

# The Lion's Roar

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

Volume 60, Issue 6

June 1, 2009

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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

**Rector:** The Rev. Richard M.C. Morley  
**Rectory:** 908-340-4240  
**Email:** rmcmorley@me.com  
**Cell phone:** 301-697-9139

**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 Thursday  
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*

### From the Desk of the Rector

Later in this edition of the Lion's Roar, I've put together a list of "Frequently Asked Questions," and some of my 'frequently given answers' to those questions. However, there is one more question that I've been asked frequently of late: "So, what direction are you going to take the church in?"

I've been asked that question by people in the parish, by people on the vestry, by people in the community, and even the reporter from the Bernardsville News. (Though my answer wasn't reported. . .)

My answer is twofold: First of all, I have no idea.

I've only been here for three weeks. We've gotten 75% of the boxes unloaded, I've gotten a few dozen names memorized, we've found the Dairy Queen, and I've been to a whirlwind of meetings and get-to-know-you lunches. I barely know what direction I'm going in, much less what direction I'm going to lead the church in.

Secondly, identifying this direction isn't something that I want to do alone. I don't have an easy 3 point plan on how to build up St. Mark's – and quite frankly I don't think I should.

What I've learned throughout these past three weeks – and the past several months getting ready to come among you – is that this is a remarkable congregation with remarkable people in various leader-

ship and support roles. And, this is a remarkably stable and healthy congregation with solid plans and procedures in place.

That doesn't mean that there won't be changes in the next few months or years, and it doesn't mean that there won't be some mid-course corrections in direction. And it certainly doesn't mean that we won't identify some new directions and start moving that way.

But, it does mean that it's not just going to come from me. As we get used to each other, as we continue seeing Sunday morning be a holy and engaging experience, and as we all continue to move closer to the mind and heart of Christ – together we will discern the direction that God wishes us to go in.

And I very much look forward to going there together with all of you.

May God's Peace be always with us,

Fr. Rick Morley, Rector

## Frequently asked questions of Rick+ and the Morley's:

### How are you all settling in?

We'd doing just great! The people of St. Mark's have been so very helpful, giving, and present throughout this time of transition. Between all that people did for the rectory, the meals people have cooked for us, the ways that people have found to begin to get to know us – we feel very welcomed, and very happy to be here.

### What do we call you?

Well, there are lots of things I'd rather you not call me. . . but otherwise. . . People may feel free to call me "Rick." If you prefer to use ecclesiastical title, you may call me "Father Rick," or "Father Morley."

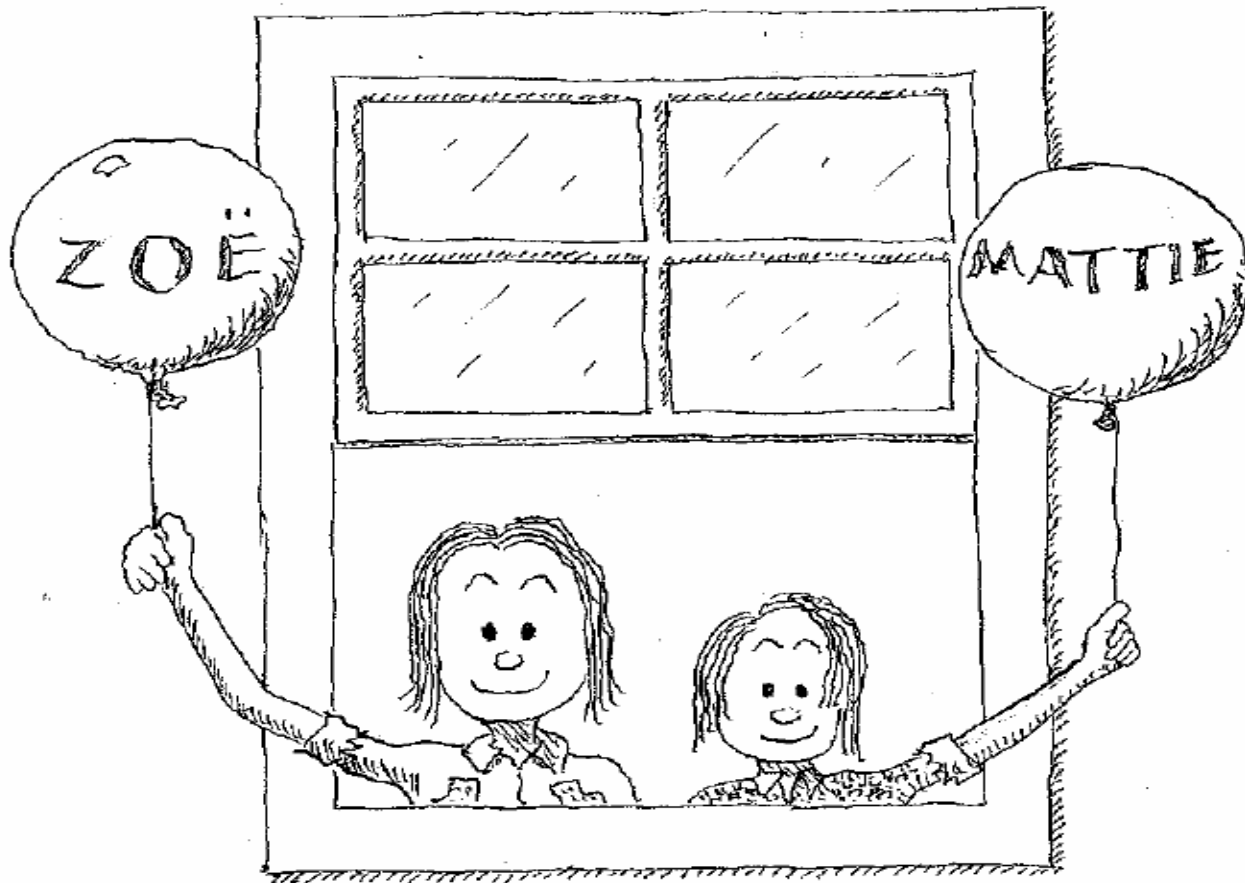
### What should our kids call you?

They too can call me "Rick" or "Father Rick." A good rule of thumb is that if they call their friend's parents

*(continued on page four)*

## LAUGHTER IN THE PEWS

**THANK YOU, EVERYONE, FOR  
FIXING UP OUR ROOMS SO BEAUTIFULLY!**



## Fellowship News for June

FEAST groups are meeting (you can still join, just give a call), families are hiking (June 20 at Hacklebarney State Park), the St. Mark's Women's group is rolling along (next dinner will be June 4th at Dawn Knill's), you've greeted your neighbors at Charter Day and had coffee each Sunday looking out onto our beautifully landscaped gardens. St. Mark's fellowship is going strong thanks to the enthusiasm of all of you.

Each and every time you connect with someone you are participating in the fellowship of our parish. Thank you to everyone who signed up to host a coffee hour, to all of you who remember put on a name tag each Sunday, and to everyone who has introduced themselves to someone new. Keep it up!

Coffee hour hosts for June: 7<sup>th</sup> - Ittycheria/Phillips  
14<sup>th</sup> - Kahle/Eweka  
21<sup>st</sup> - DeFeo/Tuthill  
28<sup>th</sup> - West/ Grace

The next Fellowship Commission meeting will be Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm in the Heritage Room. Join us or send in your suggestions for future Fellowship events.

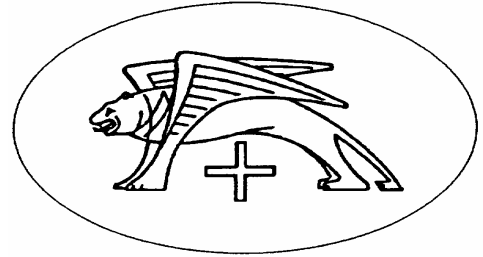
Anne Post, Fellowship chair:

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

908-766-6621

Carol DeCoste: 908-766-0408

Kay Vallario: 908-766-5473



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.

*(continued from page two)*

by their first names, they can do the same for me. If they use “Mr.” and “Mrs.” to call upon adults, they can use my title.

**How do we call you? What’s your preferred method of contact?**

You may call me at the office, but I almost always have my cell phone with me: 301 697 9139. Feel free to call me on my cell phone as my primary phone contact.

You may also email me at: [rmcmorley@me.com](mailto:rmcmorley@me.com) I get my email on my phone, and so, I’m usually pretty quick at responding.

**Do you have a day off?**

Yes! God took a day off, so I think I can probably manage that too!

I’m going to try and reserve Fridays as my day off. Of course, if there is a life-or-death emergency I will do everything I can to make myself available.

**How do I schedule a meeting with you?**

Call or email me. My schedule is posted in the office every Monday morning for anyone to see, and Ann Millan knows where I am, most of the time, if I’m out of the office.

Wednesday mornings, following the 9AM service, I’m going to try and keep regular office hours until lunch-time, and anyone can feel free to drop by then. Though, as I’m still fairly new around here, my calendar is pretty open – so just let me know you want to get together, and we’ll make it happen!

**Sermon Recordings**

Hopefully, many of us know by now, that we are recording Sunday morning sermons, and distributing them on the Internet. This is a dynamic form of communication – giving a glimpse to those outside of our parish family what it’s like here on Sunday mornings.

There are at least three ways to access these sermons: 1) You can go to the sermon page from our church website ([www.stmarksonline.net](http://www.stmarksonline.net)), 2) You can go to Fr. Rick’s blog ([www.sermonicperichoresis.blogspot.com](http://www.sermonicperichoresis.blogspot.com) – also accessible from the church website), or 3) You can subscribe to the podcast on iTunes, and each week the sermons will automatically be downloaded to iTunes on your home computer (you can subscribe on iTunes or by clicking a link on the website or blog – you will need to have iTunes downloaded on your computer to make this work).

There are some advantages to this media for us as a congregation. For one, should you miss a Sunday for any reason, you can see what you missed! If you enjoyed a particular sermon, but forgot some of the details, you can go back a listen to it, or at least a portion of it. But, one of its greatest assets is as a tool of evangelism. Sometimes it’s scary to come to a church for the first time, and often it’s actually scarier to come back to a church you’ve left. The podcast is an easy way for someone to ‘safely’ sit at home, in the comfort of their bathrobe and slippers, and get that glimpse into what is going on at St. Mark’s. So, if you know someone who is looking for a church home, or is thinking about ‘coming back,’ certainly encourage them to come, but also point them to this resource.

# June



## Birthdays

June 3	Martha Winter
June 4	Zoe Morley
June 6	T.J. Lazo
June 7	Tim Keenan Jane Nishimura
June 9	Jean Wittig
June 11	Nicky Sant' Foster
June 12	Alan Gubitosi
June 14	Martin Hale
June 16	Valerie Pioppi
June 17	Elizabeth Behrins
June 18	Gary Ware
June 20	Douglas Hubert Joe Lyga Emma Walker
June 21	Taylor Keenan
June 22	Anita Attridge
June 23	Laura Begg Ellen Kirch
June 30	Erin Taylor Robert Taylor

## Anniversaries

June 4	Christophe & Elaine Kusel
June 9	Roger & Adi Conover
June 10	John & Marilyn Lyga
June 12	Gordon & Mickey Ahalt
June 16	Fred & Karen Burgerhoff
June 18	Norm & Joan Graff Dev & Anju Ittycheria Greg & Tracey Tuthill
June 19	Bruce & Lauren Walker
June 20	Paul & Jean Wittig
June 23	Lynn & Yvonne Tipson
June 25	George & Evelyn Helmke
June 27	Don & Elaine Jones
June 28	Chuck & Dawn Knill

# News in the Pews

## Congratulations to all our Graduating Seniors!

- Nick Coffin will be attending Skidmore College
- Laura Graff will be joining her brother at Bucknell
- Kaitlyn Iantosca is excited to be attending James Madison University
- Rob Kastner will attend Princeton – way to go Rob!
- Laura Kozel is headed up to University of Vermont
- Kati Lyga chose Temple University
- Peter Phillips will be clearing hurdles at Lafayette University
- Kyle Winter will be following in his parents footsteps at Miami University (Ohio)

## Congratulations to our College Graduates:

- Rich Schmidt graduated from the University of Pennsylvania on May 18th and will be attending medical school beginning in August
- **Congratulations Marliese Knill!** She won first place (for fifth graders) in the "Inspirational Women" Art Contest for promising young artists sponsored by the Lucia Bocchino Fund.
- Chuck Knill received the George F. Hixson Fellowship award from his fellow Kiwanians of the Somerville Kiwanis Club. This award was named after the first president of Kiwanis and is one of the Kiwanis International Foundation's highest honors. Membership is given to individuals who demonstrate strong Kiwanis support. Way to go Chuck!



## St. Mark's Growers

Planting Day, 5/16, was a huge success! Helping to beautify the grounds were: Carol DeCoste, Noyoze Eweka, Martin Hale, Michele, Jim & Sophia Martucci, Mike & Ann Millan, Rick, Karen, Zoe & Mattie Morley, Carole Pasquale, Anne Post, and Lauran & Bruce Walker.

As we worked out front and people passed us on their way to Charter Day, most everyone made a comment about how nice things looked. Not only are we helping to beautify St. Mark's but our town as well.

- Annuals were planted in front of church, parish hall & chapel on South Finley side
- Annuals were planted in the memorial garden area and near the office
- The dead bushes near the fountain were removed
- Hostas in memorial area were dug up and redistributed
- Some additional perennials were planted in the back
- Most all beds were weeded and raked

The sprinkler system has been activated and very soon you will see all the beds mulched.

**Thank you to all the people who have worked so hard to get this project going and a BIG thank you to all who donated the lovely flowers and shrubs.  
The generosity of this parish never ceases to amaze!**

### ***SAINT MARK'S STEWARDSHIP STOP***

The lazy days of summer are just around the corner. While relaxing at the pool, beach or your favorite vacation spot, remember your spiritual connection.

Enjoy this prayer which can be found on the Church of England's website.

#### **A PRAYER FOR WISE FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

Lord Jesus Christ, by taking human flesh you sanctified material things to be a means of your grace; grant us wisdom in our attitude to money, and a generous heart in the use of the resources entrusted to us, that by faithful stewardship we may glorify you. Amen.

*Adapted from a prayer from the C of E Central Board of Finance  
© The Archbishops' Council*

Prayerful and in Peace,

*Dawn K. Knill*

Dawn K. Knill, CFRE  
Stewardship Chairperson

### **St. Mark's Charter Day Booth a BIG HIT!!**

**We used over 80 cans of hairspray – conservative estimate 350 kids!**

**A great day and fun was had by all!**

**Special “shout out” to all who helped during the day:**

**Tim and Nancy Opremcak**

**Jim Martucci**

**Ann & Michael Millan**

**Dawn Knill**

**Anne Post**

**Bev Moore**

**Robert & Elliot Les**

**Bill Corson & Rev Rick were awesome with the spray cans. (They will move to cuts and perms next year!!)**

**Many thanks to all!**

**Jackie Kahle**



## St. Mark's Outreach for June 2009



### June Programs

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

#### **1. Curbing Hunger, 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

(A) Official kick-off is June 1<sup>st</sup> with press, dignitaries, tent and festivities on the Courthouse Green in Somerville, 11:30a.m. To 1:30p.m. You are invited. Admission is a can of food. There are several preceding events including press coverage, public billboards, ads in movie theatres in Somerset County, county wide school flyers, official proclamations for June as Curbing Hunger Month in NJ, etc.

(B) The Patriot's Baseball Team is declaring Monday, June 15 as Cubing Hunger Night. If you buy one ticket and bring a can of food, the second ticket is free. The game starts at 7:00, but if you arrive earlier you are more than welcomed to help Cubing Hunger, Inc. greet people at the park entrance. This is a great night to take the family "out to the ball park."

(C) Nearly 2.0 million pounds of food have been collected since Curbing Hunger was founded by St. Mark's 15 years ago. In Somerset County alone this now serves nearly 3,000 persons per month during the summer months, about ½ under the age of 18. Please tell everyone to fill plastic bags with food in June and put the bags of food next to the blue recycling bins!!!! The need is particularly critical this year. Demand is up 40%.

**2. 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. The project dates are June 27 to July 4.

**3. Habitat for Humanity, New Jersey:** St. Mark's is co-sponsoring a habitat project in 2009. Bruce Walker has already checked the site and is coordinating the project for St. Mark's. 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.

**4. Prison Outreach Program:** New program just starting. If interested, contact Richard Aregood at 908.647.5640.

5. **Environmental Projects:** Interested in outreach initiatives having to do with the environment...please contact Jim Lunny at 908.903.0134. The third meeting to establish priorities and organize the initiative is tentatively set for Tuesday, May 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. All are welcome, and do bring a friend.

**6. Every Week, Jack's Weekly Food Program:** The continuing project sponsored by Jack Smythe in response to the *increased demand for food by 40%* 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).

**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><b>Habitat for Humanity</b></p> <p><b>Raritan Valley</b> -- Bruce Walker 908.604.9151  <b>Appalachian</b> – 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 April 30, 2009**

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

April 2009 Year-to-Date

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Pledges	60,895	73,858	-12,963
Other Donations	32,998	27,665	5,333
Total Receipts	93,893	101,523	-7,630
Total Expenses	99,198	104,361	-5,163
Net Operating Income	-\$5,305	-\$2,838	-\$2,467

**Summary:**

April month and year-to-date operating income results are under budget by ~8% -- a continuing improvement over the past several months. This is due primarily to donations made on Easter, building use donations and the net proceeds from the rummage sale.

As many of you already know, thanks to Rev Skip, parishioners donated \$3,485 towards the rectory renovation fund, all in one morning!

And due to operating expenses coming in under budget for the month and year to date, net operating income for the month is almost 7% better than budget and year to date is closing in on budget. We are just short by \$2,468 from where we expected to be.

Thank you all for your continued generosity.

The Lion's Roar

Date	Layreaders	Acolytes	Greeters	Ushers
<b>6/7/2009</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>			
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&CH D. Post			J. DeCoste
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&CH K. Aregood	Anne Post	Dawn Knill	J. Kahle
	P&CH R. Aregood	Caitlin Taylor	Annabelle Wilmer	J. Layton
	LR 2 L. Corson			
<b>06/14/2009</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</b>			
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch J. Lyga			J. Smythe
10:00 a.m.	L & Ch ML Schmidt	Nishimura Family	Jackie Kahle	T.Opremcak
	P & Ch Wm. Schmidt		Mickey Ahalt	J. Pioppi
	LR 2 N. Opremcak			
<b>06/21/2009</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</b>			
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch J. Lyga			J. Wojnar
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D. Knill	Phillips Family	Bruce Woodford	B. Woodford
(Youth Sunday)	P&Ch C. Knill		Jackie Kahle	J. Layton
	LR 2 B. Woodford			
<b>6/28/2009</b>	<b>4th Sunday after Pentecost</b>			
8:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch D Moore			H. Woods
10:00 a.m. (HC)	L&Ch R. Conover	Bryan Knill	Nancy Brangaccio	L. Rose
	P&Ch J. Wyatt		Kit Sacchi McLaughlan	J. Pioppi
	LR 2 S. Pasquale			



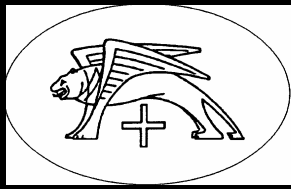
**The St. Mark's Growers would like to thank  
Jean Wittig, author of**

*Nurturing Nellie's Interactive Journal for Women  
5 Ways to Nurture Yourself in 5 Minutes or Less*

Jean donated a portion of the proceeds from her book signing on May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
toward the continuing nurturing of our grounds.

We will do our best to make Nellie proud, Jean!





# June 2009

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Curbing Hunger Month</i> 15th Anniversary!</p>	<p><b>1</b> Curbing Hunger Kickoff, Somerville 11:30-1:30pm</p>	<p><b>2</b> Holly Manor @ 10:45</p>	<p><b>3</b> Chapel @ 9am</p>	<p><b>4</b>  Women's Group @ Dawn Knill's</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b> Rite 13 Pancake Breakfast </p>
<p>7am Rite I 10am Rite II Rite 13 Ceremony Info Session on R13 Choir Recognition</p>	<p><b>8</b> Exec. Finance Meeting, 7pm Fellowship, 7pm</p>	<p><b>9</b> Sanctuary Beautification Mtg.</p>	<p><b>10</b> Chapel @ 9am</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>14</b> 8am Rite I 10am Rite II</p>	<p><b>15</b> Curbing Hunger Night @ Patriot's Stadium Vestry Meeting</p>	<p><b>16</b> Ridge Oak @ 10:30</p>	<p><b>17</b> Chapel @ 9am</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> Family Hike @ Hacklebarney Park in Long Valley. 9:30am</p>
<p><b>21</b> 8am Rite I 10am Rite II Father's Day Family Service &amp;</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b> Environmental Meeting in Heritage Room</p>	<p><b>24</b> Chapel @ 9am</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28</b> 8am Rite I 10am Rite II</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>				