

# The Lion's Roar

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

Volume 60, Issue 5

May 1, 2009

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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

**Rector:** The Rev. Rick M.C. Morley  
Rectory: 908-340-4240  
Email: rmcormorley@me.com

**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.

#### Administrative Secretary:

**Ann Millan** (908) 766-9058

## *From the desk of the Reverend Richard M.C. Morley*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
  
What an exciting time for us -  
and hopefully for all of us!

I'm writing this letter during my  
final week of ministry in western  
Maryland. It's a bittersweet  
week; saying goodbye to people  
we've come to love, and at the  
same time seeing the fruit of our  
labor. We cry tears of grief, and  
we cry tears of joy.

And, as the days march on we  
so look forward to being among  
all of you. I feel like all I do any-  
more is thank people (which isn't  
a bad way to live your life...),  
but I am so thankful to the  
many people of St. Mark's who  
are helping make this transition  
so smooth. Thanks to Skip+ and  
Joyce, Buck and Mary, Ann,  
Bishop Councell, the people of  
the transition committee, and  
the rectory committee, and  
many others who I'm not even  
aware of yet! We feel very well  
taken care of, and we're eagerly  
anticipating the day when we  
can give that care back.

I know that times are tight,  
amidst recession and budget  
woes, but I can't tell you how  
hopeful I am about St. Mark's. I  
just feel it deep in my bones that  
this is the right time for St.  
Mark's to thrive, in so many

ways. You'll hear me say this a  
lot over the next few months  
and years, but growth - in atten-  
dance, budget, etc. - really only  
happens when we who are al-  
ready in the pews and at the Al-  
tar are growing spiritually.  
Where all of us are growing  
closer to the mind and the heart  
of God. I'm excited to grow with  
you, and to do what I can as  
your rector to foster that kind of  
growth in our parish family.

I'm setting up a list of priorities  
for my first year, which I'll be  
sharing in full shortly, but chief  
among those priorities is getting  
to know the people, places, and  
procedures of St. Mark's, Bask-  
ing Ridge, and the surrounding  
communities. I can't wait to get  
to know you! I know that the  
transition committee is busy set-  
ting up some times for groups of  
people, large and small, to get  
together with Karen and I. And,  
I'm going to do my best and get  
around and meet people face to  
face. Please help me in this ven-  
ture - and let me know if you  
have questions, concerns, or  
ideas.

Together, and with God's help, I  
know great things will happen  
amongst us. They already are.

God's Peace!  
Rick+

Sunday, May 3 will be a very special day at St. Mark's

May 3 is the first Sunday that our new Rector,  
The Reverend Richard M. C. Morley will be with us.

Please plan to attend the 8:00 or 10:00 service and meet Reverend Rick, his wife Karen and their daughters Zoe and Matt. There will be a celebratory coffee hour following the 10:00 service, so please plan to join everyone in warmly welcoming the Morleys to our St. Mark's family.

LAUGHTER IN THE PEWS

Jack's Weekly  
Food Program  
April, 2009

Marie Scannell, executive director of the food bank of Somerset County, says "if the food bank weren't there, people would go without food". Donations are down 10% while demand is up 40% to 3,000 residents from 2,100.

Most needed items:  
parmalat, p.b & j., Mac & cheese, cereal, soup; Canned: meat, fish, fruits, spaghetti sauce

As always, money is critical as they have to buy food in addition to your donations

Let us never see the sign - "closed today - no food"

Keep up the good work! Thanks to all - this is working!

### Fellowship News for May

Thank you to Skip for leading us through Lent into the glory of Easter. Thirty six parishioners attended Maundy Thursday soup supper and service during Holy Week. Special thank you to the soup makers: Marilyn Lyga, Maryann Moreck, Kay Vallario, Carol DeCoste and Anne Post, and to everyone who helped with set up and clean up. Everyone who kindly pitched in to get everything tidied up in record time should know we really appreciated it.

Next up for May will be our welcome coffee hour for Father Rick, Karen, and daughters Zoe and Mattie on May 3rd. Join us to welcome our new rector and his family, and to sample goodies provided by the Vestry.

Fellowship at St. Mark's is all about connections. We pass the peace during the service, and greet our fellow parishioners during coffee hour. Take a few moments to share yourself with your church family each week. Introduce yourself to someone you don't know. Sign up to host coffee hour once in awhile. Taking care of your fellow parishioners by providing a hospitable environment at coffee hour is a worthwhile fellowship goal. And it's easy and fun.

A special thank you from Carol DeCoste to those who helped with the Farewell/Reception Coffee hour on Sunday, April 26th-you can always count on these gals to rise to the occasion:

Ann Millan (not only a pretty face), Linda Aul (responds even if asked 1 hr. before events), Nancy Wojnar (comes early, leaves late), Marylea Schmit (takes on any assignment given), and Gretchen DeCoste (who never lets me down).

Coffee hour sign-up list is posted in the narthex. Choose a date and ask a friend to help you. If you'd like a little tour of the kitchen, let us know. Be connected at St. Mark's.

It will enrich your Sunday and every day.

Questions or to volunteer – contact Anne Post 908-766-6621

[annesandrapost@gmail.com](mailto:annesandrapost@gmail.com)

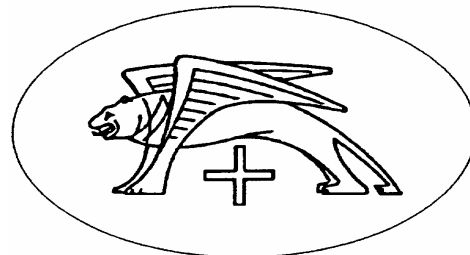
Carol DeCoste 908-766-0408

Kay Vallario 908-766-5473

Fellowship Commission Chair, Anne Post

### **Save the Date. Saturday Evening May 30th.**

Let's get together for a fun evening of international cuisine paired with wines to fit your budget. We will also raise money to support all the programs St. Mark's offers to the community. Please invite your friends. Details will follow, you can bank on fellowship, great food and the opportunity to try some new wines. Contact Jim Lunny at (908) 903-0134 if you would like to help with this event or with other fundraising activities.



2009 Vestry

#### **Rector**

The Rev. Richard M.C. Morley

#### **Senior Warden**

Buck Kirch 647-3599

#### **Junior Warden**

Mary Urbas 630-9012

#### **Grounds**

Tom Defeo 604-2466

#### **Buildings**

Bruce Walker 604-9151

#### **Outreach**

Bill Schmidt 604-0535

#### **Finance**

Teri Passarello 696-0375

#### **Stewardship**

Dawn Knill 630-9116

#### **Worship**

Marilyn Lyga 766-5880

#### **Christian Education**

Paige Pioppi 604-4232

#### **Events**

Jim Lunny 903-0134

#### **Office/Communications**

Jim Martucci 604-2256

#### **Membership**

Jackie Kahle 766-0502

#### **Inreach**

Richard Aregood 647-5640

#### **Fellowship**

Anne Post 766-6621

#### **Non-Vestry Positions:**

##### **Warden Emeritus**

Jim Nishimura 647-5290

##### **Treasurer**

Bill Coffin 766-0158

##### **Recording Treasurers**

Doug Post 766-6621

Margaret Murphy 766-4126

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

### SAINT MARK'S STEWARDSHIP STOP

“The Lord God placed the human in the garden of Eden to till and keep it.” Genesis 2:15

As I write this month's article, Earth Day is just around the corner (April 22). You are probably wondering how Earth Day and Stewardship could possibly be connected. Most of us think of the financial aspect when we hear the word stewardship. Well in ancient times, a steward was a servant who managed the resources of a household. While this is still true today, stewardship also means wisely managing the bounty of God's Earth household.

Just as our financial stewardship is a year long commitment so too should be managing the bounty of God's earth.

As each of us give our financial treasures as a thankful gift to the glory of God, let us also remember our responsibility to ensure that the treasures of God's earth are available for future generations.

Prayerful and in Peace,



Dawn K. Knill, CFRE  
Stewardship Chairperson

### ***New - Family Fellowship at St. Mark's***

Back by popular demand - family fellowship at St. Mark's. We'll have a fun event once a month for families of all sizes and ages. Everyone is welcome. Look for details in the Lion's Roar and on the St. Mark's website. Contact Paige Pioppi (908) 604-4232 or Anne Post (908) 766-6621 with any questions or suggestions.

June: Saturday, June 20 - Hike at Hacklebarney State Park in Chester. Meet at 9:30 am outside the welcome center in Hacklebarney Park. Directions and details to follow in the June Lion's Roar.  
Sunday, June 21 - Family Service

July: Tuesday, July 14 - Morning at Turtleback Zoo

August: No event - Summer vacation

September: Sunday, September 20 - Family service and picnic at Pleasant Valley Park

October: Saturday, October 17 - Hayride and apple picking at Wightman's Farm  
Sunday, October 18 - CROP Walk

November: Friday, November 13 - Game and pizza night in the parish hall

December: Advent brunch



## May Birthdays



May 1	Kerri Burgerhoff Christine Henderson
May 2	Sandy Lazo Abbie Rose
May 6	Colin Buesser Connor Sefchick
May 7	Erin Hinchey William Matthews
May 8	Donald Kress
May 9	Charles Knill
May 10	Warrick Lee
May 11	John Lazo Jim Martucci Neil Glass Owen Glass Meg Lunny
May 12	James Keirstead Robert Plaut
May 13	Jeff Heiner Matt Hinchey
May 15	Rebecca Perkins Lindy Gallup Bill Wilmer
May 16	Alexandra Behrins Madeline West
May 17	Paige Pioppi
May 18	Alex Corson Frank Henderson
May 20	Claudia Hughes Audrey Krauss David Moore, Jr. Doug Post
May 23	Meghan Taylor Cindy Campbell Maureen Carson Michael Holland Roger Conover
May 24	Kyle Winter
May 25	Brenda Indovina
May 26	Anthony Di Chiara James Finger
May 27	Pamela Farley Wesley Kuehne
May 28	Mark Iantosca Jackie Kahle
May 29	Kristen Kenny
May 30	Megan Chiappetta Jacob Indovina Michael Indovina Bernard Jewson

## 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 28	Buck & Ellen Kirch

## Announcements



Congratulations to Sarah Post and Darrin Krug on their marriage, Saturday April 25, 2009 at St. Michael's Church, Cedarville, NJ.

### Baptized

The Lord's blessing on Paige Holland baptized on March 29th and Timothy Pioppi baptized on April 11th.

### Thoughts and Prayers

Remember in your thoughts and prayers Bruce Walker and Norm Graff, both recently hospitalized but now at home and on the mend.

Joanna Graham was diagnosed with Lymes and has begun treatment. She had to resign her position at St. Peter's due to her health problems. Please keep her in your prayers.

Barbara Hughes is now living at an assisted living facility in Maryland, very close to her family. You can send Barbara cards and letter to:

Barbara Hughes  
c/o 5423 Watercress Place  
Columbine, MD 21045



### Women's Group

Women of St. Mark's gathering will be on Thursday, June 4th at 7pm at the family home of Dawn Knill.

Look for a sign up sheet in the Narthex or call Dawn for more info, 908-630-9116.

**RUMMAGE SALE**  
**APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2009**

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU**

We would like to thank the many St. Mark's parishioners who graciously volunteered their time to make the 2009 Spring Rummage Sale such a huge success. It was so heart warming and gratifying to see the St. Mark's community come together for such an important and worthy cause. Whether you helped with setting up, donating, sorting, selling, baking or cleaning up, your efforts were greatly appreciated and you contributed very much to the success of the event. We are happy that we had another successful Rummage Sale, but most importantly we are gratified by the incredible fellowship shared with each other. We hope you all enjoyed participating in the Rummage Sale. Everyone should be very proud of the St. Mark's community for holding such a significant fund raiser. Congratulations on a job well done.

Again, thank you, thank you, thank you.

Harry Woods, Nancy Wojnar, Kit McLaughlin  
and Annabelle Wilmer



## St. Mark's Outreach for May 2009



### May Programs

Current **OUTREACH** for St. Mark's, contact Bill Schmidt at 908.580.1259

- 1. Every Week, Jack's Weekly Food Program:** The continuing project sponsored by Jack Smythe in response to the *increased demand for food by 20%* over last year in central NJ including Somerset County. He is asking everyone to please bring a can or item of food to church each Sunday (or a bag of food once a month). All items are welcomed...most in need right now are canned meats like tuna, hearty soups, meals in a can, or peanut butter.
- 2. Habitat for Humanity, New Jersey:** St. Mark's is co-sponsoring a habitat project in 2009. Bruce Walker will be checking the site soon and coordinating the project. So, now is a good time to volunteer your help to support this initiative. Please contact Bruce Walker at 908.604.9151 or via e-mail at [bdw2020@hotmail.com](mailto:bdw2020@hotmail.com) if you have any level of interest in helping in this initiative from being on the project committee to hands-on help.
- 3. Appalachian Service Project:** This Youth Group, self-funded project, helps those who need help in improving or repairing existing homes for habitable use; for example, repairing an elder person's home to assure proper heating for the winter months. The project is for youth 14 years and older. *Please support the fund raisers* and please contact John Lyga at 908.766.5880 for details.
- 4. Environmental Projects:** Interested in outreach initiatives having to do with the environment...please contact Bill Schmidt at 908.580.1259 or e-mail at [billprag@optonline.net](mailto:billprag@optonline.net) . Second meeting planned for mid or late May. Please check the bulletin or contact Bill. This is a good time to help establish the direction and priorities of the initiative.
- 5. Curbing Hunger, 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Official kick-off is June 1<sup>st</sup> with press, dignitaries, and festivities on the Courthouse Green in Somerville, 11:30 to 1:30. Several preceding events include press coverage, public billboards, ads in movie theatres, county wide school flyers, official proclamations for June as Curbing Hunger Month in NJ, etc. Nearly 2.0 million pounds of food have been collected since founded by St. Mark's. In Somerset County alone this serves nearly 3,000 persons per month during the summer months, about ½ under the age of 18.

**St. Mark's Outreach Summary**  
**Current Programs and Coordinators**  
 (Bill Schmidt, 908.580.1259)

<p><b><u>HUNGER</u></b></p> <p><b>Crop Walk</b> – Anne Post 908.766.6621  <b>Curbing Hunger, Inc.</b> – Bill Schmidt          908.580.1259  <b>Food Pantry, Somerville</b> – Martha Heiner          908.766.0868  <b>Jack's Weekly Food</b> – Jack Smythe          908.953.0078  <b>Meals on Wheels</b> – OPEN  <b>Morristown Soup Kitchen</b> – Kit McLaughlan          908.221.1858  <b>Morristown Mission</b> – Jim and Paige Pioppi          908.604.4232          Serving Meals during Holidays  <b>Turkey Drive with B'nai Israel</b>–          Mary Urbas 908.630.9012  <b>Ham Drive</b> – Marilyn Lyga 908.766.5880</p>	<p><b><u>HEALTH</u></b></p> <p><b>Blood Drive</b> – Mary Urbas 908.630.9012  <b>Bryan's Dream</b> – Opremcak 908.221.9165  <b>Hospice/Home Care</b> – Kit McLaughlan          908.221.1858  <b>Jersey Battered Women's Service</b> –          Kit McLaughlan 908.221.1858  <b>Senior Citizens Visitation</b> – Nancy Brangaccio          908.766.2820</p>
<p><b><u>SPIRIT</u></b></p> <p><b>African Team Ministry</b> – Martha Heiner          908.766.0868  <b>Environmental Initiatives</b>          Bill Schmidt – 908.580.1259  <b>Millennium Projects</b> – Direct Contribution  <b>Morristown Hospital Chaplaincy</b>          Direct Contribution  <b>Prison Outreach</b> – Richard Aregood          908.647.5640</p>	<p><b><u>SHELTER</u></b></p> <p>Habitat for Humanity:           Raritan Valley -- Bruce Walker 908.604.9151          Appalachian – John Lyga 908.766.5880</p>
<p><b><u>SHARING</u></b></p> <p><b>Holiday Adopt-A-Family</b>          Thanksgiving/Easter          Bev Moore          732.469.7322 or <a href="mailto:BJMoore198@aol.com">BJMoore198@aol.com</a>          Marilyn Lyga 908.766.5880  <b>Interfaith Hospitality Network</b>          (with Bishop Janes United Methodist Church)          Yeta Eweka 908.872.9743</p>	<p><b><u>COMFORT &amp; JOY</u></b></p> <p><b>Creche Service, Children's Clothes</b> –          Jim and Paige Pioppi 908.604.4232  <b>Dress for Success</b> –          Lorri and Joe Layton 908.696.1748  <b>Seamen's Institute</b> – Anne Post 908.766.6621  <b>Shoe Box Sunday</b> – John Lyga 908.766.5880  <b>Unicef</b> – John Lyga 908.766.5880</p>



## Finance Report as of March 31, 2009

Represented below is a summary of St. Mark's operating income statement.

	<u>March 2009 Year-to-Date</u>		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Pledges</b>	48,150	55,394	-7,244
<b>Other Donations</b>	16,478	14,749	1,729
<b>Total Receipts</b>	64,628	70,143	-5,514
<b>Total Expenses</b>	79,162	81,628	-2,467
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>-\$14,533</b>	<b>-\$11,486</b>	<b>-\$3,048</b>

March YTD total receipts (operating income) of \$64,628 have improved over February year to date by 10% due to all of the following monthly improvements: increased plate, pledges (including a generous unexpected pledge), donations and building use donations.

However, overall operating income is still below budget by 8%.

Operating expenses of \$79,162 are 3% under budget, an improvement of 7% from February YTD.

Net operating income turned positive for the first time in the month of March in the amount of \$4,366. YTD net operating income of -\$14,533 is still lower than expected but almost a 30% improvement over February YTD.

Thank you all for your continued generosity.

## Rite13 Celebration and Informational Session

The Rite 13 class will hold a special portion of the service, the Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood, for class members who recently attained age 13, which will take place during the 10 am service on June 7 with a special coffee hour to follow. Rehearsal for this Rite 13 celebration will be on Saturday, June 6 at 9:00 am with a pancake breakfast. This Rite 13 class will be moving on in the Fall to form a Journey to Adulthood class, and a new Rite13 class will be formed.

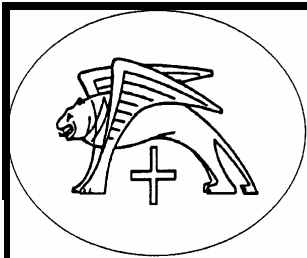
An informational session for Rite 13 for kids who will be in 6th and 7th grades in the fall and their parents will be on Sunday, May 17th following the 10 am service coffee hour in the Heritage Room.

Contact Martha Heiner (908) 766-0868 or heinermj@aol.com with any questions.



The Lion's Roar

Date	Lay readers	Torch/Flag Bears	Greeters	Ushers
<b>5/3/2009</b>				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Post			J. DeCoste
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch C. Knill	Anne Post	Nancy Wojnar	J. Kahle
	P&Ch D. Knill	Caitlin & Laura Taylor	Anne Post	T. Opremcak
	LR 2 L. Corson			
<b>5/10/2009</b>				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Moore			J. Smythe
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch K. Aregood	Nishimura Family	Nancy Brangaccio	L. Rose
	P&Ch R. Aregood		Kit McLaughlan	J. Layton
	LR 2 B. Woodford			
<b>5/17/2009</b>				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Moore			J. Wojnar
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch R. Conover	Gogerty Family	Annabelle Wilmer	T. Opremcak
	P&Ch J. Wyatt		Jackie Kahlei	J. Martucci
	LR 2 N. Opremcak			
<b>05/24/09</b>				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Post	(TB)		H. Woods
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch W. Schmidt	Phillips Family	Bruce Woodford	J. Layton
	P&Ch ML Schmidt		Paige Pioppi	J. Pioppi
	LR 2 S. Gogerty			
<b>05/31/09</b>				
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Post	(TB)		P. Chiapetta
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch R. Conover	Bryan Knill	Dawn Knill	L. Rose
	P&Ch J. Wyatt		Jackie Kahle	B. Walker



# May 2009

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>Rick's First Service</i> 8am Rite I 10am Rite II	4	5 <i>Holly Manor</i> @ 10:45	6 <i>Chapel @ 9am</i>	7	8	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 8am Rite I 10am Rite II <i>Family Service</i>	11 <i>Finance Meeting</i>	12	13 <i>Chapel @ 9am</i>	14 <i>Choir Practice, 7pm</i>	15	16 <i>Charter Day</i>  <i>St. Mark's Planting Day! 9:30am</i>
17 8am Rite I 10am Rite II <i>Contemporary Service</i> <i>Parish Mtg.</i> <i>Rite13 Info Session</i>	18 <i>Vestry Meeting</i>	19 <i>Ridge Oak</i> @ 10:30  <i>Envir. Mtg.</i> @ 6:30pm	20 <i>Chapel @ 9am</i>	21	22  <i>School Closed</i>	23
24 8am Rite I 10am Rite II <i>Baptism</i>	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>School Closed</i>	26	27 <i>Chapel @ 9am</i>	28	29	30 <i>Fundraiser</i>  