

The Lion's Roar

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

Volume 58, Issue 5

May 1, 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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Rector:

The Rev. Joanna Graham
(908) 766-0510

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 Nurs-
ery 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

Dear Parishioners:

As we progress through the Easter Season and into Pentecost we are reminded of Resurrection and new life. Roger S. Nicholson, *Temporary Shepherds: A Congregational Handbook for Interim Ministry*, tells us there is nothing so disconcerting for a congregation as a change of pastors. Whatever the circumstances, the departure of a spiritual leader always brings dismay to a faith community, stirring a mixture of strong feelings and presenting a time of anxious uncertainty and even a sense of confusion. Pastoral changes bring with them a wide spectrum of reactions and feelings. The time between installed pastors----the interim time---- is always a time of crucial significance to a congregation. Just as nature abhors a vacuum and rushes to fill it, so it would seem a congregation abhors a pastoral vacancy and seeks to fill it as quickly as possible.

There are not only the day to day concerns about parish life but deeper emotional dimensions of separation and change in individual members and in the corporate body. There is no bond quite like the bond that develops between people and pastor. Feelings of grief, a sense of loss and abandonment, anger and disappointment, confusion and uncertainty--all of these emotions typically arise when an admired and beloved leader departs, and if there has been misunderstanding or conflict, ministerial misconduct, there will also be resentment and guilt in the mix and/or a mood of betrayal and mistrust. Alban Institute research has shown that rushing out and getting a new pastor as quickly as possible is a risky business. When a pastoral change occurs, a unique opportunity is at hand for the congregation. Loren Mead, Alban Institute's former president, calls this opportunity "a critical moment of ministry." When a change of pastors occurs, a congregation needs time to adjust. It could take the form of grieving for a beloved friend who has moved on, or it may be a time of resolving bad feelings left over from conflict and misunderstanding. What is needed is a chance to get perspective on a relationship that has ended. Emotional adjustments do not respect timetables. The pressure of schedules ought not be allowed to stifle healthy emotional expression. This devoted congregation has been through much emotional upheaval during the past 5 months. At the same time, however, there is basic work to be done to get ready for a new leader, work that can go forward as emotional adjustment runs its necessary course. Creative attention to the work of the interim time is important. A congregation that moves forward begins to take stock of itself, to assess its strengths and weaknesses, and to refocus its sense of identity and mission, new understanding of the past emerges, along with an increasing readiness to move forward in new ways with a new leader. How do a people of faith, a religious community, find its way through such

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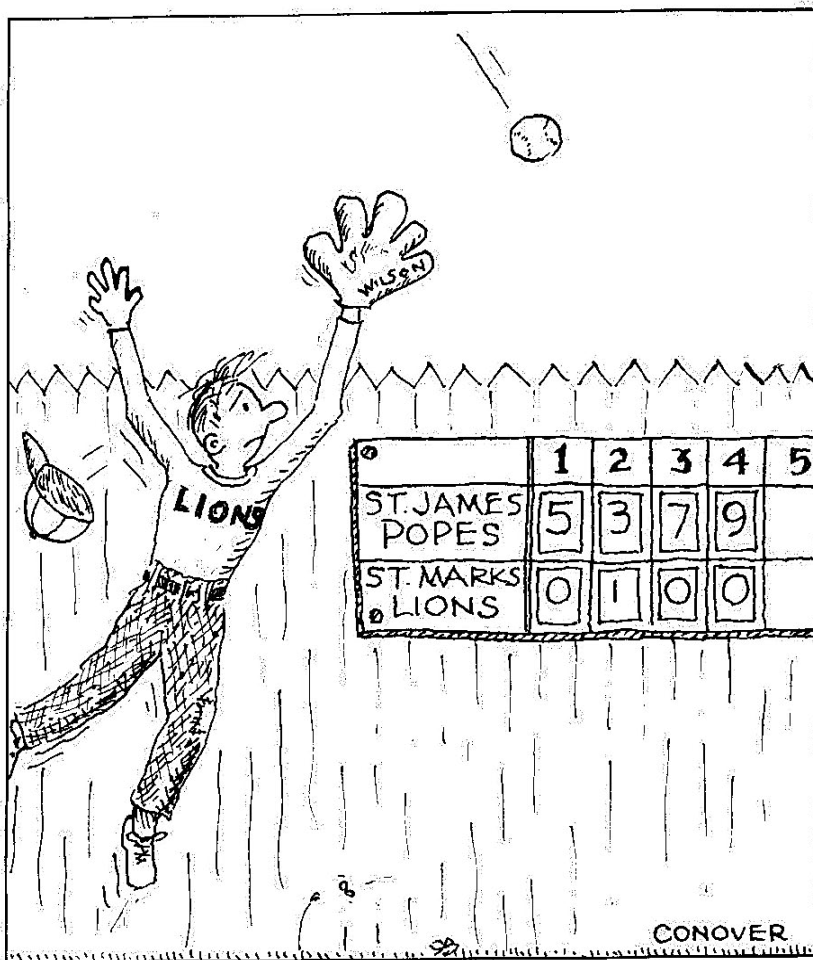
Anniversaries

- May 7 Marty & Mary Urbas
- May 12 Ed & Ann Lee
- May 14 Jack & Connie Smythe
- May 18 Lois & Ron Buesser
- May 22 Bill & Cynthia Matthews
Patrick & Samantha Stasolla
- May 24 Ann Rosenblum
- May 25 Jeff & Marie Barnett
- May 28 Buck & Ellen Kirch
- May 29 Phyllis & Richard Diakos
- May 31 Stan & Beth Holcomb

Birthdays

- May 1 Kerri Burgerhoff
Christine Henderson
- May 2 Sandy Lazo
Abbie Rose
- May 5 Craig Kahle
- May 6 Colin Buesser
- May 7 Erin Hinchey
Beth Holcomb
William Matthews
- May 8 Amelia Kendall
Donald Kress
- May 9 Charles Knill
Larry Koch
- May 10 Warrick Lee
David Pavlini
- May 11 John Lazo
Jim Martucci
- May 12 James Keirstead
- May 13 Jeff Heiner
Matt Hinchey
- May 15 Rebecca Perkins
Bill Wilmer
- May 16 Alexandra Behrins
Madeline West
- May 17 Jim Pioppi
- May 18 Alexander Corson
Frank Henderson
- May 20 Claudia Hughes
Audrey Krauss
David Moore, Jr.
Doug Post
Meghan Taylor
- May 21 Charles Swartz
- May 23 Cindy Campbell
Roger Conover
- May 24 Avery Grace Licata
Kyle Winter
- May 25 Brenda Unger

LAUGHTER IN THE PEWS



Two weeks into the young season, Coach Walker figures he needs either (1) a more effective pitcher or (2) more effective prayers from the congregation.

- May 26 Anthony Di Chiara
James Finger
Cameron Krell
- May 27 Pamela Farley
Wesley Kuehne
- May 28 Mark Iantosca
Jackie Kahle
- May 29 Phyllis Diakos
Kristen Kenny
- May 30 Megan Chiappetta
Jacob Indovina
Michael Indovina
Bernard Jewson
Vicki Roche



Spring Rummage Sale

While the 2007 Spring Rummage Sale is slowly fading into memory, it is important to take this moment to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who made the sale a success yet again this year. With a final tally of \$5,247.00, there is a great deal to be thankful for! First I want to thank Annabelle Wilmer, who co-chaired the event along with Harry Woods and me. Annabelle is a master organizer and great energy source, and was a great asset to this fundraiser in so many ways - from enlisting volunteers, to providing hours of time to sort, clean, polish, set up and break down. I know that if you made eye contact with Annabelle in the several weeks prior to the sale, you were on the list to help! Harry Woods once again volunteered his time to manage the set up, break down, signage and sale day. He was here every day ensuring all the details were attended to, and that the narthex and link were ready with all the large sale items. Harry is a true gem to work with, and like Annabelle, has seemingly endless energy and an eye for detail!

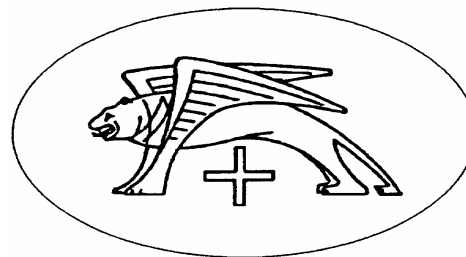
There are so many others who came out this time to assist - some new comers who we welcomed wholeheartedly and whom we hope to see at future sales - especially Jocelyn DiChiara who was with us step by step! Then there were those who returned to help after a short hiatus - and we were equally pleased to see you! Your experience gave us a great advantage and the additional numbers we truly needed. And, of course, there was the usual cast of colorful characters who came out without question to give their time yet again. Thank you all for your dedication, your time and your generosity. You work like a well-oiled machine and with your effort, a smooth and successful sale will always be the outcome.

Please note the many volunteers, by name, necessary for our semi annual sale. As you will see from this list, it takes a small army to pull off a successful rummage sale. Consider also that each of these volunteers came out day after day and put in many hours each. They are truly wonderful!

Harry Woods	Gary Ware	Jim & Therese Nishimura
Barbara Hughes	George and Evelyn Helmke	Jocelyn DiChiara
Ginny Best	Teresa James	Annabelle Wilmer
Mikki McCall	Cindy Mathews	John Placko
Nancy Wojnar	Linda Aul	Tom DeFeo
Carole Pasquale	Carolyn Freeman	Cindy Mathews
Lucia Anderson	Lorri Layton	Kathy Krell
Joan Graff	Libby West	Ann
Andi Williams	Beverly	Ruth Smith
Anne Post	Betsy Coffin	Lisa Dormer
Neil and Kit McLaughlin	Madelyn English	Claudia Hughes
Bob and Gloria Taylor	Jack and Connie Smythe	Lauran Corson
Tim Omprecak	Margaret Murphy	
John Wojnar	Beth Holcomb	

You are all angels and I am so proud to know you and work with you!

Laura Begg



2007 Vestry

Senior Warden

Jim Martucci 604-2256

Junior Warden

Jim Nishimura 647-5290

Buildings & Grounds

Bruce Walker 604-9151

Christian Education

Lorri Layton 696-1748

Youth Ministry

Dan Greenleaf 766-7313

Inreach/Fellowship

Dawn Knill 630-9116

Personnel

Bill Schmidt 604-0535

Finance

David Moore 542-0652

Stewardship

Jeff West 953-8115

Worship

Marilyn Lyga 766-5880

Events

Lauran Corson 903-0700

Membership

Jackie Kahle 766-0502

Communications/Office Administration

Nancy Opremcak 221-9165

Outreach

Greg Begg 204-9292

Warden Emeritus

Buck Kirch 647-3599

Treasurer

Buck Kirch 647-3599

Recording Treasurers

Margaret Murphy 766-4126

Jack Smythe 953-0078

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

Help.....Curb Hunger

There is plenty of food during the holidays, but many food pantries have had to close during the summer for lack of food. A recent article in the Star Ledger indicated that over 400,000 persons go hungry in NJ, half of these are children under 18 years of age.

Curbing Hunger, Inc. is a legal 501(c)3 non-profit outreach program started through St. Mark's. It's primary objective is to collect and distribute food during these crucial summer months. Over the past 12 years 1.8 million pounds of food have been collected and distributed. The programs for Morris and Somerset Counties are in May and June, respectively. Curbing Hunger's second objective is community involvement and other groups that help are other churches, Morris County schools, Somerset County Freeholders, County Recyclers, radio and TV stations, senior citizens groups, The Patriots Baseball Team, several corporate sponsors, community bulleting boards and web-sites and many more. St. Mark's should be proud of this initiative.

For Somerset County, please look for the orange bags on the blue recycling bin and fill with canned or plastic container foods such as tuna, hearty soups, peanut butter, etc., AND please tell your neighbors to do the same. Also note that these bags are distributed to 75,000 households and each bag indicates Curbing Hunger was founded by St. Mark's in Basking Ridge (or you can see one on the church bulletin board).

Curbing Hunger, Inc. is always looking for help in fund raising, marketing, correspondence and other areas... If you would like to know more or help in any way, please contact Bill Schmidt at 908.580.1259.



(continued from page1)

thickets of feelings? How does a worshipping fellowship come to grips with its sense of self and its reason for being unhindered by unresolved problems of the past and inspired by a new understanding of its MISSION? There is a map for the journey. The map took shape in 1974 when the Alban Institute, a highly respected, church-related research organization in Washington, DC published the findings of studies about the interim time in congregations. There is a framework for intentional interim ministry called stages and tasks which I wrote about shortly after my arrival. There are eight stages in the interim journey, termination, direction finding, self-study, search, decision, negotiation, installation, and startup. As the congregation progresses through the stages of the interim journey, it undertakes the five developmental tasks, guided and encouraged by an intentional interim pastor.

The first of these Developmental Tasks is **Coming to terms with History.**

The Interim time is probably the most challenging time a congregation may face. Many issues present themselves at a change of pastors. How well these issues are addressed will significantly impact the next installed pastorate and will determine how well the congregation progresses toward furthering its vision for the future. It is a time where the members have a chance to look back and appreciate their history, both recent and long-term; it is also a moment to consider the present scene, discerning the good and the not so good in the congregation's life; and it is a very special opportunity to look ahead and chart out the future course of the congregation. Every change of pastoral leadership is a unique opportunity for a local congregation to learn from its past, weigh its strengths and weaknesses, and prepare itself for a new future.

As important as it is for the interim congregation to get perspective on the most recent chapter in its life, the longer-term story must not be overlooked. Every congregation has a story to tell about its beginnings, its achievements through the years, its trials, its struggles, and its contributions to the community and the wider Christian world. It is almost always exciting and healing for a faith community to rediscover its past and learn how that past informs the present life of the congregation.

The Sunday before Easter I announced that we would move forward in the Interim Process beginning in May. The first step will be a Congregational Meeting to discuss the history of your Church and its members. The Congregational meeting is scheduled for May 20 following the 10 o'clock service. Please make every effort to attend. In the next two weeks poster boards with a time line, dating back to 1850 will be hung in the parish hall for your reflections and written comments on how you see your past strengths and weaknesses of St. Marks church during various times. A new spirit can come out of this task as a congregation develops its sense of purpose and being.

God's Peace,
Mother Joanna
The Reverend Joanna Graham
Interim Rector

A NIGHT IN THE CARIBBEAN

**MAY 12, 2007
6:30 pm in the Parish Hall**



**Tickets \$50.00, Seniors \$35.00
See or call Joan Graff (204-0646) or Jenny Phillips (630-0807) for Tickets**

Come and Join Us for a Delightful Evening of Food and Fun!

A Gourmet Taste of the Tropics
By Chefs Nick Williams, Martin Hale, Sharon DeFeo

Fabulous Silent and Live Auction Items
A Week in the Caymans
A Week in Winter Park Colorado
Tickets to football games- Rutgers, Army, Jets
Gourmet Dinners
Baskets of Goodies
Two Nights in Phillips' Mill in New Hope
A Flat Screen TV

This is a first in a series of several articles that I am writing in order to help us all understand what it means to be an Episcopalian. At first, I thought it might be about rubrics of the Episcopal Church or about the Nicene Creed or about apostolic succession. However, I realized that in order to even begin understanding about what an Episcopalian is, or what our diocese represents, or what our National Church is, or even what the world-wide Anglican Communion is, I needed to go back to why the Church of England was originally formed.

On the road to Via Media “The Middle Way”

By Jim Nishimura

The early part of the 16th century in Europe was marked by a large discontentment with the Roman Catholic Church. Roman Papal authority was interfering with the affairs of state, people were tired of the Catholic Church “selling indulgences”, and moreover, people began to question the philosophy that only human deeds could lead to salvation. The Church had traditionally solidified its “power” by having the clergy viewed as an “educated elite” (they were responsible for teaching the faith). With the invention of the printing press and a better-educated laity, people were able to read the Scriptures and were ultimately able to question the differences between the church they saw in reality and the church of the apostles.

Enter Martin Luther.....enter the Reformation Period. I think everyone knows that Martin Luther’s 95 Theses written in 1517 were essentially protests or reforms he thought needed to be made by the Catholic Church.....maybe you didn’t know that these thoughts and theses earmarked the start of others formulating their own reforms (hence the name Reformation Period). These “protests” came to define the name “Protestants”.

Up until the Reformation, Western European Christian churches were under Roman Papal authority. During the reformation, various “Protestant” churches repudiated Papal authority. While England’s monarch, Henry VIII (some argue he did this because the Pope did not grant his divorce, others feel that it was the “straw that broke the camel’s back”) created the Church of England.

One of the most important dates to remember is 1549. It is the year that Thomas Cranmer wrote the First Book of Common Prayer. It is called “common prayer” because we all pray it together, we all participate in the service and we all share in the Eucharist. It has gone through some significant changes over the years, but its purpose has remained the same to this day: a central place to find core instructions and rites for Anglican Christians to worship together.

You may ask, “Hey Jim, what does this have to do with Via Media (the middle way)?”.

Well, when Elizabeth I succeeded to the England’s throne in 1558, she ushered in a period where the Church of England became the middle way. She restored a moderate Protestantism, codifying the Anglican faith in the Act of Uniformity, the Act of Supremacy, and the Thirty-Nine Articles. It created a Church that was still rooted to the Church of the Patristic and Medieval periods. It still used the catholic creeds, it still kept a similar pattern of ministry, and it still retained aspects of its liturgy. However, it also “reformed” by incorporating Protestant (Puritan) insights in its theology and liturgical practice.

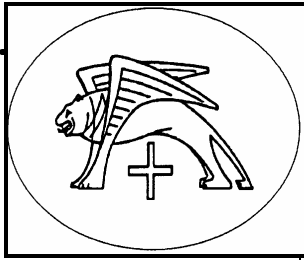
The Church of England became the “middle way” between Catholicism and Puritanism. It started the divergence between Episcopalians and Protestants – it defines what we are as Episcopalians and gives us a basis to understand how we evolved and what we are today.



SAINT MARK'S WOMEN'S GROUP

The St. Mark's Women's Group is meeting at Annabelle Wilmer's home on Tuesday, May 22nd at 7:00 PM for a pot luck dinner. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Everyone is cordially invited.





MAY 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Holly Manor @ 10:45</i>	2 <i>Chapel H.C. 9am</i> <i>Staff Mtg 12:30</i>	3	4	5
6 <i>8am Rite I 10am Rite II John Lyga making pancakes for con- firm. Class JDG's presen- tation</i>	7	8	9 <i>Chapel H.C. 9am</i>	10 <i>Office Comm 7:30pm</i>	11 <i>Auction Setup</i>	12 <i>Dinner Auc- tion</i>
13 <i>8am Rite I 10am Rite II</i> <i>8am Confirma- tion Class with pancakes</i>	14 <i>Worship 6:30pm Finance 7:45pm</i>	15 <i>Staff Mtg 12:30</i>	16 <i>Chapel H.C. 9am</i>	17	18	19 <i>Charter Day</i> <i>9:00AM Confir- mation class</i>
20 <i>8am Rite I 10am Rite II</i> <i>Congregational Meeting following the 10AM service</i>	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 <i>8am Rite I 10am Rite II</i> <i>No Coffee Hour</i> <i>11:30 Confirma- tion class</i>	28 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>No Christian Ed</i>	29	30 <i>Staff Mtg 12:30</i>	31		

The Lion's Roar

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 140 S. Finley Ave.
 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Bulk Rate
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 Basking Ridge, NJ
 Permit No. 24

Date	Layreaders	Acolytes	Greeters	Ushers
05/06/2007				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L J. Lyga			P. Chiappetta
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch T. Roper P&Ch J. Wyatt	The Wests		G. Begg D. Wells
05/13/2007				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Moore			J. Martucci
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch R. Conover P&Ch N. McLaughlan	The Gogertys	A. Wilmer J. Kahle	L. Koch B. Walker
05/20/2007				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch B. Barkhorn			J. Smythe
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch ML Schmidt P&Ch D. Kress	The Phillips	J. Phillips B. Hughes	L. Rose R. Taylor
05/27/07				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Post			J. DeCoste
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&CH K. Aregood	The Barkhorns	M. Urbas K. McLaughlan	J. Pioppi L. Koch