

ISSUE

12

March 1, 2009

WEEKLY MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

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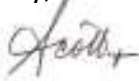
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Dear People of God,

So the pilgrimage of Lent begins! This sojourn of our pilgrimage wanderings in many ways will mimic the journey of the 'abiru (later Hebrew) people from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the land of promise. Their journey was fraught with testing and trial, with victory and defeat, and with signposts of faithful significance each step along the way. The monumental battle against the pursuing charioteers of pharaoh's army was a battle decisively won by the Lord. There were bitter waters brought about the grumbling of God's people — yet the waters were made clean by the touch of an obedient Moses. Likewise complaints of hunger resulted in a regular provision of manna and quail. Thirst brought about another test of obedience, yet a faithful response brought water in abundance from a rock. Enemies were defeated by a faithful band of warriors, who though outnumbered, trusted God for success. The forty year pilgrimage revealed faith, tested obedience, and resulted in victory.

Our pilgrimage begins with a call to fasting and repentance, a call for reconciliation and deliverance, and the annual reminder of palm frond ashes and the fragility of this mortal life. Our forty day journey through this Lenten wasteland will likewise be filled with times of worship, times of testing, calls to obedience, and tests of faith. We will either learn to trust in the Lord anew or to trust only in ourselves. We will fight our battles or learn that the battle truly is the Lord's. We will lean into the unknown, confident in the Lord and be gently guided to the Promised Land, or we will murmur around in our desert wasteland consumed by our fate and filled with a troublesome spirit. The challenge of a holy Lent is before us — seize each day for the Lord!

Faithfully,



Scott T. Holcombe, *Rector*

PRAYER STICKS???

When you entered church this morning you may have noticed that there is a bowl in the back of the church filled with tongue depressors! On each of these "prayer sticks" there is a name of someone on our prayer list. You are asked to take a prayer stick each worship service and to be in special intercession for that person during the worship service (and hopefully during the coming week.) During the prayers of the people when encouraged to pray for those who are sick, for safe travel, or prayers of thanksgiving, simply offer aloud the name on your prayer stick (all at one time!) The intercessions will truly become the prayers of the people! You may even want to give that person a call or an email to let them know that they are in your prayers.



3 OPPORTUNITIES FOR LENTEN LEARNING

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

March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8 Come for any or all classes!

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



ADULT FORUM: Sunday, March 1, John Pivarnik will present an introduction to new hymns and new texts from our supplemental hymnals, *Lift Every Voice and Sing, Wonder, Love and Praise and Voices Found*. Many of the new hymns utilize familiar melodies with new, refreshing, current and more inclusive texts. Please plan to attend this forum and bring your singing voice . . . no experience necessary, just a desire to broaden your horizons in the worship life of Christ Church.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND CANTERBURY CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULES

Sundays, March 8 + 29 - rehearsal at 10:45 a.m. to prepare music for Palm and Easter Sunday

CHILDREN'S CHOIR SINGING AT 9:30 EUCHARIST

Children should arrive in the choir room by 9:05 a.m.

Sunday, March 1 singing 'He is Good' + 'Jesus Walked That Lonesome Valley'

Sunday, March 15 singing 'God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale'

Sunday, April 5 sing for Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 12 sing for Easter Sunday

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL

Sunday, March 22 - rehearsal at 10:45 a.m.

WITNESS

Sometimes the mountain
is hidden from me in veils
of cloud, sometimes
I am hidden from the mountain
in veils of inattention, apathy, fatigue,
when I forget or refuse to go
down to the shore or a few yards
up the road, on a clear day,
to reconfirm
that witnessing presence.

--Denise Levertov

We are always looking for
volunteers on Thursday afternoon
to assist with the
Weekly Messenger.
Please call the office at
973.379.2898.

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.

LENTEN CROSSES

Once again we are offering the small wooden pocket crosses that have become a tradition here at Christ Church. You will find them in a bowl on the shelf at the back of the sanctuary. We invite you to take a cross and carry it with you in your pocket. Somewhere along the line, you will meet someone who needs your cross more than you do. Give the cross to them and come get another. If you have not tried this form of pastoral care and evangelism, take the chance this year to make a difference in someone's life by showing them the reality of God in this

Sunday SCHOOL

7th & 8th Grade class makes donation to Apostles House in Newark!

Kudos to our 7th & 8th graders for their Winter Warmth drive. Last Sunday, February 22, they visited Apostles House in Newark, a ministry of the Diocese of Newark, and donated the following: 35 Coats, 17 Sweaters, 18 Sweatshirts, over 75 scarves, hats, and gloves, and 3 blankets. Thanks to class members, parents, parishioners, and a BIG thank you to Dan Graves for his leadership!

MARCH SUNDAY NURSERY FAMILY HELPERS:

March 1 :: Everline

March 8 :: McDonald

March 15 :: Nwachuku

March 22 :: Reilley

March 29 :: Amarante



CHRIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT 2009

Malaria Kills A Child Every 30 Seconds, But It Doesn't Have To...

Christ Church Sunday School is raising money for *NetsforLife*. During Lent, children will be decorating their own coin boxes to collect money. They will take home their boxes, along with a booklet entitled "How do I thank you? Let me count the ways." Each day, families can read the brief devotion and make a donation in the coin box in thanksgiving for all of God's blessings. On Easter Sunday, children will bring their coin boxes to church as an offering to God for the important work of *NetsforLife*!

WISE WOMEN

Ladies of the Parish! Plan to join us for dessert in the St. Mark Room on **March 10 at 6:15 p.m.**

and to welcome guest speaker, The Rev. Lisa Green who will give a talk entitled, "*God's Names and Faces.*"

Lisa writes: "Scripture and Tradition provide a treasure trove of

different images of the Holy, only a few of which may make it into our prayer and worship. Discover this rich diversity and some simple ways to practice expanding our vocabulary for the mystery of God, who "transcends all categories of knowing, including those of masculine and feminine." (*Enriching Our Worship*)." Before coming to Christ Church this past June, Lisa Green was the Associate Director of Interweave, a community learning center in Summit for wellness, spirituality, and the common good. She is a graduate of Drew Theological School and a co-founder of Women of Sacred Story, a Jewish/ Christian/Muslim gathering, and Wisdom's Well, a worship service exploring the feminine face of God. Those who wish may stay afterwards for a worship service using some of these images.



SAVE THE DATE

On **Thursday, March 26, 2009**, Wise Women will sponsor a trip to NYC to attend a late afternoon Sung Evensong at General Theological Seminary.

Arrangement details are in the works. As space is somewhat limited, please email Jane Houston in the near future (jhouston@comcast.net) to let her know you would be interested in going.

BIRTHDAYS

- 03/01 Elizabeth Burn
 - 03/02 John Cooper
 - 03/03 Emily Draper
 - 03/04 Frank Armour
 - 03/05 Bill Harwood
 - 03/07 Katherine Coombs
 - 03/08 Deborah Hill
 - 03/09 Jacob Cherian
 - 03/11 Ian Larson
 - 03/11 Kevin Near
 - 03/12 John Clemence
 - 03/12 Douglas Cundey
 - 03/12 Cole Woerner
 - 03/13 Anne Hansen
 - 03/14 James Morrison
 - 03/14 Blake Udland
 - 03/14 Lauren Graves
 - 03/15 Scott Kern
 - 03/16 Scott Wright
 - 03/16 Madison Reilley
 - 03/17 Herbert Peterson
 - 03/17 Mary Roberts
 - 03/17 Gage Seeger
 - 03/18 Ken Udland
 - 03/18 Tyler Udland
 - 03/19 Julia Draper
 - 03/20 Jennie Graves
 - 03/20 Gary Busacca
 - 03/20 Ridley Lindstrom
 - 03/22 John Sogliuzzo
 - 03/22 Sophie Wang
 - 03/23 Amy Schott
 - 03/24 Alex Pelham-Webb
 - 03/24 Katie McChesney
 - 03/26 Peter Hansen
 - 03/26 Robert Arnold
 - 03/26 Caroline Richardson
 - 03/27 Patrick Haggerty
 - 03/28 Valerie Boyle
 - 03/30 David Graziano
- ANNIVERSARIES**
- 03/06 Kathleen + Rupert Zimmerer
 - 03/13 Penelope + Joe Kern
 - 03/14 Virginia + George Freund
 - 03/16 La Nora + Scott Holcombe
 - 03/26 Anne + Peter Hansen
 - 03/27 Peggy + Robert Arnold
 - 03/29 Eileen + James Paduano



**SHROVE
TUESDAY
PANCAKE
SUPPER**

Many thanks for JON CLARK for
organizing the supper and
TERRY FINAN for the photos!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</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>2</p> <p>9:00am - Yoga</p> <p>7:45pm - Stewardship Council meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:30am - Staff meeting</p> <p>7:30pm - Education for Ministry</p> <p>8:00pm - Personnel committee</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30am - Education for Ministry</p> <p>7:00pm - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>7:45pm - Lenten Classes</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30am - Interweave Bible Study</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30am - Careers in Transition</p>
<p>8</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>9</p> <p>9:00am - Yoga</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:30am - Staff meeting</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 - Lenten Classes</p> <p>8:00pm - CCNS Governing Board</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am - Altar Guild</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30am - Interweave Bible Study</p>	<p>14</p>