



The Lion's Roar

St. Mark's Episcopal Church • Basking Ridge, NJ

Volume 63, Issue 2

February 1, 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
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Rector: The Rev. Joanna Graham
(908) 766-0510

Assistant Rector:
The Rev. Nancy Jean Hite Speck
(908) 766-9058

Postulant Charlotte Wells
Verger: Bill Barkhorn

Parish Administrators
Ann Millan & Martha Heiner

Sexton: Dan McCollum

Organist: Lois Buesser

Music Director: Bill Corson
(908) 903-0702

Lion's Roar Editor
E-mail: lionsroar@verizon.net

Services

Sundays

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Rite I)
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Rite II)
and Sunday School with Nursery
Care

Wednesdays

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Rite II)
in the Chapel
(See enclosed calendar for variations
to weekly services.)

Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

From the Desk of the Reverend Joanna D. Graham

Interim Rector

We all know that hope is a good thing. The saying goes; there is no life without hope. Psychologists believe hope might be the most important feeling, state, or emotion we can experience. Anthony Scioli, Ph.D., a professor of psychology at Keene State College in New Hampshire states that studies show that hope is key to good health, the best predictor of a meaningful existence, and an indicator of academic and athletic performance. Yet we tend to think of hope as something you either have or you don't, something you're born with, or born into, through perfect parenting or perfect circumstances.

New cutting edge psychological research, says Scioli, shows that hope is a skill you can acquire. It is active; you can cultivate and nourish it. It is multifaceted and self-perpetuating. He tells us that hopeful people tend to be more resilient, more trusting, more open, and more motivated than those less hopeful, so they are likely to receive more from the world, which in turn makes them more hopeful. Hope is a way of being. Above all, hope is based on relationships, on a collaborative connection with people as well as a higher power.

The future can be filled with hope says Jurgen Moltmann, emeritus professor of theology at Turbingen University, Germany. He is widely considered to be one of the most important theologians of the last 50 years. Moltmann argued during his presentation on January 23 and 24 at Trinity Institute National Theological Conference that Christians need to "rethink our expectations of the final judgment," arguing that western Christianity and all of society has been infused with images of a world-ending apocalypse centered on retribution for evil-doers and unbelievers.

He said that those who anticipate the end of the world live in the long evening of death and anticipate the final night, rather than living in the hope of the resurrection and anticipating the final morning. They postulate a "glorious end" to the earth rather than anticipating the "beginning of eternal liveliness" on earth. Moltmann tells us that if we live in God's unfinished future, we're looking forward and greeting the coming morning - every coming morning - in the light of the coming day of God's new creation on earth.

The Gospel of hope invites us to live our life in the present with all of its challenges while looking toward the future triumph of love, justice, and the good. Hope is about a vision of the kingdom of God. It is about living in the present while looking toward the future. The masters of

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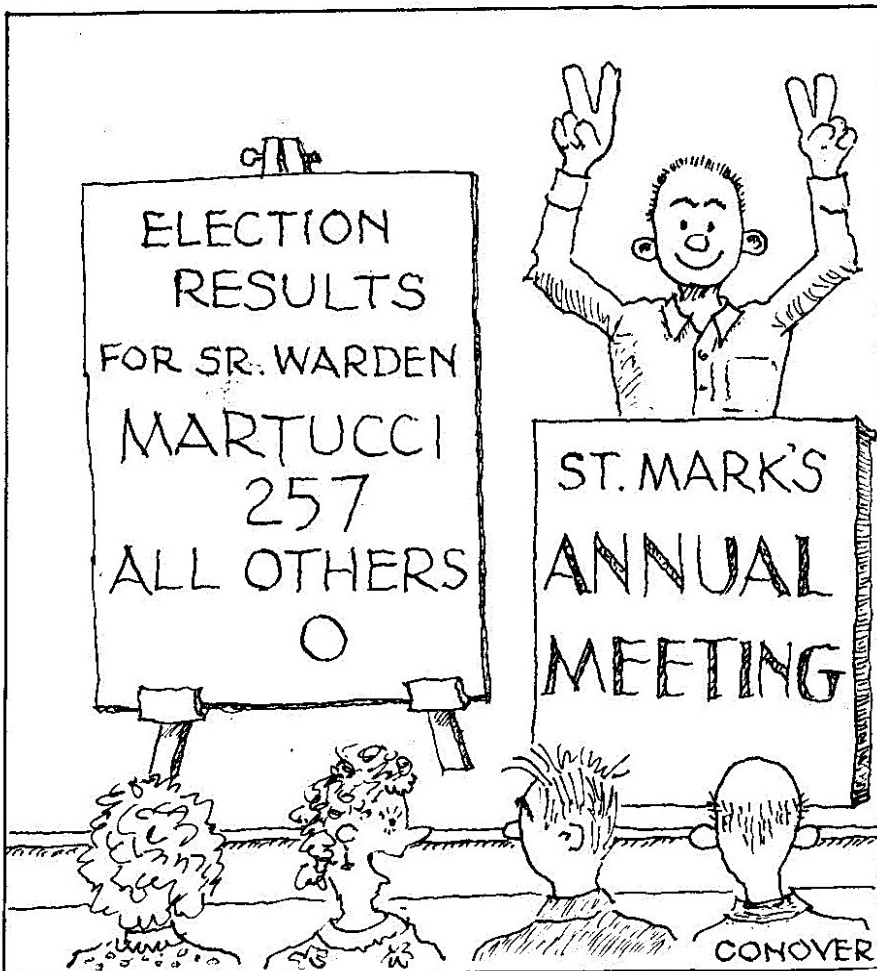
the art of hope, such as; Paul of Tarsus, Julian of Norwich, Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King Jr. have not been theologians but mystics; they don't offer answers, but rather the promise that all will be well because God will hold the cosmos safe.

Gregory the Great, Pope from 590, sold his vast property and devoted the proceeds to the relief of the poor and monastic foundations in Sicily and Rome. On his accession to the Papacy, Gregory found Italy in an alarming state. The land was devastated by famine, pestilence, and the invasion of the Lombards, and the position of the Church threatened by the claims of the Imperial power at Constantinople. Gregory, in whom firmness and strength of character were tempered by gentleness and charity, conquered many of the evils.

Gregory in fighting these evils suggested an effective daily practice for hope. Each morning, take a moment to be mindful of four things: where you are (the state of your life), where you have been (your spiritual progress), and where you are not (the perfect version of you), and where you will be one day (envision your heaven) for, as Gregory explains, you will receive it if you want it.

In Christ,
Mother Joanna

Laughter in the Pews



"I really didn't appreciate the way the Martucci machine poured millions into his campaign, but it sure paid off!"

Mathematical Viewpoint

What Equals 100%? What does it mean to give MORE than 100%? Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%? We have all been in situations where someone wants you to give over 100%. How about achieving 101%? What equals 100% in life?

Here's a little mathematical formula that might help you answer these Questions.

If: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Is represented as:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26.

Then:

H-A-R-D-W-O-R-K

$$8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98\%$$

and

K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-E

$$11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96\%$$

But,

A-T-T-I-T-U-D-E

$$1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100\%$$

AND, look how far the love of God will take you

L-O-V-E-O-F-G-O-D

$$12+15+22+5+15+6+7+15+4 = 101\%$$

Therefore, one can conclude with mathematical certainty that: While Hard work and Knowledge will get you close, and Attitude will get you there, it's the Love of God that will put you over the top!

Assistant's Annex

Who would 'a thunk it... it's been two years (count 'em: 2 YEARS!!) since I was ordained to the priesthood right here at St. Mark's... in the middle of THE snow storm! AND... as of February first I will have been a flight attendant for 42 years!

There have been a lot of changes in my life since that cold snowy day. There have been a lot of changes in the life of St. Mark's since then too. Time seems to be flying, you'll excuse my vernacular! I can hardly believe we are half way through the season of Epiphany and Lent will be upon us in just a couple of weeks; Ash Wednesday is on February 21st.

Lent is the season of repentance and renewal. Historically, "it was the season in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. Preparation of candidates for baptism at the Great Vigil of Easter, then, is the primary purpose of Lent..." The Ash Wednesday liturgy suggests self-examination and repentance; prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and reading and meditating on God's Holy Word as the means of a holy Lent. [Lionel L. Mitchell, "Planning the Church Year" p.43]

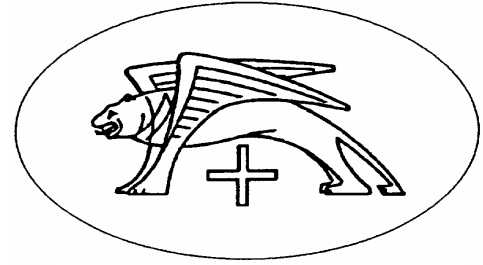
Sheryl Olson and I will be conducting an Adult Lenten Series on Sundays after the 10 am service. More details to come.

I recently attended a fascinating seminar sponsored by the Diocese and led by Klara Tammany; the course was based on her book "Living Water: Baptism as a Way of Life." As we proceed through the Gospel of Luke in our Sunday lectionary readings, and Monday Bible Study, we will also be discussing how we can make our Baptism be a way of life for us.

"Sandwich and Scripture: Monday Morning Quarterbacking the Sunday Sermon." Mondays, at 11:30 – Come join us!!!

I bid you Peace,

Rev. Nancy+



2007 Vestry

Senior Warden

Jim Martucci: 604-2256

Junior Warden

Jim Nishimura 647-5290

Buildings & Grounds

Bruce Walker: 604-9151

Adult/Christian Education

TBD

Youth Ministry:

Dan Greenleaf 766-7313

Inreach/Fellowship

Dawn Knill: 630-9116

Finance

David Moore: 542-0652

Stewardship:

Jeff West: 953-8115

Worship

Marilyn Lyga 766-5880

Membership

Jackie Kahle 166-0502

Events

Lauran Corson: 903-0700

Communications/Office Administration

Nancy Opremcak: 221-9165

Outreach:

Greg Begg: 204-9292

Personnel

Bill Schmidt 604-0535

Warden Emeritus

Buck Kirch

Treasurer

Buck Kirch

Recording Treasurer

Jack Smythe 953-0078

Margaret Murphy: 766-4126

Everyone is invited to participate in the commission meetings. Please contact the vestry representative for more information.

ST. MARK'S SEMI-ANNUAL RUMMAGE **SALE**

April 13, 2007

Our spring rummage sale is just around the corner! Ladies and gentlemen, start your clean out! We need significant donations of your unwanted items to make this the best sale yet. Please consider us as you rid yourselves of your rummage!

Keep in mind that we cannot take any of the following items:

Mattresses and box springs

Child car seats, high chairs or playpens older than five years

Computer equipment

Books such as almanacs, textbooks or those in poor condition

Magazines

Audio tapes

Carpeting (*area rugs are accepted*)

Exercise equipment

Sporting equipment older than 5 years

Shoes

Incomplete, broken or items not in condition for sale

As the event approaches, we will be looking for many volunteers. Please put the date on your calendar and consider helping with this important fundraiser - we promise it will be fun as well!

February Birthdays:



- 2/2 Lisa Dormer
2/3 Nancy Brangaccio
Carolyn Freeman
2/4 Hakan Leblebicioglu
Tina Walker
2/6 Matthew Lefler
Jeff Raunec
Christina Trombino
Christopher Walker
2/7 Ryan Gogerty
David Moore
Michael Thwaite
Sandy Trombino
2/8 Amy Rosenblum
2/9 Matthew Burgerhoff
2/9 Hannah Greenleaf
2/10 Nick Child
Dorothy Freeman
Katie Rose
Don Wells
2/11 Kaitlin Solon
2/12 Richard Moore
2/13 Ron Buesser
2/14 Spencer DeFeo
Rosalie Stern
2/15 Mary Chipparullo
2/16 David Aul
Gillian Begg
2/18 Eric Jania
Paul Saccone
2/19 Lorri Layton
2/20 Katie Bartling
Diane Salvatori
Theresa Wojnar
2/21 Bernie Jewson
Mike Spilker
2/2 Michael Olson
2/23 Sarah Booterbaugh
Joe Chipparullo
2/27 Wendy Booterbaugh
Sarah Hangle
Martin Kendall

Anniversaries

- 2/10 Charles & Sarah Hangle
2/13 Frank & Doriann Sanchez
2/17 Rose Evans
2/20 Richard & Kathleen Aregood

Announcements

The New Outlook Pioneers are offering a scholarship to students with disabilities. The scholarship is for mentally or physically handicapped students requiring tuition support. The awards will be up to \$2,500. To request an application, please contact Jack Smythe at 908-953-0078.

Bell Choir News:

The Bell Choir has several openings, some just until Easter when our snowbirds return, and some permanent positions. Music reading, although helpful, is not a requirement...we have tricks for that! We practice on Sunday nights from 7:30-8:30. If you would like to give it a try, call Martha Heiner at 766-0868.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

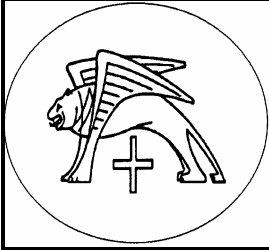
The long awaited St. Mark's Auction is slated for **May 12th**. Stay tuned for exciting news about one of our favorite events! Thanks.
Lauran

Attention St. Mark's Knitters!

We've sent off our Christmas hats and scarves to the Seaman's Institute. We now have more yarn, plenty of instructions sheets and lots of enthusiasm. Come learn to knit on Feb. 11 (3:00) at Diane Rozzelle's home (187 Potomac Drive, Spring Ridge). Bring size 6 needles.
Please RSVP to Diane at 647-5869. Experienced knitters welcome, too.
Be a "knitting buddy" to a new knitter.

Kids In Church!

A father was at the beach with his children
when the four-year-old son ran up to him,
grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore
where a seagull lay dead in the sand.
"Daddy, what happened to him?" the son asked.
"He died and went to Heaven," the Dad replied.
The boy thought a moment and then said,
"Did God throw him back down?"



February 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 <i>Services @ 8am & 10am</i>	5 <i>Sandwich & Scripture 11:30</i>	6 <i>Holly Manor Service 10:45</i>	7 <i>Chapel H.C.—9am</i>	8	9	10
11 <i>8am Rite I 10am—Family Service Mtg. with Jo- anna for Par- ents & Teachers</i>	12 <i>Sandwich & Scripture 11:30 Worship—6:30 Finance—7:45</i>	13 <i>Ridge Oak 11am</i>	14 <i>Chapel H.C.—9am</i>	15	16	17
18 <i>Services @ 8am & 10am</i>	19 <i>Sandwich & Scripture 11:30 Vestry Mtg-7:15</i>	20 <i>Pancake Sup- per</i>	21 <i>Chapel H.C.—9am Ash Wednes- day</i>	22	23	24
25 <i>Services @ 8am & 10am</i>	26 <i>Sandwich & Scripture 11:30 Rev. Joanna is in NYC this week</i>	27	28 <i>Chapel H.C.—9am</i>			

Stewardship Update

On behalf of the parish I would like to express my gratitude to all the families that have made stewardship pledges in support of St. Mark's '07 fiscal year. While we have made great progress toward our goal, we are still slightly short of our budget requirement. Through January 19 I have received pledges totaling \$233,022 versus a target of \$250,000.

The announcements during the service and mailings to your home were attempts to bring your attention to all the good works St. Mark's does in our community. Once again, the church provides the foundation for programs like Curbing Hunger & Crop Walk, supports Habitat for Humanity and the Morristown Soup Kitchen, and of course provides a spiritual connection for all us. Being a part of the church and the community it serves gives us all an opportunity to explore and hone our spiritual commitment and assist us in creating a more caring and nurturing environment for our families and the entire community.

I want to challenge all of the families that have yet to pledge to reflect upon St Mark's and what it means to their lives. If at this point you do not feel compelled to consider yourself an owner and commit, than I ask you to reflect upon what is missing and bring it to myself or a vestry member's attention. My goal is to have all of us act as owners in the spirit of the definition of stewardship: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.

Flower Guild News

I hope many of you have been enjoying our beautiful floral arrangements in the sanctuary! We are using Somerset Hills Florist to supply our flowers and have been very happy with their first-rate quality. The Flower Guild is looking for new members and will offer training to those who are interested in floral design. We currently need at least two more designers. It is great fun and wonderful to work with such lovely flowers. Please call Lauran Corson at 908-903-0700.

Many Parishioners have asked about procedures in making a flower memorial donation. Our procedures are as follows:

1. Please call Joyce Landgraf at 908-766-2014 to set up your memorial date, Please specify if this is to be a one time memorial or if you wish to continue on a yearly basis.
2. The cost for a memorial is \$30.00.
3. Please send your check to the church and earmark it *Flower memorial* with date.
4. You may also sign the memorial form in the Narthex if you prefer rather than calling Joyce Landgraf.
5. Please feel free to take arrangements immediately after service. They are arranged in paper mache pots that slip out of our permanent containers and you can take them intact. Bear in mind, however, that occasionally, there are several memorials at a time. In the event that there are more than two families wishing to take flowers, the flower guild will break the arrangements down and give them to families in bunches.
6. All flowers left in the Sanctuary will be taken to Ridge Oak on Tuesday morning.
7. For funeral or wedding flowers left in the church before Sunday, please contact Lauran Corson. Many times, Parishioners will generously leave flowers for the Sunday Services. Let Lauran know so that we can cancel our regular order.
8. Our Christmas Poinsetta Decorations and Easter Gardens depend on Memorials from Parishioners. Please do consider making an additional donation so that we can continue our lovely displays.
9. Let the Flower Guild know if one of our Parishioners is ill or we might be able to bring some flowers to a shut in.

Thank you all for making St. Mark's a beautiful place to worship.

Lauran Corson
Flower Guild Chair

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February

Date	Layreaders	Crucifer	Torch/Flag Bears	Greeter 1	Greeter 2	Ushers
02/4/2007						
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch Denis Duffy					J. Wojnar
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch MaryLea Schmidt P&Ch Jeanne Wyatt	Matthew Olson	Bryan Knill J Barkhorn	Vicki Roche	Anne Post	Jim Pioppi Bruce Walker
02/11/2007						
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch B. Barkhorn					Jack Smythe
10:00 a.m. (HC)	Ch Neil McLaughlan Reader Eric Barkhorn Prayers Kaitlynn Iantosca	Phillips Family		Kit McLaughlan	Ann Marie Woolford	Larry Rose Hannah Greenleaf Evy Barnett Nick Hale Bryan Knill
02/18/2007						
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch Doug Post					Harry Woods
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch R. Conover P&Ch R. Aregood	Barkhorn Family		Dawn Knill	Barbara Hughes	Greg Begg Robert Taylor
02/21/07 Ash Wed. 7:30 PM	L&Ch Bill Barkhorn					Jackie Kahle Larry Rose
02/25/07						
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Moore					Paul Chiappetta
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch Ted Roper P&Ch Jeanne Wyatt	Gogerty Family		Annabelle Wilmer	Jennifer Phillips	Lisa Dormer Don Wells