

ISSUE

11

February 22, 2009

WEEKLY MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

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Dear People of God,

This coming week, we will begin the holy season of Lent. We start with the frivolity of Shrove Tuesday pancakes (from the old English custom of shricing (cleaning out) the pantry prior to the rigors of Lent. This thorough housecleaning was intended to make our homes and our souls ready vessels for the Lord. Throughout this coming Lent we will be focusing on practical preparations for the soul. Our clergy sermons and teachings will explore applicable Christian truths that will aid you in your daily walk with the Lord. Don't miss a single Sunday (or Wednesday!) Get ready for a holy Lent!

I was also recently asked, "what can I do to prepare for Lent?" I thought this question deserved some ink in the Messenger!

- ♦ That we know the Lord, the object of our worship - God calls us into a covenant relationship and living out that relationship - requires worship
- ♦ A time of readiness- this may involve spiritual discipline or disciplines, repentance, a forgiving heart, self-examination, a time of prayer
- ♦ A spirit of forgiveness, with intention for amendment of life in those relationships where you have not fully honored God
- ♦ A spirit of openness and readiness to hear the Word of God- to let it sink in, soak in and do its work
- ♦ Some quiet time, stillness, reflection on the Lord and his working in your life during the weeks past and some thought about the weeks ahead- what you are facing
- ♦ Prayerful thought about your tithes and offerings- we are told not to appear before the Lord empty handed (Dt 16:16) –we must seriously reflect on our stewardship
- ♦ Focused attention on the Lord and coming into his courts with prayer, praise, singing, thanksgiving

Preparing for Lent and preparing for worship involves much more than showing up nicely dressed and on time. It is a habit of the heart by which we respond to God's call, week by week, to worship him. It is a time when we gather with our community of faith and lay down our individual whims and truly . . . come into his courts with praise (Ps 95:1-2).

Faithfully,



Scott T. Holcombe, *Rector*

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.

3 OPPORTUNITIES FOR LENTEN LEARNING

Each 7-week class will be at 7:45 p.m. (after the Wednesday evening Eucharist)

February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8

Come to the forum this **Sunday, February 22** for a preview.



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CLASS - FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES

Join Scott and La Nora Holcombe in Parish Hall as they co-lead this wonderful class!

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 in the St. Mark room for a Lenten journey through Rolheiser's book *The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality*. To purchase a copy for \$15, call 973-379-2898 or email lisa.green@ccshmail.org

HAVE A NEW KID BY FRIDAY

"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." Join Elizabeth Wigg Maxwell in room 206. To purchase a copy for \$12, call 973-379-2898 or email elizabeth.wiggmaxwell@ccshmail.org

A FESTIVAL OF WINDOWS PRESENTATION



Please join us for a presentation on our stained glass windows on **Saturday, February 28 at 4:00 p.m.** Our rector, Scott Holcombe, will be catering the event with his fabulous hor d'oeuvres. A representative from the firm of Feminella and Associates in Branchburg, NJ will be joining us. They are one of the preeminent builders and restorers of stained glass in the country. They have worked at the Princeton University Chapel, Riverside Church, The Metropolitan Museum Tiffany windows, St. Bernard's Church in Bernardville, and The National Cathedral. Hope to see you there!

CHEESY OLIVE BREAD RECIPE

from the Rummage Sale Preview Party!

30 Minute Olive Appetizer by Debora Ristau

- 8 oz tube refrigerated crescent rolls
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar Cheese
- ½ cup onion, minced (used the food processor, took 5 seconds)
- 3 tablespoons of butter, softened
- 1 cup sliced olives (green or black)

- ◆ Spread rolls to cover the bottom of the greased 13x9 baking pan; set aside.
- ◆ Mix remaining ingredients together and spread over crust.
- ◆ Bake at 350 for 15 to 20 minutes
- ◆ Cut into bite size squares.
- ◆ Freeze baked squares until ready to use, then heat in microware or oven till warm.

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!

THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEER PAINTERS!



Photos by
TERRY FINAN

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.



ACOLYTES



ACOLYTE TRAINING

Lisa Green will lead us in an Acolyte training meeting on **Saturday, February 28 at 10:30 a.m.** Please plan on attending- especially ninth graders!

Sunday SCHOOL

A NEW LOOK!

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) – 212

Godly Play (3 years through kindergarten) – 213

Grade 1 – 217

Grade 2 – 216

Grade 3 – 209

Grade 4 – 204

Grades 5&6 - 206

7th & 8th Grade class news: Class members will be sorting the clothing collected in the Winter Warmth drive, for donation to Apostles House.

MARCH SUNDAY NURSERY FAMILY HELPERS:

March 1 :: Everline

March 8 :: McDonald

March 15 :: Nwachuku

March 22 :: Reilley

March 29 :: Amarante



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!

YOGA IN LENT

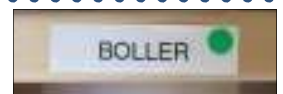
A time to wait, prepare and be aware with gentle yoga postures and breathing exercises. Relieve some holiday stress and experience some inner peace.



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.

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.



BIRTHDAYS

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

Ash Wednesday Service

The 7:00 p.m. service will be enhanced with an offering of liturgical dance presented by Eyesha Marable, a student at Drew University in Madison. Liturgical dance is a Christian expression of prayer or worship through body movement. Such dances can be accompanied by many different types of music. The dancers will respond with an appropriate dance which flows out of the music and enhances the prayer or worship experience. This dance may either be spontaneous, or have been choreographed ahead of time and fitted to the song's lyrics or to religious concepts. The dance, on Ash Wednesday accompanied by music and poetry reading, will take place during the imposition of ashes.

CHANCEL CHOIR, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, CANTERBURY CHOIR SCHEDULES

Sundays, February 22 + March 15

Chancel Choir Rehearsal at 10:45 a.m.

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

CHILDREN'S CHOIR SINGING AT THE 9:30 A.M. EUCHARIST

please arrive in the choir room by 9:10 a.m.

Sunday, March 1

singing *'Jesus Walked That Lonesome Valley'*

Sunday, March 15

singing *'God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale'*



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
22 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Sunday School + Nursery Care 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am -Coffee Hour 11:00am - Adult Forum 11:00am - Layreaders/ Sidesman meeting	23 7:00pm - Children's Stewardship meeting	24 SHROVE TUESDAY 10:30am - Staff meeting 5:30pm - Pancake Dinner 7:30pm - Education for Ministry 8:00pm - Vestry meeting	25 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:30am - Education for Ministry 12:00pm - Holy Eucharist 7:00pm - Holy Eucharist 7:45pm - Lenten Classes	26	27 9:30am - Interweave Bible Study	28 10:00am - Acolyte Training 4:00pm - Stained Glass Windows Presentation
1 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Sunday School + Nursery Care 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am -Coffee Hour 11:00am - Adult Forum	2 9:00am - Yoga	3 10:30am - Staff meeting 7:30pm - Education for Ministry	4 9:30am - Education for Ministry 7:00pm - Holy Eucharist 7:45pm - Lenten Classes	5	6 9:30am - Interweave Bible Study	7 8:30am - Careers in Transition