

ISSUE

09

February 8, 2009

WEEKLY MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

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SHROVE TUESDAY: THE PANCAKE FEAST

Dear People of God,

It is hard to believe but Lent is just around the corner! Our last hurrah, Shrove Tuesday's feast, (February 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m.) will be overseen by master chef (and snappy dresser) Jon Clark and will be an opportunity for the men of the church to show their skill (or lack thereof) in the kitchen! Shrove Tuesday has been celebrated as one last gluttonous feast before the rigors of Lent. This day is also known in other cultures as Mardi Gras (french for 'Fat Tuesday') or carnival (literally 'put the meat away') and is a time for indulging in fancy treats, parades and even pancake races! The word 'shrove' comes from an old English word 'shrive' that translates to repent, confess or clean out. As cupboards were cleaned out and all leavening agents were removed from the household pantries, it was time for one last indulgence- and using up as many luxurious ingredients as possible for making pancakes, doughnuts or pastries.

This cleaning out has begun in earnest! Not only have many folks cleaned out closets and donated hundreds of items for the rummage sale, but we have also begun a thorough cleansing of our facilities at Church. It is amazing the things that have been held onto and tucked away in the attic or hidden away in the basement. For the historians among us, no need to worry all archives, old windows and historic relics have been safely stored away. But broken chairs, cracked and unsafe items, or things that should not have been saved for a rainy day (or any other day for that matter) have found their way into the rummage sale or the dumpster. A clean sweep seems fitting at this time of year.

But how about the spiritual housecleaning that is also necessary, and perhaps long overdue? Many times we are so exhausted from our literal housecleaning that we forget that the more important work for believers is to rend our hearts and not our garments. As we approach Lent this year, let us all begin to set some spiritual housecleaning goals. For the list makers among us, here is a start that you might want to consider...

As you reflect on your life in Christ today . . .

- ♦ are their friends or relatives with whom you are at odds, or with whom you are not at peace?
- ♦ Do you need to be reconciled with someone over a squabble, new or old?
- ♦ Are you tired of the burden of carrying anger, resentment, malice, jealousy or dissent?
- ♦ Have you neglected your first love of the Lord?
- ♦ Have you been faithful in worship, stewardship and witnessing for Christ?
- ♦ Do your words on Sunday get lived out in your life everyday?
- ♦ Do you long for the joy in your Christian life that seems to have faded away?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, perhaps you are overdue for some spiritual housecleaning. Several spiritual aids and devotionals, articles in the Weekly Messenger, and our adult classes are steps in that direction. The clergy are available for counsel or spiritual direction and would be happy to meet with you to nurture this process. Why wait until Lent? Any day can be turnaround day to begin your prodigal walk home. Our gracious God stands watching at the gate to welcome us home.

Faithfully, Scott

WISE WOMEN

All women of the parish are cordially invited to attend our heretofore unannounced meeting on Tuesday, **February 10, 2009**. We are delighted that Sandra Johnson and Juli Towell, both trustees of the General Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York City, will speak about the Seminary. Juli has been a Trustee for 14 years and Sandra is beginning her fifth year.

They plan to show a segment of a DVD on the Seminary, and talk briefly about the Seminary and its program. They will also talk about being a trustee of an educational institution and some of the challenges / opportunities currently facing Episcopal seminaries.

The Seminary, which is located in Chelsea on an entire city block, is the oldest Episcopal Seminary in the United States and the only one chartered by General Convention. The land for GTS was donated by Clement Clarke Moore, who was a professor at the Seminary from 1821 -1850 and who was also the author of "Twas The Night Before Christmas".

We meet from 6:15 p.m. 8:00 p.m. in the St. Mark Room. Bring a light supper if you wish; dessert will be provided. If you'd like a ride, just call Andi at the church and we will happily arrange.

Service honoring

ABSALOM JONES,

the first African-American

ordained in the Episcopal Church

Sunday, February 8, 3:00 p.m.

Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral, Newark

Please call Lisa Green

if you would like a ride, 973.379.2898

ABRAHAM'S TABLE LUNCHEON: GETTING BEYOND STEREOTYPES ABOUT OTHERS' FAITHS

Tuesday, February 10, 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, Short Hills, 1025

South Orange Ave. Directions at www.tbj.org

Enjoy great Turkish food, meet people of other faiths and join in a lively interfaith discussion

to dispel misconceptions and find common

ground. Panelists: Rabbi Matthew Gewirtz,

Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, Short Hills; The

Rev. Lisa Green, Christ Church, Short Hills;

Ferhan Tunagur, Rutgers University.

Cosponsored by CCSH, Interweave, TBJ, and

the Interfaith Dialog Center of New Jersey.

HUGE THANKS to Hope Lampe,
La Nora Holcombe, Joyce Wiggin &
Bobbi Engler for their help these past
weeks! We are always looking for
volunteers on Thursday afternoons or
Friday mornings to assist with the
Weekly Messenger. Please call the office
at 973.379.2898.

MUSIC NEWS

Sunday, March 1- John Pivarnik will present an introduction to new hymns from our supplemental hymnals, *Lift Every Voice and Sing, Wonder, Love, and Praise* and *Voices Found*. All are invited and encouraged to attend this forum which will provide an opportunity to become familiar with new texts that speak to all of us and new melodies that will enhance our congregational singing. (*rescheduled from February 22*)

ACCOMPANIED MUSIC The organ has an unrivalled position in providing a strong foundation for congregational singing. Occasionally, the piano also serves as an accompanying medium. Other musical instruments can be utilized in conjunction with the organ or piano for leading worship. Instrumentalists in the congregation who have a desire to play the melody line of a hymn during worship should come forth and let your 'voice' be heard. Please contact John Pivarnik or any member of the clergy if you desire to give your musical talent a chance to grow in a nurturing and vibrant environment. This would require advance preparation but could be easily scheduled.

CHOIR SCHEDULES *Please note changes in rehearsal and performance schedule due to President's Week school breaks.*
Thank-you, JOHN

Sunday, February 8 – Children's and Canterbury Choir Rehearsals

Sunday, February 15 – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 8 – Children's and Canterbury Choir Rehearsals

Sunday, March 15 – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Children's Choir Singing at 9:30 Eucharist:

Children should arrive in the choir room by 9:10 a.m. to get robed and rehearsed.

Sunday, March 1 and Sunday, March 15

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Who doesn't love bacon for dinner? Join us for our annual Pancake Supper on **Shrove Tuesday, February 24**, from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. This traditional pre-Lenten feast will be prepared and served by the men of the church. So take the night off and let the men of Christ Church serve you and your family - you can't get a better deal for dinner - just \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Incidentally we are looking for 'a few good men' to help out. Those who are interested should contact Jon Clark at (973) 921-9669.



CALLING ALL COOKS!

Sign up for Pancake Supper duty! This year in addition to our regular fare of pancakes and sausage we will be expanding our menu (at STH's request) to include waffles! *P.S. If you have a waffle iron that you would be willing to lend, put your name on the bottom of the appliance and drop it off in the kitchen. Mark your calendars and prepare for the feast!*

SIDESMEN + LAYREADER MEETING

Scott has invited the Lay Readers and Sidesmen to meet with him on Sunday, February 22 at 11:00 a.m. for coffee and conversation after the 9:30 a.m. service. Please plan to join us!



Many thanks to
**BETTY & MALCOLM
MACKINNON**

for their years of service
as part of the Ushering team.
Congratulations on your retirement!

WELCOME TO OUR WINTER TERM TEACHERS!

Godly Play

Audena Syracuse and Heather Finan

Grade 1

Rose Udland

Grade 2

Liz and Jon Clark

Grade 3

Robin Little

Grade 4

Elizabeth McGraw and Amy Schott

Grades 5 & 6

Jill Draper and Jane McGraw

Grades 7 & 8

Dan Graves and parents

Sunday, February 8

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL due to Rummage Sale. Nursery care will be available in Room 203. Please join us after worship to put Sunday School materials back into our classrooms!

LENTEN WORSHIP AND STUDY:

"Have a new kid by Friday," by Kevin Leman. One of our new rector's favorite authors and books! "How to change your child's attitude, behavior, and character in 5 days." Facilitated by Elizabeth Wigg Maxwell. Please let Elizabeth know you're interested so that she can order you a book!

FEBRUARY SUNDAY NURSERY FAMILY HELPERS

February 8 :: Birch
February 15 :: McBride
February 22 :: Malin



Sunday SCHOOL

BIRTHDAYS

- 02/07 John Eddy
- 02/07 Daniel Trinchillo
- 02/08 Jeffery Bartsch
- 02/08 Shelley Lach
- 02/08 Lee Barker
- 02/09 Spencer Reckford
- 02/09 William Gadsden
- 02/09 Sandra Peinado
- 02/09 Sarah Shewmaker
- 02/09 Paige Willian
- 02/11 Donald Syracuse
- 02/11 Derek Huang
- 02/12 Madeleine Busacca
- 02/13 Lynne Ranieri
- 02/13 Scott Holcombe
- 02/14 Walter Elliott
- 02/14 Shirley Horbatt
- 02/15 Angelica Nwachuku
- 02/15 Lisa Haggerty
- 02/15 Will Johnson
- 02/16 Maddie Stearns
- 02/16 Maren Finan
- 02/17 Donald Maccoy
- 02/18 Charlotte Bushong
- 02/18 Samuel Reckford
- 02/19 James Johnson
- 02/19 Caitlyn Dwyer
- 02/20 Katherine Thomas
- 02/21 W. Daniel McCain
- 02/21 Brendan Near
- 02/22 Kessler Bowman
- 02/23 Richard Carchia
- 02/24 Joan McKeown
- 02/25 Lianne Boller
- 02/26 Scott Thomas
- 02/26 Jack Wright
- 02/27 Karen Larson
- 02/27 Mary Macy
- 02/28 Daniel Graves
- 02/29 Andrew Shewmaker



FULL RUMMAGE SALE RECAP NEXT WEEK!



**RUMMAGE
SALE WEEK!**

Thank you to JANE HOUSTON for these great photos!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>8</p> <p>8:00am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15am - Nursery Care</p> <p>9:30am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:45am -Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:00am - Tangible Gifts</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30pm - Boy Scouts Blue + Gold dinner</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:30am - Staff meeting</p> <p>12:00 - 2:00pm Abraham's Table lunch at B'nai Jeshurun</p> <p>6:15pm - Wise Women</p> <p>7:00pm - Buildings + Grounds</p> <p>7:30pm - Education for Ministry</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30am - Education for Ministry</p> <p>7:00pm - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>7:45pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am - Altar Guild</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30am - Interweave Bible Study</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:00am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15am - Sunday School + Nursery Care</p> <p>9:30am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:45am -Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:00am - Adult Forum</p>	<p>16</p> <p>OFFICES ARE CLOSED</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:30am - Staff meeting</p> <p>7:30pm - Education for Ministry</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30am - Education for Ministry</p> <p>7:00pm - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>7:45pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30am - Interweave Bible Study</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30am - Careers in Transition</p>