

The Lion's Roar

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

Volume 58, Issue 12

December 1, 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

140 S. Finley Avenue
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
(908) 766-9058
(908) 766-9059 Fax
stmarks.br@verizon.net

(908) 766-0510

Rector: The Rev. Joanna Graham

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.

Parish Administrators:

(908) 766-9058
Ann Millan & Martha Heiner

Sexton: Dan McCollum

Postulant: Charlotte Wells

Verger: Bill Barkhorn

From the Desk of the Reverend Joanna D. Graham

Interim Rector

"Therefore you must also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." (*Matthew 24:44*)

December 2, marks the beginning of the season of Advent, a time of expectation and great anticipation, a time of preparation for the coming of the Messiah.

However, what is it that we anticipate? What do we expect to happen? What are we preparing for? Are we really preparing, by getting our hearts and spirits ready for the coming of Jesus or are we preparing for the month-long shopping spree that will leave us broke after the holidays? On the other hand, maybe we are getting ready for the predicted seven to ten pounds the average American will gain during the season, I hope not. Are we preparing for the horrible traffic jams at the malls, or uneven and short tempers in stores or are we getting ready for the anxiety and even the anger that sometimes accompanies the secular holiday season?

Many Americans celebrate and faithfully observe the consumer Christmas and unfortunately, Advent becomes the prelude to disappointment. Somehow, Christmas hardly ever measures up to their fantasies, like chestnuts roasting by an open fire, tiny tots with their eyes all aglow and walking in a winter wonder land. Instead it leads to exhaustion, worry about money, obligation that too many gift givers feel, or depression or a nagging emptiness.

However, the Advent we celebrate in the church---the one that has nothing at all to do with the number of shopping days left until Christmas is altogether

different. We light the first Advent candle, it invites us to dream of a better world, to allow expectant dreams of peace on earth, and God's reign to be understood and acknowledged. It is a time of preparation. But, what are we preparing for? Matthew tells us to prepare for the coming of the Son of Man. This is a tough passage for reasonable, intelligent people to take seriously. Like so many other parts of scripture it seems to fit better with first century Palestine---they really did think that the end of the world was coming, but I guess some of our present day TV evangelists feel that way also. Nevertheless, these frightening words appear to be a poor match for the assurance of Advent. The urgency is lost in a world where Christmas comes on December 25, no matter what. It has been the date set for the last fifteen hundred years.

Perhaps it is time to reconsider what it means to be prepared. The Gospel is reminding us not to allow ourselves to become so absorbed in our daily lives that we miss the coming signs. Since no one knows when the Christ will come, everyone must watch and be ready. We are to live each day as if it were the day of his coming. He will come again and we must be vigilant.

Let us be clear about what we are talking about when we refer to "the coming of the Lord." Some are holding out for Jesus to arrive a second time by riding in on a cloud. Some spend so much time thinking about that, that they fail to consider Jesus' first visit 2000 years ago. The coming of the Lord in this Advent season has to do with how God is with us now---how God still demands our attention and faithfulness and

Continued on pg 7

Concert and Carols

Christmas Trees, Holly, Evergreens..... and that's right...CAROLS. You will hear them on the TV, on the radio, in department stores and elevators BUT, why not sing them where they SHOULD be sung: in church?

Over 95 % of all Christmas carols are about the birth and worship of the baby Jesus, so when we sing, we all know what we are singing about. 100% of the carols in the Episcopal Hymnal are about Jesus and we sing at least some of the verses of ALL on Christmas eve at St. Marks.

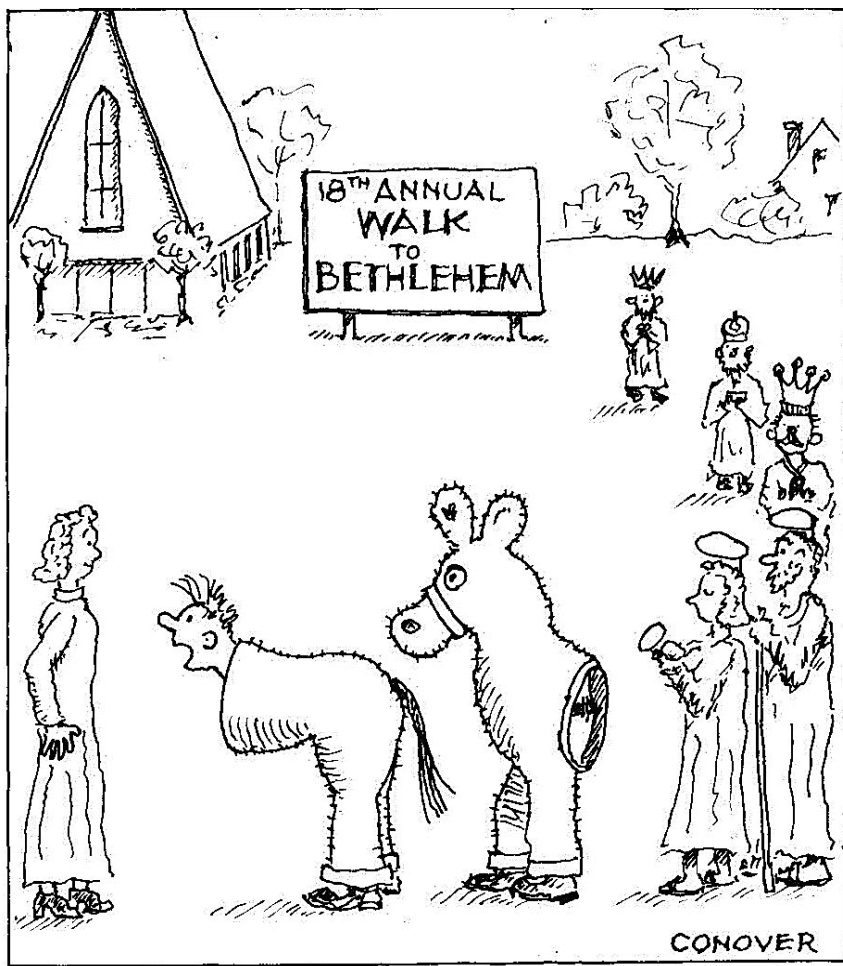
So come a half hour early, 4:30pm for the 5:00pm service or at 10:30pm 11:00pm service, for "Concert and Carols". The choir has a medley for all of us to sing. Song sheets are included with instructions of what to sing and when. Our Bell Choir plays too! Join us!

Bill Corson, Director of Music

It's time to FEAST again!

Back by popular demand, FEAST (Friends Eating and Sharing Together) will be starting again in December. The membership committee will assign interested couples and singles to groups of 8 to enjoy four (or more) meals together throughout the year. The mission of FEAST is simple – enjoy a great meal while getting to know other members of St. Mark's on a social basis. The host will rotate and will be responsible for preparing the meal. A sign up sheet is in the back of the church or contact Paige Pioppi at plpioppi@yahoo.com or 908/604-4232. Cheers!

LAUGHTER IN THE PEWS



“Sorry, Reverend Joanna, we looked and looked but just couldn't find a real donkey this year!”

Notices

St. Mark's Women's Group

Next gathering is Thursday Dec 13th at 7:00 hosted by Sharon Defeo. See sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Please consider hosting one of St. Mark's Women's groups. If you are interested, please contact Dawn Knill at dkknill@hotmail.com or 908-630-9116 for details.

Coffee Hour Sign Up

Please see the poster in the Narthex To sign up for an upcoming coffee hour!

Advent Brunch

Will be on Sunday, December 2nd - St. Mark's Advent Brunch. Sign up sheet will be in the Narthex.

Thank you!! Thank you!!

A big Thank You to everyone who donated so generously for the Delbarton Food Drive. Thanks to contributions from individuals and also from John Lyga's sunday school group, Joe Hughes was able to bring 280 pounds of food to the drive on Monday. He was thrilled.

Delbarton's food drive supports the Morristown Community Soup Kitchen which Delbarton raised over 40,000 pounds of food last year. Joe was so pleased with how generous everyone was.

Cash Donations To St. Marks

The IRS now requires a record of all charitable donations. For parishioners: in the future please identify any cash contribution by using a numbered church envelope, or use any envelope and include your name. Your church contribution statement will include your contribution for the designated activity.

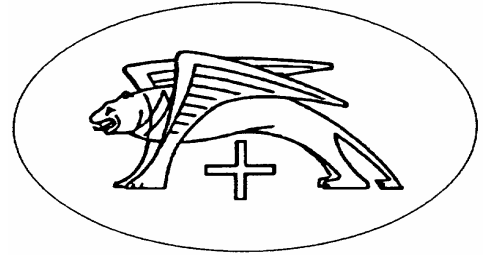
Finance Report as of 10-31-07

David Moore Finance Commission Chair

A summary of St. Mark's operating statement is included below. We are below Pledge budget with other donations from Rummage and September Song close to their target. Below budget expenses for resulted from personnel, in reach, outreach and the \$8,200 quarterly diocese third quarter contribution deferral until November. The diocese is providing strong support to our interim process and rector search planning. Your pledge and donations are not only critical as we move forward with our rector search, but will also determine the strength of our financial profile for any future candidate review.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
2007 Pledges	\$171,472	\$198,334	\$-26,862
Other Donations	97,343	101,500	-4,157
Total Receipts	268,814	299,834	-31,020
Total Expenses	281,981	310,916	-28,935
Net	\$-13,167	\$-11,082	\$-2,085

Please review your pledge and capital campaign 9-30-07 statement when it arrives in the mail and if needed bring your commitment in line with your annual pledge or consider an additional contribution for this year. Your support is greatly appreciated for not only the remainder of 2007, but also 2008.



2007 Vestry

Senior Warden

Jim Martucci 604-2256

Junior Warden

Jim Nishimura 647-5290

Buildings & Grounds

Bruce Walker 604-9151

Paul Chiappetta

Christian Education

Lorri Layton 696-1748

Youth Ministry

Dan Greenleaf 766-7313

Inreach/Fellowship

Dawn Knill 630-9116

Outreach

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

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.

NOTES FROM YOUR PROFILE COMMITTEE...

The Profile Committee is hard at work creating the St. Mark's survey for you! The survey will be ready for you to complete in early December. Here are the dates:

DECEMBER 2ND:

At both the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services – you will have the opportunity to fill out your survey during the “sermon time” those Sundays.

Children will have their own surveys to fill out in Sunday school. The Sunday School teachers will be able to complete their surveys that week also, during and after class. Everyone is invited to enjoy the Advent Brunch after the service

DECEMBER 9TH :

We will have the survey available again for anyone who missed it on the previous week.

For those attending the **8 a.m. service** you can fill the survey out **after** the service. We will provide refreshments in the narthex.

For those attending the **10 a.m. service** – please plan to **arrive at 9:50** to start completing the survey. Services will begin at 10:15

*If you are unable to attend either Dec. 2 or Dec. 9 services, please contact the church office (908-766-9058) to request a survey. It will be mailed to you. All surveys must be returned to the office by **December 18.***

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

After survey results are tabulated, we will communicate the results to you. In **January** you'll be invited to a cottage meeting to discuss the survey results and provide additional input. The **cottage meetings** will be in groups of 6-8 people and will be set up to accommodate different schedules. In addition, we are planning one “coffee hour” meeting after church, plus several smaller home meetings and “special location” meetings at both Ridge Oak and Fellowship Village. Hopefully there will be a meeting you can attend - your input is very important!

PARISH PROFILE

The surveys and cottage meetings results, plus other Parish information we're gathering, will give the overall picture (**Profile**) of St. Mark's – where we've been, who we are now and where we're going in the future. It will also identify the most important characteristics of our next Rector, based on your collective responses. This Profile will be added to the St. Mark's website, and a CD and Brochure will be created with Profile and pictures. The CD and Brochure will be mailed to prospective Rector candidates.

The Profile Commission will have finished their work by **March 31, 2008**, and will then turn the process over to the Discernment Commission.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Be prayerful - keep the Profile and Discernment Commissions in your prayers.

Complete the survey, volunteer to host a cottage meeting, and attend a cottage meeting! It is your opportunity to help shape our future. Who are we and where are we going? It's up to all of us to decide.

- Anne Post, Profile Commission Chair

December



Birthdays

Dec 1 Robert Les
Bill Hubert
Dec 3 Peter Gilbert
Dec 5 Julia West
Michaela Williams
Dec 6 Susan Travis
Dec 7 Nicole Cirra
Dec 8 Jennifer Moore
Dec 9 Eric Barkhorn
Nora Barrett
Dec 10 Anne Kuehne
Dec 11 Richard Davis
Dec 12 Joanne Woolford
Dec 13 Eric Roper
Eric Roper
Dec 14 Caroline Coffin
Dec 17 Lisa Lehlehicioglu
Dec 18 Ann Rosenblum
Thomas Woodford
Dec 19 Sean Gogerty
Dec 20 Lynn Tipson
Dec 21 Muriel Snyder
Dec 22 Bette Sisto
Trevor Tuthill
Charlotte Wells
Dec 23 Tim Baumgarten
Dec 26 John Kozel
Elizabeth Weaver
Dec 27 Timmy Child
Sarah Rose
Dec 29 Eric English
Bryan Knill
Therese Nishimura
Dec 30 Jenifer Behrins
Beth Lohner
Phillip Saccone
Pamela Thwaite
Dec 31 Richard Aregood
Rob Brangaccio
Meg Jewson

Anniversaries

12-7 Tim & Nancy Opremcak
12-15 Jim & Paige Pioppi
12-28 Bill & Lauran Corson
12-29 David & Janet Day

St. Mark's Outreach Summary

Current Programs and Coordinators (Bill Schmidt, 908.580.1259)

HUNGER

Crop Walk – Anne Post 908.766.6621 and Robert Buesser 973.316.5175
Curbing Hunger, Inc. – Bill Schmidt 908.580.1259
Food Pantry, Somerville – Betsy Coffin 908.766.0158
Meals on Wheels – OPEN (Williams, Begg, Kress)
Morristown Soup Kitchen – Kit McLaughlan 908.221.1858
Morristown Mission – Jim & Paige Pioppi 908.604.4232
Serving Meals during Holidays
Turkey Drive with B'nai Israel – Mary Urbas 908.630.9012

SPIRIT

Diocese of NJ Coordination – OPEN
Millennium Project - OPEN
Ministry, Episcopal Church of Jerusalem
The Rev. Joanna Graham 908.766.9058
Prison Mission - OPEN

HEALTH

Blood Drive – Mary Urbas 908.630.9012
Bryan's Dream – Opremcak 908.221.9165
Hospice/Home Care – Kit McLaughlan 908.221.1858
Jersey's Battered Women's Service – Betsy Coffin 908.766.0158

SHARING

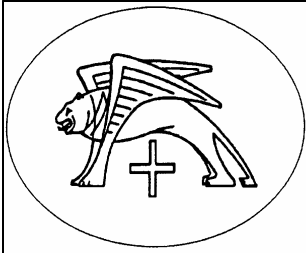
Holiday Adopt-A-Family – Lyga 908.766.5880
Thanksgiving - Lyga and Moore
Christmas Baskets – Bev and Jennifer Moore 732.809.1215
Easter – OPEN
Interfaith Hospitality Network – OPEN
Call Dottie Benjamin 908.647.0575 at
Bishop Janes United Methodist Church

SHELTER

Habitat for Humanity - OPEN
Raritan Valley
Morris
Appalachian – Marilyn Lyga 908.766.5880
With Liberty Presbyterian

COMFORT & JOY

Creche Service, Children's Clothes –
Jim and Paige Pioppi 908.604.4232
Dress for Success –
Lorri Layton 908.696.1748
Seamen's Institute – Anne Post 908.766.6621
Unicef - Laura and Greg Begg 908.204.9292
Valentines for NJ Troops – Paula Roper 908.508.1864



December 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2am Rite I 10am Rite II Profile Survey Advent Brunch Advent 1	3	4 Holly Manor 10:45	5 Chapel H.C. 9am	6 Office Mtg 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7	8
9 8am Rite I 10am Rite II @ 10:15 Profile Survey Advent 2	10 Worship 6:30 Finance 7:45	11	12 Chapel H.C. 9am	13 Watchung Con. Clergy Meeting noon-1:30pm	14	15
16 8am Rite I 10am Rite II Walk to Beth- lehem 4pm Advent 3	17 Vestry Mtg 7:15	18 Ridge Oak 10:30	19 Chapel H.C. 9am	20 Choir Rehearsal	21	22 9am Creche Rehearsal
23 8am Rite I 10am Creche Svc. Advent 4	24 Christmas Eve Services 5pm & 11pm Services	25	26 Chapel H.C. 9am	27	28	29
30 8am Rite I 10am Lessons and Carols	31					

From the Desk of....

how we respond to the way God was revealed at the birth of Jesus.

"And the word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14) In this season of Advent, we are to focus on what that means for our lives.

To be ready for Christmas in the biblical story does not involve relaxation, but upheaval. We know that the coming of the Lord in our lives will challenge priorities and prejudices. We know that it will require confrontation and change. We know, that if we truly open up to God, we no doubt will be asked much. Are we ready for that kind of Christmas?

It will mean transformation; he will wake us up during the middle of the night and beckon us to follow. He will instill within us new ideas and thoughts, he will gently ask us to volunteer in the soup kitchen, beckon us to come to bible study, to volunteer in church, help on a committee. On the other hand, the Spirit might ask us to sit on vestry, run for a diocesan office, minister to the sick, fight for justice and peace, teach church school or Journey to adulthood, or become an acolyte. He will ask us to feed the poor, minister to the sick and accept those that are different.

In the biblical days, people of all kinds were yearning for a center to their lives

that would bring more hope and meaning than they had been able to find elsewhere. Today people of all kinds are still yearning for a center to their lives that will bring more hope and meaning than we have been able to find elsewhere. It is not found in the secular Christmas.

Yet it would be easier to celebrate Christmas than to celebrate the coming of the Lord. We know that the coming of the Lord into our lives, churches, and communities will mean change. We have made Jesus into an object of personal devotion, but the mission of the messiah was much broader. The Messiah was to be a political figure who would establish God's ways as the rule for humankind. The Messiah did not come to bless our prejudices and to look the other way from our indiscretions.

He came to "lift up the humble and bind down the proud," to call people away from division and into community, to calm fears and instill courage, and to evoke our compassion for the hurting and left-out of the world. The coming of the Christ stretches, pulls and gnaws at us.

Christmas will allow for family gatherings by the fireplace, but the coming of the Christ will call us to see every person on the planet as part of the family, sinner and sin against, forgiven and unforgiven. Christmas will save us from the messiness of a troubled world; the coming of the Lord will save us from ourselves and push us to transform the messiness so that we can have real peace with each other and

ourselves.

As it turns out, Matthew was right. We know that a loving God does not want pain and sorrow to continue. We do not know the hour or day, but we should not be too surprised if some voice calls us to an even greater generosity on behalf of the suffering of the world.

We should not be too taken aback if we are tapped on the shoulder and directed toward some worthwhile community project that needs our support. We should not be too startled if we begin noticing things that just are not right and go to work to change them to benefit other people. We should not be too alarmed if we find ourselves led to develop a deeper spiritual center for our lives. It could happen any time. Some will respond some will not. That is okay. Advent reminds us that God often breaks into our lives unexpectedly. We cannot know the time or the day of our next encounter with the Holy. Neither can we predict whether that meeting will be a joyful experience of forgiveness and peace, a call to repentance and responsibility, or some combination of the two. However, it will come and we are called by Jesus to be ready and actively waiting. The first Advent candle will be lit, but are we ready for the coming of the Lord?

God's blessings and Peace,
Reverend Joanna

(Excerpts from Get Ready, Get Set...wait, J. Dean)

Stewardship at St. Mark's

One thing you can always count on once you start talking about stewardship – it is only a matter of time (and, usually, a very brief time) – when the conversation turns to the subject of money and giving. That is unfortunate because it gives the impression that money and giving are the only, or the most important, area of stewardship. Throughout the year St. Mark's has many opportunities to get involved and make a difference, should you want any further information please feel free to contact me, we always need folks energized to help.

Year end is the time that we have our annual fund campaign and this year is no different. The goal of St. Mark's 2008 annual pledge campaign is increased participation to ensure that we can meet the parish's financial needs. Your support is needed more than ever in '08 to fund our outreach, show our strength as a congregation, and service a new budget line item of a mortgage payment on the remaining balance of the building addition.

There are always competing priorities for your resources, be

them time, talent or financial in nature. By supporting St. Mark's you are supporting the Christian values that we promote. You are probably aware of many of the biblical references to giving that could be drawn upon at this point, but instead please take a moment and reflect upon how we have been blessed and what is important in life. "Most of us spend most of our waking time acquiring assets....True giving is an act of self liberation. It becomes one of the major achievements of our life." (Henry Drucker). Said another way it truly is better to give than receive. We deeply appreciate all of the ongoing annual support that we receive from our ongoing pledge families and hope for continued support through our rector transition. If you are currently not participating with an annual pledge we need you, please take a moment to reflect upon important values to you and join us by submitting a pledge card. Thanks for your support.

Jeff West

Finally let me leave you with a heartfelt thanks and a proverb found on the internet: "A civilization flourishes when its people plant trees under which they will never sit."

Vestry and Convention Delegate Nominations

The Nominating Committee, appointed by the Vestry, has spent the last several weeks creating the slate of candidates which will stand for election at the Annual Meeting in January. As mentioned in last month's Lions Roar, we were hoping to present a slate which included more candidates than positions to be filled. This would have brought us in line with the vast majority of the churches in the Diocese. As with anything new, this was met with some resistance by prospective candidates, and ultimately we were unsuccessful in this endeavor. Nevertheless, the candidates we are presenting are all talented and hard working people, and we thank them for their willingness to serve our congregation in this critical period as we transition from one Rector to another. Herewith the candidates:

Junior Warden: Buck Kirch
Vestry 3-year term: Betsy Coffin, Tom DeFeo, Neil McLaughlan, Teri Passarello
Vestry 1-year term: Paul Chiappetta
Delegates to Convention and Convocation:
Bill Schmidt, Marylea Schmidt
Alternate Delegates to Convention and Convocation:
Jackie Kahle, Doug Post

(Under the By-Laws, one Warden is automatically a Delegate to Convention. If he cannot attend the other Warden is expected to do so in his place).

Also according to the By-Laws, nominations by petition may be made in writing by any five (5) or more qualified voters not later than Monday in Christmas week on form of petition available in the narthex on or request. The petition shall include designation of the office, the nominee, and the same identifying material as presented in the biographies that follow, and signatures of the nominators and the nominee. The nominee(s) must be qualified voters, and any nominee for Warden must have previously served two (2) years on St. Mark's Vestry. The Nominating Committee shall read nominations by petition at the annual parish meeting following presentation of the slate. Nominations from the floor are not permitted. As Christmas is on a Tuesday this year, the deadline is Monday, December 31, 2007.

Nominees

Paul Chiappetta: will be posted to the St. Mark's website.

Betsy Coffin: I have been a member of St. Mark's church for 18 years and a life long Episcopalian. While at St. Mark's, I have taught Sunday School for both my children's classes for about ten years, have co-chaired the rummage sale four times, and have partnered in the production of the crèche service four times. I have had the opportunity to work at the food bank, and become involved in various fund raisers throughout our time at St. Marks. I currently work for the Central NJ Maternal and Child Health Consortium, managing the evaluation teams, and family support programs for six counties in the State's Early Intervention program. I received a BA in Sociology from the University of

Delaware and a masters degree in Public Administration from Seton Hall University. My husband Bill and I have two children, Caroline a freshman in college, and Nicholas a junior in High School.

Tom DeFeo: will be posted to the St. Mark's website.

Buck Kirch: Buck Kirch is a New Jersey native and a long time resident of Basking Ridge. Upon completion of military service, Buck and his wife Ellen, a former Plainfield first grade teacher, moved to Goltra Drive in 1969. Buck's career was primarily spent in sales and marketing positions with retailers, distributors, and manufacturers in the furniture industry.

As an antidote for retirement, he currently works for AAA; and has become expert at telling travelers, and others, exactly where to go and how to get there. Buck and Ellen have two grown children. Ned, his wife Susan, and son Trevor reside in Albuquerque while Steven lives in Greensboro, North Carolina. His community service has included membership in Kiwanis and stints as Cubmaster, as Boy Scout committee chairman, and as a really lame soccer coach.

Buck has been a member of Saint Mark's since 1975. He has served on the Vestry; as Warden; as an Usher; and, for over nineteen years, as Treasurer. And, still, no one knows his real first name.

Neil McLaughlan: will be posted to St. Mark's website.

Teri Passarello: As a member of St. Mark's Church since June, 2005, I have worked on two finance-related projects: reconciliation of the GTF, Designated Funds, Pledge Equity and Cash accounts; and the reconciliation of QuickBooks and Revelations, both in the 2005/2006 timeframe. I am currently participating on the Finance Commission. My education includes an MBA in Finance from Fairleigh Dickinson University and an undergraduate degree in Marketing Management from Baruch College. I have held various management positions, primarily in finance, at AT&T for 24 years, including a 2 ½-year international assignment in Europe doing business development. I am currently working as a Business Planning and Analysis Consultant and over the passed 3 ½ years I have worked for Johnson & Johnson, Qualcare and Sanofi-Aventis. I also have a Certification as a Nutrition Educator.

In 2002, I became a member of the Somerset Hills branch of the American Association of University Women and served as Membership Chair for three years and became Co-President in 2006. I am also the branch Web Administrator. Our local branch generates almost \$30,000 a year in fund raising from our annual book sale.

I have lived in Basking Ridge for 20 years. My current interests include traveling, hiking, golf and yoga. I have traveled to places like Nepal, Tibet and the Peruvian Amazon and I have been practicing Iyengar yoga for over 8 years.



ADVENT WREATH SALE

at St. Mark's Church

Sunday, December 2—Outside the Link
8:45 – 11:45

Hosted by
Cub Scouts Pack 55 Patriot's Path Council
\$10.00 per wreath
\$2.00 per bow
Please support your local scouts!
Thank you.



December				
Date	Layreaders	Crucifer	Greeters	Ushers
12/02/2007				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Moore			H. Woods
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch K. Aregood	Bryan Knill	M. Ahalt	G. Begg
	P&Ch J. Wyatt		N. Brangaccio	J. Pioppi
	LR 2 L. Corson			
12/09/2007				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Post			P. Chiappetta
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch ML Schmidt	The Gogerty Family	A. Wilmer	G. Begg
	P&Ch R. Aregood		J. Phillips	D. Rozzelle
	LR 2 N. Opremcak			
12/16/2007				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Moore			J. Smythe
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch R. Conover	The Phillips Family	N. Wojnar	T. DeFeo
	P&Ch N. McGlaughlan		A. Millan	L. Rose
	LR 2 L. West			
12/23/07				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Moore			J. Martucci
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch T. Roper	The Barkhorn Family	M. Gaydos	J. Pioppi
	P&Ch D. Kress		K. S. McLaughlan	J. Kahle
	LR 2 R. Buesser			
12/24/07				B. Walker
4:30 p.m. Music	L&Ch B. Barkhorn	The Barkhorn Family		T. DeFeo
5:00 p.m. (HC)	P&Ch J. Wyatt			L. Rose
10:30 p.m. Music	L&Ch K. Aregood	Peter Phillips		D. Rozzelle
11:00 p.m. (HC)	P&Ch T. Roper			D. Wells
				J. Kahle
12/30/07				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Post			J. Wojnar
10:00 a.m. (HC)	None	The Gogerty Family	B. Hughes	B. Walker
			J. Kahle	D. Wells

The Lion's Roar

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
140 S. Finley Ave.
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Non Profit
Basking Ridge, NJ
Permit No. 24

Calling Children Everywhere!!

The 2007 Creche Service is just about upon us and we need all of our wonderful children involved in it.

On December 23rd at the 10am service our smaller children come down the aisle dressed as the crèche characters and carry the crèche figurines as carols are sung. The older children read lessons and poems about the coming of Jesus to introduce each one. This is one of the most memorable services of the year!

Please download the sign-up sheet off the St. Mark's website or contact Joan Graff right away to sign up for your child's part in the service: 908-204-0646.

IMPORTANT! Mandatory Creche Service rehearsal is the day before, Saturday morning Dec 22nd at 9am. Don't forget!

See you then!

William C. Corson, Director of Music

OUTREACH for St. Mark's

contact Bill Schmidt at 908.580.1259

- Would you like to **Adopt-A-Family** for Christmas? If so, contact Marilyn Lyga at 908.766.5880 or Bev Moore at 732.809.1215 for details.
- Interested in knitting? Try hats and scarves for the **Seamen's Institute**, contact Anne Post at 908.766.6621.
- Please contact Paige or Jim Pioppi at 908.604.4232 if you would like to help serve meals during the holidays at the **Morristown Mission**.
- Please contact Paige or Jim Pioppi at 908.604.4232 if you would like to help with the **Children's Clothes Project** associated with the Creche Service.
- The **Soup Kitchen** Project is always looking for help as servers, food buyers or preparers. Contact Kit McLaughlan at 908.221.1858.
- **Meals on Wheels** is in need of leadership. Please contact Bill Schmidt at 908.580.1259.
- The **Jersey's Battered Women's Service** project is being rejuvenated. Please contact Betsy Coffin to help or learn more the program at 908.766.0158.
- **Curbing Hunger, Inc.** is looking for help on Fund Raising. Interested and want to check it out? Contact Chuck Knill at 908.630.9116.
- Thinking of Shelters and **Habitats**, like to saw and hammer, paint, etc.? Contact Bill Schmidt at 908.580.1259. You can help in the planning and/or in the projects.