

ISSUE

18

April 12, 2009

WEEKLY MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

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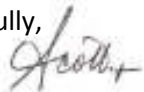
Dear People of God,

Matthew tells us on the first Easter morning there was *"an earthquake and an angel of the Lord came and rolled back the stone."* Mark tells us that on the walk to the tomb three women were *"wondering who would roll away the stone but when they arrived the stone was already rolled away."* Luke tells us that upon arriving they simply *"found the stone rolled away from the tomb."* John tells us that the stone *"had been taken away from the tomb."* All four gospels agree - the stone is no longer an impediment, they see the empty tomb, they come to believe that Jesus is risen, and then the Risen Christ reveals himself to them in many and diverse ways during the next 40 days.

Each one of us must look through the trappings of our Easter finery, spring hats and new dresses or suits, flower-covered crosses and Easter egg hunts to wrestle with the message of Easter- the bodily resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. The borrowed tomb of Joseph of Arimathea was not his final resting place. Rather it was a step on the journey to his heavenly throne. We can look at the spread of the resurrection faith that has driven the growth and development of the Christian Church, the consistency of the Biblical record, and the revelation of God to the countless millions of people around the globe since that first Easter day, who have all come to the same conclusion. He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Today we stand with all the faithful in heaven and earth, in ages past and ages present and stare into that empty tomb. It is very clear, the stone is gone, and each of us must decide for ourselves. Either the tomb is empty, Christ is Risen, and he alone has purchased our salvation and paid for our sins, or we are still dead in our trespasses and a band of itinerant Galilean peasants have pulled off the greatest hoax in history. In **Evidence Demands a Verdict**, by Josh McDowell, one of the chapters is entitled, "Jesus, - Lord, Lunatic or liar." As for me (and my house) we have chosen "Lord" and have joined all those throughout time who stare into the empty tomb- and believe. A blessed Easter to you all!

Faithfully,



FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY

To the men of CCSH - over the past 20+ years I have been a part of a small group of men who meet on a weekly basis to disciple, pray, hold accountable, and to "sharpen" one another. While I understand with hectic schedules and over-busy lives such a group (or groups) might be difficult, I was wondering if there are other men who have a similar need? Some of my preliminary thoughts include:

- ♦ Meet at the church Monday (*or some other day of the week*) morning at 6:00am for one hour max (*if enough interest we will start 4/20/2009!*)
- ♦ A commitment to a 6 week trial run
- ♦ Use of the Cursillo Group reunion format with prayer and sharing
- ♦ Limit the group to the 5-6 guys at a time.

If you are interested speak with me or email me at sthccsh@gmail.com



PALM SUNDAY :: APRIL 5, 2009

Many thanks to EILEEN PADUANO for these great photos!





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.*

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!



RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS

With our new accounting system, we are able to email your record of contributions in 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.

PARISH DIRECTORY

If you would like a parish directory by email (PDF) or hard copy, please let Andi in the parish office know. Hard copies will be put in your church mailbox.

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

Please note: Children should arrive in the choir room by 9:05 to get robed and rehearsed.
Sunday April 12 – Easter Sunday, singing 'Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory'

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

I would like to thank all members of the Canterbury, Children's and Chancel Choirs for their outstanding dedication of time, talent, and energy to the music ministry during this Lent and Easter season. Thank you also to the soloists for their additional vocal and instrumental offerings. A special thanks to parents who assisted in any way in facilitating the children's choirs. Thank you also to Scott, Lisa, James, and Andi for their work behind the scenes. A blessed Easter to all of you. *John Pivarnik*



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

- 04/09 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 Relly 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
- 04/23 John O'Fee
- 04/25 Helene Reinhardt
- 04/26 Michael Vapenik
- 04/26 Wendy Berg
- 04/26 Haley Richardson
- 04/26 Olivia Estes
- 04/27 Joyce MacCoy
- 04/27 Laure Fischer
- 04/28 Clint Richards
- 04/29 Dorothy Leslie
- 04/29 Charlotte Boyle



WISE WOMEN

On **Tuesday, April 14** at 6:15 p.m., all women of the parish are invited for **A Journey to El Salvador**. Eileen Paduano and Jane Houston joined Barbara Senchak on her second visit there in November 2008. They will tell of 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 share 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 church 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!



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!

RECEIVED LAST WEEK
pledge offering :: \$6,242.00
Attendance
8:00 a.m. :: 15
9:30 a.m. :: 169

THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES

Will you be joining the next class? 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.**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<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 7:45pm - Stewardship Council</p>	<p>14 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 9:00am - Staff meeting</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>
<p>19 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Nursery Care + Sunday School 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am - Coffee Hour 11:00am - Adult Forum</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 10:30am - Staff meeting 7:30pm - Education for Ministry 8:00pm - Vestry meeting</p>	<p>22 9:30am - Education for Ministry 7:00pm - Holy Eucharist 7:45pm - The Holy Longing class</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>