

ISSUE

22

May 10, 2009

# WEEKLY MESSENGER

## CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

66 Highland Avenue, Box C  
Short Hills, NJ 07078  
973.379.2898

[www.christchurchshorthills.org](http://www.christchurchshorthills.org)

### CLERGY

**The Rev. Scott T. Holcombe**, *Rector*  
[scott.holcombe@ccshmail.org](mailto:scott.holcombe@ccshmail.org), ext. 205  
(personal email: [sthccsh@gmail.com](mailto:sthccsh@gmail.com))

**The Rev. Lisa Green**, *Assistant Rector*  
[lisa.green@ccshmail.org](mailto:lisa.green@ccshmail.org), ext. 204

**The Rev. Dr. Karen Rezach**,  
*Assistant Minister*  
[krezach@yahoo.com](mailto:krezach@yahoo.com)

### STAFF

**Andrea Hidalgo**,  
*Administrative Assistant to the Rector*  
[andrea.hidalgo@ccshmail.org](mailto:andrea.hidalgo@ccshmail.org), ext. 201

**James Johnson**, *Physical Plant Manager*  
[james.johnson@ccshmail.org](mailto:james.johnson@ccshmail.org), ext. 208

**Georgeann Duchossios**, *Bookkeeper*  
[bookkeeper@ccshmail.org](mailto:bookkeeper@ccshmail.org), ext. 206

**John Pivarnik**, *Organist and Choirmaster*  
[johnpivarnik@optonline.net](mailto:johnpivarnik@optonline.net), ext. 211

**Jennifer Schiffel**, *Youth Advisor*  
[schiffelje@edu.elizabeth.k12.nj.us](mailto:schiffelje@edu.elizabeth.k12.nj.us)

**Barbara Pepe**, *Director*  
Christ Church Nursery School  
[christchurchns@verizon.net](mailto:christchurchns@verizon.net)  
(973) 379-6549

Dear People of God,

Two weeks ago I wrote to you about what you could do to help me; this week continues with "What can I do to help the church?" The Church is the primary vehicle to reach others for Christ. The New Testament is clear - the Church is the body of Christ and we are each individual members of it. We all possess gifts, skills, talents and abilities. God brought us here and sustains us here. It is in the Church that we grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord and grow in grace and spiritual maturity. While the church is not perfect, it is the instrument chosen by God to be a laboratory for people of faith. The church is people united in task and purpose to be equipped to minister to others. It is curiously the only institution that exists for people who are not (yet) its members. Growing a vibrant, healthy church is not the rector's job or the clergy's job - it is the work of each person grafted into this fellowship. As such, here are a few very concrete suggestions:

- ♦ **Be regular in your attendance in worship.** Participate in the life of your church. Faithful worship is a habit- established by priorities and often passed from generation to generation. Think about the message that you received from your parents/guardians about worship.
- ♦ **Be faithful in your financial support.** The Mission and Ministry of the church depend on your regular financial support. Many of our endowment funds have restricted use. It is our blessing and joy to provide the resources for salaries, benefits, ministries, and even the less glamorous items like payroll taxes, insurance and utilities.
- ♦ **Volunteer for ministries and to serve on committees.** Don't wait to be asked - if you see something that needs to be done - step up and volunteer. Some of our ministry chairs need a break - what gifts and talents do you have that you can offer to the Lord?
- ♦ **Read the Weekly Messenger** as it is our most regular form of communication of what was, what is, and what is to come. It is in the Messenger that I can communicate with you in-between other congregational events.
- ♦ **Communicate if you are going to be away (for several weeks or longer)** please let me or someone know, in advance if possible, so folks don't wonder where you have gone.
- ♦ **Seek to truly live out your baptismal vows. BCP p. 304-305,** These simple statements define and declare who we are in the Body of Christ.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Scott T. Holcombe, *Rector*

### CONFIRMATION ANYONE?

*Anyone want to join me?* I would like to hold a gathering of interested people who are willing to dream with me what sort of year we shall assemble for our young people. Please email me at [sthccsh@gmail.com](mailto:sthccsh@gmail.com) and let me know of your interest and I will get back with you.

### INTERCESSIONARY PRAYER GROUP

If you would like to join the Intercessionary Prayer Group, please email La Nora Holcombe at [lhmmom@aol.com](mailto:lhmmom@aol.com) or Jane Houston at [jhouston@comcast.net](mailto:jhouston@comcast.net).

## FROM THE WARDENS . . .

As many of you heard at Sunday's Annual Meeting, Christ Church is blessed by an abundance of talented lay leaders. This month, we say goodbye to three members of the Vestry, but we are sure each will continue to be "leaders" in the church. The three whose terms are ending are Tom Gordon, Dara Near and Bob Tansill. Each of these individuals brought unique talents to the Christ Church Vestry, and they will be missed. Thank you, Tom, Dara and Bob!

As those of you who attended the Annual Meeting know, three new individuals have been elected to fill those seats: Adaeze Nwachuku, Bob Arnold, and Karen Oleson. In addition, Jay McGraw was elected to a second three year term. Thank you to Adaeze, Bob, Karen, and Jay. In addition, John Cooper was officially elected as Junior Warden. John has already been serving in this role for several months, and has served as Christ Church's Treasurer and member of the Executive Committee for several years (not to mention previous stints on the vestry).

### THIS BRINGS OUR CCSH VESTRY TO:

**Class of 2010** :: Jane Reidel, Rose Udland, Lisa Gadsden, and Jon Clark

**Class of 2011** :: Terry Finan, Peggy Shilling, Arnie Peinado, and Don Snow

**Class of 2012** :: Adaeze Nwachuku, Bob Arnold, Jay McGraw, and Karen Oleson

The **two wardens** are Cynthia McChesney and John Cooper.

**Parish Counsel** is Andy Bunn.

If you haven't had a chance to yet, please take a look at the 2009 Annual Meeting Report. It is available on the Christ Church website if you didn't get a hard copy on Sunday ([www.christchurchshorthills.org](http://www.christchurchshorthills.org)). We can also print you out a copy of your own if you prefer. In those pages, you'll get a sense of all the work that goes on around here by lay leaders and you might be inspired to join one of our existing groups, or even start your own initiative.

- Cynthia McChesney & John Cooper

## CHECK OUT THE RECTOR'S DOOR!

This past Sunday the children in the 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School were learning about Martin Luther and his posting of the 95 theses on the door of Wittenberg cathedral. These concerns represent some thoughts of our 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade youth which they wished to express to their Rector. My reply to their posting of their 19 Theses is as follows:

### **Exsurge Domine**

*Which means "Arise, O Lord" and receive these words of your faithful. Your comments and concerns are received. The Christian Formation Committee, The Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Vestry will be apprised of your concerns. You may expect a formal bull (written decree in reply, as from a pope!) in future issues of the Weekly Messenger. Given under my hand and seal this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, in the year of our Lord, two-thousand and nine.*

*The **Ninety-Five Theses**, were written by Martin Luther are widely regarded as the primary catalyst for the Protestant Reformation. Luther used these theses to display his concern over some positions (the sale of indulgences, the use of relics, purgatory, etc) in conflict with Scripture. October 31, 1517 these theses were posted on the doors of the cathedral (a common practice of the day- like we use bulletin boards.) The Ninety-five Theses outlined the items to be discussed and issued the challenge to any and all comers. Exsurge Domine was the papal bull (reply) issued by Pope Leo X responding to some of Martin Luther's points and demanding his retraction. This bull was ignored by Martin Luther who publicly burned the bull and incited his excommunication on January 3, 1521.*



**Primary:** 'Benedict of Nursia' presents a man who chose to live a simple, solitary life. In time he was sought out by others, and he established a community of monks. His Rule has provided a model for spirituality for both clergy and laity through the present day. The Benedictines, in both male and female communities, are noted all over the world for their quiet disciplines of Scripture readings and prayers.

**Intermediate:** 'The Bible Is For All' helps students appreciate the evolution of English versions of the Bible. They will meet John Wycliffe and William Tyndale, who were condemned for translating and teaching the Bible. Class members will also hear about the King James Version and subsequent translations. (II Timothy 3:14-17)

## ADULT FORUMS MAY 10 + 17

What happens when you die?  
What plans should be made in advance?  
Cremation or earthen burial?  
Planning my funeral  
Living wills, Advance directives  
Good grief

These and many other related topics will be covered in our mini-series during the adult forums on **May 10 + 17** dealing with death and death education. In the post-Easter setting it seems somehow fitting to get our plans in order and approach death well informed and faithful. We will also be providing a new form that we will be using among the pastoral staff to assist with your funeral wishes. Bring your questions!

## BETTY F. WHITE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Application forms for the college year beginning in the fall of 2009 are available. Both the names of all applicants and the deliberations by the committee are kept confidential. Application forms are available on the table outside Parish Hall and on our website at [www.christchurchshorthills.org](http://www.christchurchshorthills.org).

## LOOKING AHEAD TO PENTECOST

The Canterbury and Children's Choirs will be singing '*Spirit of the Living God*' by Daniel Iverson on The Day of Pentecost, **May 31**, to illustrate the 'Holy Spirit' melting, molding, filling, and using us. Our main rehearsal for that Sunday will be held May 17 at 10:45 a.m. Sue Bovan will be working with the Canterbury children during Godly Play in the meantime.

## PENTECOST PARTICIPANTS WANTED

Do you speak another language? We'd love to include a variety in our Spirit-filled celebration of Pentecost on May 31. Please call Lisa or email [lisa.green@ccshmail.org](mailto:lisa.green@ccshmail.org) if you're willing to take part.



## "HOGWARTS PROFESSOR" COMES TO CHRIST CHURCH JUNE 10 AT 7:00 P.M.

A month away from the release of the long-awaited sixth Harry Potter film, come hear John Granger, author of *How Harry Cast His Spell*, talk about the deeper spiritual and literary meanings of the world's most popular novels. A featured speaker at many academic and fan conferences and frequent guest on radio and television, Granger will explain why these books appeal to our longing to experience the truths of life, love, death, and a larger view of ourselves and reality. Invite your friends! Suggested donation \$10/\$5 kids. Cosponsored by Community Congregational Church and Interweave.

## WISE WOMEN PLANNING FOR 2009/2010

All women of the parish are welcome to attend a planning meeting on **Monday, May 11** at 2:00 p.m. at Dot Leslie's apartment at Winchester Gardens. If you have not already received an email announcement, please let us know you would like to come by calling Hope Lampe, 973-665-1463.

## WISE WOMEN :: "SEE HOW SHE SPARKLES - PRINCESS DIANA'S BAUBLES AND BLING"

Jewelry was an integral part of the style of Diana, Princess of Wales. Magnificent gems, costume jewelry, or a combination, the pieces always complemented her attire. All women of the parish are cordially invited together in the Choir Room on **Tuesday, May 12, 2009** at 6:15 p.m. We will again welcome Ann Talcott who gave the popular program on Princess Diana's evening dresses last year. Ann is a former resident of Short Hills and a devoted Anglophile and Diana-watcher.

Newcomers and occasional attendees are most welcome, so don't be shy. Bring a light supper if you wish; dessert and beverages will be served. If you would like a ride, please call Andi at the church office, 973-379-2898, and we will happily arrange.



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 05/07 Dara + Robert Near
- 05/10 Sara Jane + Jeremy Gordon
- 05/13 Olenka + Paul Speaker
- 05/13 Lisa + Patrick Haggerty
- 05/23 Barbara + Mark Saulnier
- 05/25 Joanne + Alfred Cheung
- 05/26 Audena Donald Syracuse
- 05/29 Laura + Jeffery Bartsch
- 05/30 Mary Ellen + Michael Roberts

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 05/07 Anya Speaker
- 05/08 David Funk
- 05/09 Jonathan Longley
- 05/10 Michael Richardson
- 05/10 Laurie Deciantis
- 05/10 Kate Drazhal
- 05/11 Kaitlin Stearns
- 05/11 Gaye Torrance
- 05/14 Catey Bayse
- 05/14 Janie McGraw
- 05/14 Max Steffen
- 05/15 Mary Caffrey
- 05/16 Kelly Marchisio
- 05/17 Anne Williams
- 05/19 Barbara Kendall
- 05/19 Michael Harwood
- 05/20 Dorene McCourt
- 05/21 Brandon Cheung
- 05/21 Jeffrey Bowman
- 05/21 Ryan Steffen
- 05/22 Hans Ephraimson
- 05/23 Philip Byrne
- 05/23 Roger Amarante
- 05/24 Kenny Ng
- 05/24 Eliza Shapard
- 05/25 Jean Funk



# HAPPY 104<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY MALCOLM!



Thank you LA NORA HOLCOMBE for these great photos!

## MEMORIAL FLOWERS

**May 10**

- Elizabeth S. Baiter
- Audrey F. Erickson
- JoAnne Graziano
- Rosemary H. Garrison
- Elizabeth M. Hulten

**May 17**

- Mary Pope Cornwall
- Douglas W. Turrell

**May 24**

- Richard H. Roberts
- Robert F. LeMoine
- Garrison R. Rice

## RECEIVED LAST WEEK

pledge offering :: \$4,872.00

Attendance

9:30 a.m. :: 125

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!</b></p> <p>8:00am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15am - Nursery Care + Sunday School</p> <p>9:30am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:45am - Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:00am - Adult Forum</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>6:00am - Men's Group</p> <p>2:00pm - Wise Women planning meeting</p> <p>7:00pm - Buildings + Grounds</p> <p>7:30pm - Finance Committee</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>10:30am - Staff meeting</p> <p>6:15pm - Wise Women</p> <p>7:30pm - Education for Ministry</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:30am - Education for Ministry</p> <p>7:00pm - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>7:45pm - Bible Study :: A closer look at the post-resurrection appearances</p> <p>7:45 - Investment Committee</p> <p>8:00 - CCNS meeting</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:30am - Altar Guild</p> <p>7:00pm - Personnel Committee</p> <p>8:00pm - Outreach Grants meeting</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>8:30am - Careers in Transition</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>8:00am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15am - Nursery Care + Sunday School</p> <p>9:30am - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:45am - Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:00am - Adult Forum</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>6:00am - Men's Group</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>10:30am - Staff meeting</p> <p>8:00pm - Vestry meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>7:00pm - Holy Eucharist</p> <p>7:45pm - Bible Study :: A closer look at the post-resurrection appearances</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>