

# WEEKLY MESSENGER

## FROM THE WARDENS

We are pleased to announce that the Right Reverend Richard Shimpfky will be joining our clergy staff as of Sunday, December 13, to assume the duties of a transitional priest-in-charge. His title will be Bishop-in-Residence, but he prefers to be called "Richard." His agreement provides for six months of service which can be renewed for an additional six months should we wish to do so. He will have normal office hours on Monday and from Wednesday through Friday. He will of course be with us for services on Sunday, and available as necessary at other times. The Reverend Lisa Green will continue as Assistant Rector, and the Reverend Dr. Karen Rezach as Assistant Minister. Richard will commute from Ridgewood where he lives with his wife Jamel, and use the rectory as needed. Please join us in welcoming Richard on the 13th. A festive coffee hour will follow the 9:30 service along with a special Adult Forum looking at the origins of many Christmas traditions. Our Adult Forum speaker will be Christopher M. Bellitto, Ph. D., assistant professor of history at Kean University. We look forward to seeing you on December 13!



*Cynthia McChesney and R. John Cooper*

## A BRIEF AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF BISHOP SHIMPFKY

Bishop Shimpfky grew up in Colorado, graduated from The University of Colorado, took employment in Richmond, Virginia for three years before entering the Virginia Theological Seminary as a married student in September of 1967, having met in Richmond and married his wife, Jamel. They are the parents of three grown children and grandparents of two little girls. Following Seminary, Richard became Curate at St. Peter's Church, Arlington, Virginia, and then Vicar of All Saints' Church, Alexandria, before becoming the Eleventh Rector of Christ Church, Ridgewood, New Jersey where he served until called and consecrated as the Second Bishop of El Camino Real (the California Central Coast diocese.)

During his Ridgewood years, Richard served as president of Standing Committee, The Commission on Ministry and the Commission for Christian Education, inaugurating a three day, residential Education Conference. He was president of Youth Consultation Services, a member of his seminaries' Board of Trustees for three years; a deputy to General Convention and Chair of the Conventions' Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development.

While Bishop of El Camino Real he presided over the creation of both a Diocesan Foundation and a Diocesan Investment Trust; witnessed the birth of six new churches and the number of women in cure grew to 25%. Richard served as a Trustee of the Church Divinity School of the Pacific and was, for five years, Bishop President of Province Eight of the Episcopal Church, in addition to six years as Chair of the General Convention's Standing Commission on Anglican and International Affairs. His term with Stewardship spanned both Richard's New Jersey and California years and saw the Episcopal Church's growth in stewardship giving from last to first among mainline denominations.

After retirement, Richard and Jamel lived in Manhattan while he served as Bishop-in-Residence in St. George's, Flushing, New York. In September, 2009, Richard and Jamel returned to New Jersey. Both read a good deal and both have investment in activities through which they derive intense pleasure.

# THANKS=GIVING

Our annual pledge campaign culminates on December 6, Commitment Sunday. You are invited to attend church on December 6 and join with the rest of the parish as we renew our financial commitment to Christ Church's ministries in 2010. During the service our pledge cards will be collected and offered to God in thanksgiving for our blessings.

We hope you will join us and celebrate our continued ministry in Short Hills and beyond. If you cannot be with us that day, please mail your pledge card to the church office.

## *Stewardship Prayer*

God make us stewards of our bounty.  
Where there is need, let us see it;  
Where there is abundance, let us share it;  
Where there is time, let us spend it;  
And where there is treasure,  
let us use it to Your glory.

**PLEDGE SUNDAY IS DECEMBER 6**



## ABOUT THIS SUNDAY'S ANTHEMS

Today's anthem and solos are taken from Handel's 'Messiah'. The chorus text 'Their Sound Is Gone out Into All Lands' is from Romans 10:18. The recitative and aria 'Comfort Ye My People' and 'Every Valley' are from Isaiah 40:1-4.

Today's Gospel from Luke 3:1-6 reflect these words of Isaiah as John the Baptist preached in the wilderness. All we have to do is listen! Imagine the visions in Handel's mind as he set these powerful texts to the music that has

inspired the world for over 250 years.

- John Pivarnik

## CONGRATULATIONS JOHN + ESTHER!

John and Esther Pivarnik became Grandparents for the second time on November 23. Sadie Pivarnik was born on November 23 at 4:56 a.m.

*Welcome Sadie!*



# CHRIST CHURCH IN SHORT HILLS

*"Ye are all one in Christ Jesus"*

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## CLERGY AND LAY STAFF

**The Right Reverend Richard Shimpfky,**  
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**Barbara Pepe,** *Director*  
Christ Church Nursery School  
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*The mission of Christ Church in Short Hills is to be a center of Christian faith in the Episcopal tradition through ongoing worship and pastoral care, to provide educational opportunities for children and adults to grow in their faith through reflection on Scripture, reason and the tradition of the Church, and to meet the ever changing challenges and needs of the community, the Diocese and the world through our outreach and prayers.*

## WISE WOMEN CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

All women of the parish are most cordially invited to the Wise Women Christmas potluck supper on Tuesday, December 8 from 6-8 p.m. It will be a treat to again meet at Inese Houlis' beautiful home in Florham Park. Seems hard to believe that it's been two years since we celebrated there!

Directions: Take 124 (Main St.) through Chatham. At light, turn into Brooklake Rd. At blinker, go left onto East Madison. Take 2nd left to 3 Annabelle Lane. Let us know if you'd prefer to carpool from the church lot and we'll arrange. RSVP to Dot Leslie at **973-761-0997** by Saturday, Dec. 5 to tell her what type of dish you'd like to bring so we can balance the menu.

## WHERE DID ALL THOSE CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS COME FROM?

Why do we celebrate Christmas on December 25? How come we bring a tree into our house and decorate it? Were there really three wise men who traveled from the east? Come to a fun and informative look at the history of Christmas to learn the answers to these questions and many others about why we do what we do at this time of year. After our festive coffee hour on December 13th, we will be joined by Christopher Bellitto, Ph. D. who will lead us through this fun exploration of the origins of our many and varied Christmas traditions. Dr. Bellitto is Assistant Professor of History at Kean University. He is also Academic Editor at Large of Paulist Press, and author of many books, including 101 Questions and Answers on Popes and the Papacy, Church History 101, and Renewing Christianity: A History of Church Reform from Day One to Vatican II. Dr. Bellitto is frequently sought out as a media resource on matters of Catholic church history, the papacy, and contemporary Catholicism, and is frequently called upon by both local and national media (NBC, CNN, the New York Times) for commentary on current religious issues. Dr. Bellitto received an M.A. and a Ph.D. in History from Fordham University. His B.A., magna cum laude, is from New York University, where he was a University Scholar with a double major in Journalism and Politics, and a double minor in Classics and Religion.



# LIFE AROUND CCSH!



Thanks to COLEEN MALIN for these great photos of CCSH kids!



Our food drive provisions made it to the Interfaith Food Pantry, along with leftover turkey from The Winston School's feast, which **Whit Harwood** helped make into more than 60 sandwiches. Diane Stein from our partner congregation Temple Beth El says she expects record numbers all winter, so food donations are still needed. On Dec. 23 we will be giving out hams and turkeys and would love to include new or gently used toys and books for children (unwrapped). Clean out those toy chests—there will be a box by the food barrel. Your generosity makes a difference!!



## REGISTRATION TIME AT CHRIST CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL!

Registration time is quickly approaching! Registration for September classes at Christ Church Nursery School will begin in late January. Applications are available at the Nursery School office. The school offers classes for 2, 3, 4 and young 5 year olds. We also have a Drop-In Center that welcomes children ages 6 months to 5 years. Christ Church Nursery School's challenging learning environment allows children to grow and develop at their own pace while exposing the children to experiences that spark their imagination! Visitors are welcome at the school to see the exciting learning centers offered to the children each day. Registration applications will be mailed back to the Nursery School in January and February. First priority will be given to supporting Church Members, followed by In-House Registration (for currently registered students and their siblings and alumni). Registration is then open to the public. Please call the Nursery School office at 973-379-6549 for all the details. CCNS Registration for 2010-2011 classes is a mail-in process. Supporting Church Members are given first priority. Details and applications are available at the Nursery School office. Church members mail-in their enrollment applications on Monday, January 25.



**ANNIVERSARIES**

12/05 Linda + Richard Carchia  
 12/06 Lizzie + Chris Burn  
 12/08 Valerie + Michael Boyle

**BIRTHDAYS**

12/04 Graham Riley  
 12/05 Anne Bunn  
 12/06 Kyle Syracuse  
 12/08 Annie Stathis  
 12/10 Bryce McCourt  
 12/10 Lisa Gadsden  
 12/12 Katherine Sankovich  
 12/12 Paul Speaker  
 12/14 Ernestine Hartshorn  
 12/14 Katherine Ristau  
 12/14 Mackenzie Shaphard  
 12/15 Sandra Johnson



A very special **THANK YOU** for the volunteers who helped assemble and mail the *Winter Messenger*.  
 Gayle Hoyt, the Rt. Rev. Richard Shimpfky, Hope and Owen Lampe, Joyce Wiggin, Bobbi Engler and the Rev. Lisa Green!

**MEMORIAL FLOWERS**

December 6  
 Page N. Pyle  
 Wallace A. Sprague  
 Charles E. Dull  
 Kathryn B. Dull  
 Ann Sommer

December 13  
 Henry W. Gadsden  
 Patricia P. Gadsden  
 Jessie Cooper Downer  
 William N. McCain

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 COMMITMENT SUNDAY, HEIFER LIVING MARKET + SCRIP SALES, EMBRACE-A-FAMILY DROP OFF 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Nursery Care and Sunday School 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am - Coffee Hour, Children's Choir rehearsal 6:00pm - YPF	7 8:30am - Yoga for Advent 9:30am - Adult Ed : Chronicles of Narnia 7:00pm - Buildings and Grounds 7:45pm - Stewardship meeting	8 6:15pm - Wise Women Potluck at Houlis', 3 Annabelle Lane, Florham Park	9 6:30pm - Advent Supper and Service 8:00pm - Outreach Grants meeting	10 9:30am - Altar Guild meeting 7:30pm - Education for Ministry	11	12 LATVIAN SCHOOL
13 WELCOME THE RT. REV. RICHARD SHIMPFKY EMBRACE-A-FAMILY DROP OFF 8:00am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Nursery Care and Sunday School 9:30am - Holy Eucharist 10:45am - Festive Coffee Hour, Pageant Rehearsal 2:00pm - Vocare 6:00pm - YPF	14 8:30am - Yoga for Advent 9:30am - Adult Ed : Chronicles of Narnia 8:00pm - Finance Committee	15 9:30am - Staff meeting 8:00pm - EfM Grad 8:00pm - Vestry meeting	16 10:30am - CCNS Christmas program 6:30pm - Advent Supper and Service	17 10:30am - CCNS Christmas program 4:00pm - Winchester Gardens Eucharist 7:30pm - Education for Ministry	18	19 LATVIAN SCHOOL 8:30am - Careers in Transition (at the school)