

ISSUE

10

February 15, 2009

WEEKLY MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

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Dear People of God,

Lent is only 10 days away. Made any plans? Made some resolutions? Mapped out your strategy for a holy Lent?

I invite you to consider a Lenten pilgrimage. Pilgrimages are defined as **“a journey to some distant place, sacred and intentional, for some reason, often undertaken for devotional purposes.”** This is not an invitation to a mere trip or direct travel where rapid arrival at a destination is the desired goal. On a pilgrimage, there are stops along the way—intentional stops that are places of rest, learning, refreshment and encounter. These learnings are more important and transformative than simply arriving at our journey’s end. Our stops along the way will involve repentance, worship, study, reflection, stewardship, and service.

This invitation is not about invoking a Lenten discipline or new rules and regulations. This Lenten pilgrimage begins by asking a very hard question, “where am I in my walk with the Lord?” To determine our point of origin, we must know from where we are starting. Have we encountered God? Do we have a lively sense of God’s presence? Are prayer and Scripture study something dreaded or an eager delight? Has the Lord encountered us? Do we sense distance from God because of past or present sin? Are we running or trying to hide from God? Angry with God? Disappointed with God? Where is our Ash Wednesday point of origin?

Keep in mind the empty tomb is our journey’s end. When we stand gazing into the tomb, will the work of Lent, in terms of our preparation and pilgrimage be complete? Will we have taken the intentional steps of forgiveness, reconciliation, and perhaps even reparation? Will we have stepped aside from the busy-ness and routine of everyday life to have done the “soul work” necessary? Are there plans in your routine to consider God breaking into your everyday life and meeting you at your greatest need?

During Lent we will be providing many resources for your reflection, study, and worship at points along the pilgrimage. There will be extra worship services, multiple adult classes, a Lenten ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development) ingathering for mosquito nets, and printed suggestions to help pass the time. Make sure that you pick up and use these resources on your Lenten pilgrimage. I’ll meet you at the empty tomb!

Faithfully,



Effective immediately the Church office will be open Monday - Thursday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. This Vestry-approved schedule will enable easier access to the church office than is currently possible (current hours are 9:00am-2:30pm M-F) There will be folks in and out of the office on Friday but this will not be a regular work day for the office staff. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. STH

PAINTING PARTY!

Would you like to help freshen up the church offices and classrooms? Then bring your paintbrushes, rollers, old clothes and smiles to Christ Church on **Monday, February 16**, starting at 1:00 p.m. Scott will see you there!

PASTORAL CALLS

Now that the dust has settled, Scott is making house calls! If you would like to have Scott over for a pastoral call, please call Andi at the Parish Office.



RUMMAGE SALE 2009

Christ Church was busy, busy, busy the week of the Rummage Sale! The 120 volunteers, younger and older, made Christ Church the place to be all week, unloading cars, sorting rummage and working the party and/or sale. Nancy Sammartino, Cindy Pelham-Webb and Debbie Ristau put on a terrific Preview Party, attended by 136 people. Meanwhile, all were agreed that we had the largest turnout ever for the rummage sale itself! We took in **\$14, 916** in adjusted revenues before expenses, which will support the YPF mission trip. However, one of the most satisfying parts of the sale this year was how we changed our focus to support our outreach ministry through the disposal of the remaining unsold items.

Representatives for the following charities collected items: Apostle's House, Grace Church (Madison) Recycling Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, North Porch, Valley Settlement House, Bridges and the Sage Resale Shop. Items which these charities could not use were "regifted" to representatives from United Methodist Church, Hazlet, NJ, to be used for another rummage sale to support their ministries to Bridges, Family Promise and a local soup kitchen. Congratulations and thanks to so many for a job well done! We truly could not have managed without the help of each one of you.

Thank you all, Peggy Baggaley

GRACE CHURCH RECYCLING MINISTRY

The Recycling Ministry of Grace Church (Madison) gathers food, clothing, furniture, kitchen utensils, appliances and baby items to distribute to those in need. They currently have a waiting list of 10 clients in need of assistance. They are looking for beds (mattresses and box springs), kitchen/dining tables, chairs, dressers and sofas. Call Nancy Willis at (973) 610-2325 to schedule a pick up.

SAGE RESALE SHOP

The Sage Resale Shop will take all sorts of items (clothing, furniture, housewares, etc.) that are in good condition, including books. Clothing and TV sets must be less than 3 years old, however. They do not take computers, typewriters, encyclopedias. Furniture must be in good condition. They are located at 31 Chatham Road, Summit and are open Monday-Saturday 10:00am-5:00pm. Call (908) 273-5564 to arrange furniture pick up.



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 - 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. This year in addition to our regular fare of pancakes and sausage we will be expanding our menu (at Scott'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. Those who are interested should contact Jon Clark at (973) 921-9669.



LENTEN SPIRITUALITY CLASS

"Spirituality is about what we do with the fire inside of us," writes Ronald Rolheiser, "the disciplines and habits we choose to live by . . . the way we are related to God, others, and the cosmic world." Join Lisa Green and Karen Rezach for a Lenten journey through Rolheiser's book *The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality*. To reserve a copy, call 973-379-2898 or email lisa.green@ccshmail.org

Sunday SCHOOL

NEW LOOK TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

We're making some changes to our Sunday School classrooms in an effort to make them safer and more child-friendly. All classes Nursery through 6th grade are now located on the second floor. The 7th & 8th grade room is on the third floor. Please note the following room changes:

- Nursery (infants to 3 years) – 203/204
- Godly Play (3 years through kindergarten) – 213
- Grade 1 – 217
- Grade 2 – 216
- Grade 3 – 212
- Grade 4 – 209
- Grades 5&6 - 206
- 7th & 8th Grade class news: No class February 15.

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 + MARCH SUNDAY NURSERY FAMILY HELPERS:

- February 22 :: Malin
- March 1 :: Everline
- March 8 :: McDonald
- March 15 :: Nwachuku
- March 22 :: Reilley

ARE YOU GREEN?

You may noticed that some mailboxes have green circles next to the names. That is because those parishioners have requested to receive the Weekly Messenger by email only. If you would like to receive the Weekly Messenger by email only, please email Andi.



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!

INVITATION TO JOIN THE USHERS

Parishioners are urged to join the Christ Church Usher Corps and become part of one of our Usher Teams for the 9:30 a.m. service. No experience is needed. We have Usher Training Meetings and your Usher Captain and Usher Teammates will look after you and train you until then. This is perhaps the best way to meet a wide range of other Parishioners, to meet members of the Vestry, to see your leadership in action and to perform a valuable service to the parish. Usher Teams serve once every 7 weeks - that is, about 7 times per year. Ushers switch with each other when there are scheduling conflicts. Please give Bill Johnson a call at 732-235-4508 or 973-379-7334 or by email to wjohnson@umdnj.edu. Welcome!



BIRTHDAYS

- 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 Maccoby
- 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

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.

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.

CHANCEL CHOIR, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, CANTERBURY CHOIR SCHEDULES

Please note changes in rehearsal and performance schedule due to President's Week school breaks.

Sunday, February 22 + Sunday, March 15 – Chancel Choir Rehearsal at 10:45

Sunday, March 8 – Children's and Canterbury Choir Rehearsals 10:45

CHILDREN'S CHOIR SINGING AT 9:30 A.M: Children should arrive in the choir room by 9:10 a.m.

Sunday March 1 + Sunday March 15



YOGA IN LENT

A time to wait, prepare and be aware with gentle yoga postures and breathing exercises. Relieve some holiday stress and experience some inner peace.

Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m., Parish Hall

Guided by certified yoga teacher, Barbara Senchak. No yoga experience necessary; just right intent and a yoga mat. For further information, call Barbara at 973.376.5587. Total minimum contribution: 1 mosquito net (\$12) from Episcopal Relief + Development. Pay in class.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<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 with Scott Holcombe</p>	<p>16</p> <p>OFFICES ARE CLOSED</p> <p>1:00pm - Painting Party!</p> <p>8:00pm - Finance Committee meeting</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>
<p>22</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>11:00am - Layreaders/ Sidesman meeting</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>SHROVE TUESDAY</p> <p>10:30am - Staff meeting</p> <p>5:30pm - Pancake Dinner</p> <p>7:30pm - Education for Ministry</p> <p>8:00pm - Vestry meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>7:00am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:30am - Education for Ministry</p> <p>12:00pm - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>7:00pm - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>7:45pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30am - Interweave Bible Study</p>	<p>28</p> <p>1:00pm - Windows Presentation</p>