vapor- all still H₂O. Another metaphor is an adult man- who may at one time be a Father, husband and son (of his parents.) Still a third is a book – looking at it open, closed and from one end- all three very different glimpses but still one book. In the end such mental gymnastics are helpful academic exercises, yet at some point each of us finds ourselves in an encounter with God who will choose to reveal himself to each of us individually as he wills (1 Corinthians 12:11.) The purpose of this revelation is to invite us into relationship with the Lord. We all do not have to have the same experience, or the same understanding, but when God reaches out to us, the desired response of all people of faith is simply, "Here am I." May your encounter with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the Risen Jesus Christ, or the Holy Spirit be one that draws you into the nearer presence of God.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Scott Holcombe, *Rector*

CONFIRMATION ANYONE?

Anyone want to join me? I would like to hold a gathering of interested people who are willing to dream with me what sort of year we shall assemble for our young people. Please email me at sthccsh@gmail.com and let me know of your interest and I will get back with you.

Are you the parent of a graduating college or high school senior?
If so, please let the Parish office know. Thanks!

CHILDREN'S AND CANTERBURY CHOIRS

The Children's and Canterbury Choirs will have a short rehearsal this **Sunday, June 7** after worship in anticipation of singing on June 14, Youth Sunday. They are singing 'Thank-you Lord, for This Fine Day. The Canterbury Choir will Also rehearse with Sue Bovan during Godly Play.

USHER TRAINING



Usher Training All Christ Church ushers, including new ushers, new Vestry Members and Wardens, and continuing Vestry Members, are invited to attend the Usher Training Session, **Sunday, June 7**, at 11:00 a.m. Please have coffee and refreshments in the Parish Hall and then come to the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. Attendees will be certified as trained ushers and will receive an Ushers' Handbook. See you there!

WISE WOMEN

All women of the parish are invited! Join us on **Tuesday, June 9** at 6:00 p.m. for a Summer Potluck Supper at the home of Shelley Lach at 5 Dorison Drive, Short Hills. Head north on Old Short Hills Road and take the last right before South Orange Avenue. Dot Leslie is taking reservations; give her a call at 973-761-0997 and tell her what you would like to bring. Need a ride? Call Andi at church office 973-3979-2898 or Hope Lampe at 973-665-1463 and we will be happy to arrange.



THE PLANNED GIVING COMMITTEE will be having a luncheon this summer to thank those who have already told Christ Church that the parish is a beneficiary in their will. If you have made such a bequest and not notified the church, please let Juli Towell or the Rector know so that we can make sure you are invited.

Thanks, the Stewardship Committee



"HOGWARTS PROFESSOR" JOHN GRANGER COMES TO CHRIST CHURCH WEDS., JUNE 10, 7 P.M.

A month before the release of the long-awaited sixth Harry Potter film, come hear John Granger, author of *Looking for God in Harry Potter*, talking about the deeper Christian spiritual and literary themes in the world's most popular novels. A regular speaker at many academic and fan conferences, including last weekend's "Leaky Con 2009" frequent guest on radio and television, and featured Potter expert on the *Order of the Phoenix* DVD, Granger will explain why these books appeal to our longing to experience the truths of life, love, death, and a larger view of ourselves and reality. Said one former audience member, "His talk revealed a person of deep faith, a love for Christ's church, an engaging teacher who wants us all to be more serious readers." Invite your friends! Granger's books, *The Deathly Hallows Lectures*, *Looking for God in Harry Potter*, and *Harry Meets Hamlet and Scrooge*, will be available for purchase and signing after the talk, and pumpkin juice, butter beer and other festive treats will be offered. Suggested donation \$10/\$5 kids and seniors. Cosponsored by Community Congregational Church and Interweave.



CONGRATULATIONS EfM GRADUATES

This morning we celebrate the achievements of this year's four Education for Ministry graduates: Peggy Baggaley and Jean Bailey from the morning group and Barbara Neugebauer and Arlene Sommer from the evening group. Education for Ministry (EfM) is a program from the School of Theology of the University of the South for lay people seeking to deepen their knowledge and faith and become more aware of their gifts for ministry. The four-year curriculum covers the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, church history and theology. Weekly meetings include discussion, prayer and theological reflection on the course materials, current events, and participants' life experiences. The evening group is accepting new members for next year; contact mentor Sandra Johnson at sandy73j@gmail.com for more information. The morning group's graduates will be switching gears in the fall and offering a Monday morning series on C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia* beginning Oct. 5. Congratulations to Peggy, Jean, Barbara and Arlene and thanks to group mentors Sandra Johnson, John Cooper, and Jane Houston.



Pentecost at Christ Church

Thank you to EILEEN PADUANO
for these great photos!



ANNIVERSARIES

06/09 Lise + Zach Davis
 06/10 Susan + Sam Reckford
 06/13 Gaye Torrance + John Sogliuzzo
 06/13 Katherine + Frederick Coombs
 06/13 Nancy + Bill Harwood
 06/13 Sandy + Arnie Peinado

BIRTHDAYS

06/04 Jake Olseon
 06/04 Lauren Wenslau
 06/05 Lily Barback
 06/05 Katie Harwood
 06/05 Anna Schott
 06/05 Chip Roriston
 06/06 Alice Longley
 06/06 Sarah Snow
 06/06 Bruce Lee
 06/06 Sarah Gadsden
 06/06 Josh Lee
 06/06 Campbell Holman
 06/08 Kathleen Zimmerer
 06/08 Debbie Ristau
 06/09 John Funk
 06/09 Lea Zglobicki
 06/09 Abigail Di Tosto
 06/10 Paul Funk
 06/10 Robert Tansill
 06/10 Tory Rennie
 06/11 Stacie Cheung
 06/11 Olivia Malin
 06/12 David McDonald
 06/15 Martha Santiuste
 06/16 Steven Fischer
 06/17 Mike McChesney
 06/17 Inese Houlis
 06/19 Alison Cundey
 06/21 Ellen Dey
 06/21 Joan Mebane

10 EASY WAYS TO KNOW YOU'RE NOT A LEADER

As you're considering your influence or evaluating the potential of others, this list will help you identify leadership capacity or, more specifically, where it may be lacking.

1. You're waiting on a bigger staff and more money to accomplish your vision.
2. You think you need to be in charge to have influence.
3. You're content.
4. You tend to foster division instead of generating helpful dialogue.
5. You think you need to say something to be heard.
6. You find it easier to blame others for your circumstances than to take responsibility for solutions.
7. It's been some time since you said, "I messed up."
8. You're driven by the task instead of the relationships and the vision.
9. Your dreams are so small, people think they can be achieved.
10. No one is following you.

BULLETIN HELP NEEDED!
 Andi hidalgo is looking for any volunteers to fold and staple the Sunday bulletins on Thursdays. If you are able to help, please contact Andi at andrea.hidalgo@ccshmail.org and/or 973.379.2898, ext. 201. Thank you!

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

June 7
 Roy R Bumsted, Jr.

June 14
 Adele Clifford Cox

June 21
 Judy H. Albers

June 28
 Walter J. Bauer
 Mary 'Wilda" Bauer
 Doris Zemaitis Bauer

LAST WEEK

Attendance
 8:00 a.m. 21
 9:30 a.m. 104

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>7 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Nursery Care + Sunday School 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am - Coffee Hour 10:45am - Children's + Canterbury Choir 11:00am - Usher training</p>	<p>8 6:00am - Men's Group 7:00pm - Buildings + Grounds</p>	<p>9 10:30am - Staff meeting 6:00pm - Wise Women Potluck Supper</p>	<p>10 9:30am - Interweave's Bible Study 7:00pm - Hogwarts Professor</p>	<p>11 9:30am - Altar Guild 7:45pm - Finance Committee</p>	<p>12 7:00pm - Vestry dinner</p>	<p>13 9:00am - Vestry Training</p>
<p>14 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Nursery Care + Sunday School 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am - Coffee Hour 11:00am - Usher training</p>	<p>15 9:00am - Staff meeting 6:00am - Men's Group</p>	<p>16 8:00pm - Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>17 9:30am - Interweave's Bible Study</p>	<p>18 4:00pm - Winchester Gardens Eucharist</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 8:30am - Careers in Transition</p>