

ISSUE

17

April 5, 2009

WEEKLY MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

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Dear People of God,

The Holy Week at Christ Church offer a variety of worship experiences for us to come face to face with events in the Life of Christ that are at the core of the Christian faith.

- ♦ Our **Palm Sunday** procession from the parking lot to the Church echoes the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with waving palms and shouts of "Hosanna."
- ♦ On Wednesday, our **Tenebrae** service will speak to shadows and an increasing darkness as we near the cross.
- ♦ **Maundy Thursday's Seder dinner** will re-enact the supper Jesus had with his disciples in the upper room before his arrest and be followed by an instructed stripping of the altar that will reveal little known facts surrounding decorative items in the church and their linkage with Jewish burial customs.
- ♦ **Good Friday** will feature Karen Rezach preaching about the significance of the Cross.
- ♦ Lisa Green and Brent Bates from Calvary Church in Summit will lead the **Easter Vigil** on Saturday and recount salvation history in a very meaningful worship experience and baptize those who are newly confessing the faith, Katherine Grosghal and Krystan George.
- ♦ On **Easter Sunday** we shall gather together echoing "He is Risen, Indeed!" as we affirm our steadfast faith in the Risen Son of God. The children will flower the Gethsemane cross and later race to find Easter eggs bringing back countless memories of Easter past...

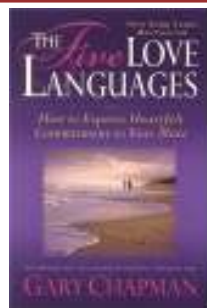
This week is all about participation. If one jumps from Palm Sunday to Easter without experiencing the in-between events that recall "the rest of the story" it is easy to gloss over the true extent of God's sacrifice in the passion and death of Jesus. There is something that touches a very deep part of our soul when we retell the details of the first Lord's Supper, recall the illegal trial that yielded the sentence of death, and when we remember the jeering chants of the crowd "crucify him!"

On Ash Wednesday you were invited to the observance of a holy Lent. It is my hope and prayer that you share in the many options for worship this week as we prepare to stare into an empty garden tomb and rejoice in the certainty of our resurrection life!

Faithfully,



The Rev. Scott T. Holcombe, *Rector*



THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES class has completed its 6 week run with rave reviews and new tools for building healthy relationships. Scott and La Nora Holcombe lead this interesting class that helps folks discover their dominant love language (and that of their spouse) and creative ways to enrich their relationship. Through presentations, sharing and dialogue lives and relationships grow toward health. Twenty folks started and completed their first class! Will you be joining the next class? Couples, singles, engaged and those interested in building healthy relationships are encouraged to register for our next offering. Class times and dates will be determined by those who sign up. **Please call the Church office and sign up to register for the next class.** There is no charge for the class except for the purchase of the book.

HOLY WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

Sunday, April 5 :: Palm Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

please gather in the Parking Lot across Forest Drive to prepare for the Palm Sunday procession

Wednesday, April 8 :: Tenebrae, 7:00 p.m

(Latin for 'shadows')- a series of readings and prayers during which the church eventually becomes completely dark- no communion at this service

Thursday, April 9 :: Maundy Thursday Seder and the stripping of the Altar, 7:00 p.m.

(from the Latin "maundatum"- this I command) we will gather in Parish Hall for a Jewish Christian Seder- the traditional ceremonial meal celebrated before Passover (roast lamb, haroseth, bitter herbs, unleavened bread) ending with Eucharist and an Instructed Stripping of the Altar
Reservations for dinner are required!

Friday, April 10 :: Good Friday Liturgy, 7:00 p.m.

in the church, Rev. Karen Rezach is preaching

Saturday, April 11 :: Holy Saturday Easter Vigil and Baptisms, 7:00 p.m.

recounting Salvation history , lighting of the paschal candle, Baptisms and renewal of baptismal vows

Sunday, April 12 :: Easter Sunday Services, 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

the Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord; Easter Egg Hunt starting at 10:45 a.m.

ADULT FORUM APRIL 5

Carola Walton and Pamela Faris of Haven of Hope for Kids will be our speakers at the Adult Forum on **April 5**. A country retreat for urban New Jersey families who have children with life-threatening illnesses, Haven of Hope is an outreach of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Hope and one of CSH's grant recipients. "The goal is to give these families who are under enormous stress a chance to just come out and have fun together as a family," says Walton. Come and hear stories of this important ministry that Christ Church helps make possible.

FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

Children are encouraged to bring flowers from home for the flowering of the cross at the 9:30 a.m. Easter Day service.



NETS FOR LIFE A partnership for Malaria prevention in Africa



MOSQUITO NET DRIVE continues through Lent. Our parish has collected \$720 (60 nets) to date. If you wish to contribute, please make checks to ERD NETS FOR LIFE and send or leave in office. Final count will be posted on Easter Sunday. For any questions, contact Barbara Senchak at 973.376.5587.

CHRIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT 2009

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*!



THANK YOU ELIZABETH

On **Sunday, April 19** at the 9:30 service and coffee hour, we will thank Elizabeth Wigg Maxwell for her ministry with us as Sunday School director and parish minister. As Scott announced on March 22, he and the lay leadership are restructuring the staff in order to more efficiently implement Christ Church's mission in difficult economic times. Returning the Sunday School to its previous all-volunteer status seemed an appropriate step, as did reducing the total number of clergy from four to two full time positions, rector and assistant rector, and one part-time assisting priest.

During her time at CSH, Elizabeth's primary ministry with our young people and families expanded to include preaching, worship leadership, and pastoral care to the wider congregation. We hope you will join us in thanking her for four and a half years of faithful service to Christ Church. Contributions to her purse may be dropped off or mailed to the parish office.

RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS

With our new accounting system, we are able to email your record of contributions the first week of April.

If you would prefer to receive it by USPS mail, please let Andi Hidalgo know. She can be reached by email at andrea.hidalgo@ccshmail.org and/or 973.379.2898, ext. 201.



Godly Play - Matthew 21:1-11; People welcome Jesus into Jerusalem as their king. They spread cloaks and palms on the road and say "Hosanna in the highest!"

Primary – Acts 1:11b; Unit III Session 9. In the Church's worship, we proclaim that Jesus died, was buried, and rose again. He ascended into heaven.

Intermediate – Luke 24:44-53; Unit III Session 9. Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven. The Creeds of the Church tell of this event.



EASTER EGG HUNT

Please join us after the 9:30 a.m. service on **Easter Day** for our Annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt. See you there!

CHILDREN'S AND CANTERBURY CHOIRS SINGING AT 9:30 EUCHARIST:

Please note: Children should arrive in the choir room by 9:05 a.m. to get robed and rehearsed.

Sunday, April 5 – Palm Sunday - singing *'Blessed is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord'*

Sunday, April 12 – Easter Sunday - singing *'Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory'*



THE 59TH ANNUAL PLANT SALE BOY SCOUT TROOP 15

Spring is here and it is time to place your orders for the Boy Scout Troop 15 Plant Sale! Some of the types of bedding plants you may order are: impatiens in a variety of colors and white, petunias, geraniums, marigolds, lobelia, vinca, salvia, dahlias. We are also offering our overflowing baskets of impatiens, petunias, geraniums, portulaca and begonias, as well as tomatoes, basil and parsley for planting. There is a link on the Church website which you can use to print an order form, and to find instructions on sending it and picking up your plants. We require no payment in advance—you pay when you pick up your plants. Pick up is in the church parking lot on **Sunday, May 9** between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. If you prefer, you can have your order delivered to your home for a delivery fee of \$10. This plant sale is the only fundraiser for the boys of Boy Scout Troop 15. Please come out and support their efforts. If you have any questions, you can stop one of our Patrol Leaders – Charlie Hill or Petey Lurie – or you can call Thornton Lurie at 973.379.6623

ANNIVERSARIES

- 04/11 Anne + Freeman Bunn
- 04/15 Kimberly + Michael Vapenik
- 04/19 Katherine + Mike Sankovich
- 04/20 Julie + Jason Nortillo
- 04/23 Glenda + James Johnson
- 04/27 Jane + David Houston
- 04/27 Esther + John Pivarnik
- 04/28 Shirley + William Horbatt
- 04/29 Kimberly + Stephen Fritz
- 04/30 Douglas + Lianne Boller



BIRTHDAYS

- 04/01 Caroline Sogliuzzo
- 04/01 Spenser Bartsch
- 04/01 Elizabeth Reilley
- 04/01 H. Brian Birch
- 04/01 Mary McBride
- 04/02 Graham Johnson
- 04/03 R.T. Lurie Jr.
- 04/04 Howard Beder
- 04/04 Katie Bowman
- 04/04 Ethan Bolger
- 04/04 Burke Seeger
- 04/05 Richard Carchia
- 04/05 Abby Boozan
- 04/05 Jessica Carchia
- 04/06 Katharine Baggaley
- 04/06 David McGraw Jr.
- 04/07 John McBride
- 04/07 Trey Stevens
- 04/07 Alex Barney
- 04/09 William Johnson
- 04/09 Grace Le Moine
- 04/10 Margaret Fowler
- 04/13 Jeanell Hammond
- 04/13 Spencer Estes
- 04/14 Kimberly Fritz
- 04/15 Rely Jacob
- 04/17 Glori Graziano
- 04/18 John Pivarnik
- 04/19 Pamela Hulshizer
- 04/19 Isabella Hidalgo
- 04/20 Jim Fowler
- 04/20 Richard Estes
- 04/20 Olenka Speaker
- 04/20 Gillian Syracuse
- 04/21 Cynthia McChesney
- 04/21 Alexandra Stathis
- 04/22 Frederick Hill
- 04/22 Heather Cundey
- 04/22 Henry Gadsden

WISE WOMEN

All women of the parish are invited to our meeting, **Tuesday, April 14** at 6:15 p.m. for **A Journey to El Salvador**. Eileen Paduano and Jane Houston joined Barbara Senchak on her second trip in November 2008. They will tell us about their trip to witness the work of Episcopal Relief and Development in one of the most impoverished, but ruggedly beautiful countries in the Americas. Join Jane, Eileen, and Barbara as they show memorable photos and discuss El Salvador's past and present situation and ERD's response to the Salvadoran people's needs and hopes. We will meet in the carpeted area of Parish Hall to hear about this significant journey and program. Bring a sandwich or salad, if you wish; dessert and beverages will be served. Call the office if you need a ride or call Hope Lampe (973-665-1463) or Bobbi Engler (973-379-1432) if you have any questions. We look forward to being with you then.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

April 5
Charles Green

EASTER FLOWERS!

If you would like to remember a loved one by making a contribution to the Easter Flower Fund, please send your donation to the Church office with the names of those to be remembered by **April 6**. Thank you.



FIREPROOF

Our first movie night is Wednesday, April 15 at 8:00 p.m. Come and see the inspiring movie (and enjoy some popcorn) - and learn about our next marriage enrichment offering that will be based on the book *The Love Dare...* save the date and go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5ISu6GkC2k> to check out the preview of the movie!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>5 PALM SUNDAY 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Sunday School + Nursery Care 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am - Coffee Hour 11:00am - Adult Forum</p>	<p>6 7:45 - Stewardship Council meeting</p>	<p>7 9:00am - Staff meeting 7:30pm - Education for Ministry</p>	<p>8 9:30am - Education for Ministry 7:00pm - Tenebrae 7:45pm - The Holy Longing class</p>	<p>9 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Seder and Stripping of the Altar</p>	<p>10 GOOD FRIDAY 9:30am - Interweave Bible Study "Why Did Jesus Die?" 7:00 pm - Good Friday Liturgy</p>	<p>11 HOLY SATURDAY 7:00 pm - Easter Vigil and Baptisms</p>
<p>12 EASTER DAY 8:00am - Easter Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Nursery Care 9:30am - Easter Holy Eucharist 10:45am - Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am - Easter Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>13 PARISH OFFICES ARE CLOSED 7:00pm - Buildings + Grounds meeting</p>	<p>14 10:30am - Staff meeting 6:15pm - Wise Women 7:30pm - Education for Ministry 8:00pm - Outreach Grant</p>	<p>15 8:30am - SH Garden Club meeting 9:30am - Education for Ministry 7:00pm - Holy Eucharist 7:45pm - The Holy Longing class 8:00pm - Movie Night</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 9:30am - Interweave Bible Study "Why Did Jesus Die?" 12:00pm - PACCNS teacher lunch</p>	<p>18 8:30am - Careers in Transition</p>