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The Episcopal Church in
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February 2009 Leaflet

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Letter from the Rector

These past days have offered a huge variety of emotion and perspective for me. The Presidential Inauguration, which is such an important milestone for our country on so many different levels, Sunday's observance of Dr. King's Birthday (to be continued this Sunday), Monday's work at Central Square's Salvation Army Post as seventeen of our members gathered to offer lunch to a mixed community of homeless, needy and elderly folk from the neighborhood. In some ways these three days seem to offer the perfect formula for our life together. "Spend our first energy on doing the work of our own community (worship reflection and reconciliation) very well, then look outside to see what is going on in the larger world, and react by offering what gifts and abilities we have to make a difference in the lives of people near and far."

Most remarkable to me in these days were the words of the Inauguration's benediction, presented by Dr. Joseph Lowery of Mobile, Alabama. He beautifully wove the entire third verse of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," into his prayer, along with portions of "For all the Saints." So, I felt a strong liturgical connection (he's United Methodist) recognizing that we shared some important words in our faith traditions. Second, I saw the stately form of this elderly African American clergyman from the South, nicknamed the "Dean of Civil Rights" who saw the entire drama of the mid-twentieth century unfold during his adult life. Now, at eighty-eight years old, he stands before the nation and uses words; familiar, hopeful, some edgy words to begin a presidency which must hold a huge amount of hope for him because of the eyes through which he sees this moment in history. I can only imagine the joy that must fill him, and I celebrate that joy.

Our services on Sunday were a close second. The music was inspiring, the service, with Jude Harmon's prayers, was well-focused and meaningful and the lunch

that came after was scrumptious. As if that weren't enough we had John Snow's family as our guests and Mary along with children and grandchildren were touched by being with us, as they lifted our spirits and warmed our hearts.

My heart jumped as I walked into the Salvation Army Center to find all those helpers from Christ Church ready to serve lunch to a crowd easily twice as big as we found there last year. We served with humor, heart and welcome to those around us as we simultaneously got to know one another better. The age group of our working group ranged from six years old to somewhat older than that. What an experience.

Life in the church is more a journey than a destination. And it is easy to see that we are already taking part in the great journey. Our goals in the future will be to continue in the wonderful experiences of our tradition while we mine new ways to serve each other and our community in the name of Christ. We will do all that by keeping a watchful eye on the larger culture for new direction and new needs.

Maybe now is a good time to honor our new president's call to service by finding a place of service here at Christ Church as well as out in the world. Over the last weeks I have been delighted to hear a new sense of volunteerism emerging from so many of you. If we can harness that energy, if we can remember that our job is to both **be** the church and to **do** the work of the church, then we too will experience a wave of audacious hope in the future. We ask God's blessings on our new President, on all who work for the common good, on those we serve both near and far, and on this parish family. "God take our dreams, and make them your reign."

Joe+



New 3-Year-Old Class Has Started

This specially designed class serves as a bridge between our nursery program and our more formal Godly Play curriculum. Three-year-olds taking part in this class will continue to have the option of joining the children in the nursery or their parents during the 10:15 a.m. service. This class is led by Alexandra Hawley and Kristina Mann. If you have a three-year-old and would be interested in joining this program, please contact Jeff at jwm@cccbridge.org or 617-876-0200 ext. 11.

Your Help Is Needed In Christian Education

With the creation of a new Godly Play classroom, we have some openings in other areas of the program. At least one more adult is needed for the Children's Hospitality Crew. The sandwich-making ministry is looking for one to two adults to coordinate the program. We are also seeking two or more adults to facilitate a confirmation class for middle-school youth in the spring. For more information regarding these opportunities contact Jeff at jwm@cccbridge.org or 617-876-0200 ext. 11.

Seventh and Eight Grade Planning Group Forming

If you have a child who will be entering 7th or 8th grade in the fall, or if you're interested in working with this age group, we need to hear from you! Plans for the fall programming is beginning, and we would like to be able to offer a vibrant program to this age group. If you are interested in what this group might do, please contact Jeff at jwm@cccbridge.org.

Abundant Blessings and Christ's Peace,
Jeff+



SAVE THE DATE

SHROVE TUESDAY

PANCAKE SUPPER AND TALENT SHOW



Tuesday, February 24TH at 6:00 p.m.

Watch your bulletin and the website for more details



Music Program

Musical dates to mark:

Sunday, February 8 at 7:00–7:25 a.m. WCRB 99.5FM will broadcast music by Ives, Bach and Walton, performed by Mary Preston as part of the Organ Inaugural Series at CCC in September 2006

Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 p.m. The CCC Adult Choir will present a concert of Lenten selections, directed by Stuart Forster

Tuesday, June 30 at 7:30 p.m. CCC will host the pre-Convention concert, performed by Stuart Forster, for the Region I/Region II Convention of the American Guild of Organists. All are invited to a concert of music by Koehne, Vaughan Williams, Krebs, Dvořák, Howells, Langlais and Vierne. A champagne reception will follow.

Stuart Forster, Music Director

Altar Guild News

We have had another busy month! Each Sunday (and one Monday) marked a special day in the life of the parish. The first Sunday was the last Sunday of Christmas and together with Epiphany on Twelfth Night gave us all more time to enjoy the special decorations and candle lights. The second Sunday was the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, and the last two were devoted to the honoring of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The new frontal for these two services was a gift from Jeff and Webb Brown.

Members are reminded to check the Sacristy for rosters. February and March will be posted this week. Ash Wednesday is February 25th, already! Easter Week rosters will be posted soon.

And finally, thanks to all the members who served the Lord's Table throughout this busy season. More hands are needed for all seasons. Several of our members are gone during some of the winter months, and we have lost some others, so that we would really welcome those who would like to serve. We would also like to remind you that there are opportunities for occasional participation when we polish silver and so. If you would like to be trained for this important, holy, and rewarding service, please contact Webb Brown (webb40@juno.com) tel 617 /923 0057 or Summer Akimoto (summerted@aol.com) tel 781 391 9891.

Summer Akimoto and Webb Brown

The Wardens' Corner

Happy 2009! A new year brings hope for renewal, especially this year after an historic presidential inauguration. There is renewal and optimism at Christ Church too, as we began the New Year with two festive events: our Twelfth Night supper and family Eucharist and, beginning January 18, our remembrance of the life and work of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. On that day, we were joined by the family of the late Reverend John Snow, former Assistant Rector of Christ Church and friend of many parishioners for literally decades.

A new year also means the upcoming Annual Meeting of the Parish, this year on Sunday, February 1. A reminder that we will have a single morning service on that date, at 9:00 a.m., with a brief Eucharist followed by the business portion of our meeting. As we prepare for Annual Meeting, most of this month's Wardens' Corner focuses on finances. The Wardens wish to thank our Assistant Treasurer, Tanya Cosway, for providing the bulk of this report.

The last year has been one of exciting transitions, as we grow in program and staff, update software, and work towards improved methods of financial reporting that incorporate not only the annual operating budget, but also our rather substantial property-related expenses, and details of our endowment funds and other investments. This effort is being led by our Treasurers, Mark MacMillan and Tanya Cosway, our Financial Administrator, Dona O'Donnell, and our Finance Committee, chaired by Christopher Wolf, with input from the Vestry, the Clergy, and our outside auditors. During these difficult financial times, it is reassuring to note that the church finances are solid. Though our investments were affected by the economic downturn, thanks in part to the conservative investment policy of the Diocesan Investment Trust, which manages the bulk of our endowment, we have not been as severely affected as many other institutions. We have also been fortunate in members of the Parish who have been able to support certain projects for Parish growth with special gifts. For example, with Vestry oversight, we have been able to renovate systems in the Parish office and update the sanctuary sound system, two projects that have been possible without needing to draw from our endowment. We are grateful for the generosity that makes these programs possible. At our January meeting, the Vestry voted a balanced budget for 2009, firmly aware that this is a challenging time economically for the Parish. Details will be available at the Annual Meeting. As always, we are looking to support the growth in programs, maintain our

historic buildings, and foster our staff and clergy. Until then, if you have any questions about particulars or would like copies of the handouts from our January 11 financial presentation to the Parish, please do not hesitate to contact Mark, Tanya, Christopher, or any other member of the Vestry, or Dona in the Parish Office.

As an addendum to the financial discussion, we remind you that in order to vote at Annual Meeting, parishioners need to have made a pledge for 2009. If you have not yet had a chance to do this, pledge cards will be available at the meeting or in the church office.

We look forward to seeing you at Annual Meeting.

Peace Karen and Sally



On The Rise...

ON THE RISE is a safe haven for women who are homeless or are in crisis, and which we support with our goods and money. These are much appreciated and always needed.

Unopened travel-sized items for personal care, such as shampoo and deodorant are much in demand. While it is now more difficult to bring back travel toiletries in your luggage, be assured that they are much appreciated, and well worth our trouble. NEW socks and undergarments in all sizes, especially bras, are always in demand. Warm sturdy outer garments are particularly needed at this time. For women who often have limited or no source of income, gift cards to supermarkets such as Shaw's, CVS or Charlie Cards can be a lifeline.

Because of space constraints, OTR has adopted a new method of helping those women who attain housing to supply basic household goods. They do not have space for individual items to be collected. Instead, they hope groups or individual persons will adopt the needs of a particular woman and provide the items she needs and has requested. This drive is called MAKE-IT-HOME and a basket would typically include sheets, towels, dishes, glassware, flatware, and pots and pans. Several women are currently on the list for this help. If you or your group would like to take part in this, please contact Marisa Curran whose number and email are listed below.

Other members of our parish also provide lunches to the women on a regular basis. OTR is always looking for volunteers who are able to provide meals. Volunteers are also needed to help sort donations; this work is done on Mondays and Thursdays, 3-6 PM except holidays. If you would like to help at the house or cook, contact Marisa Curran at Marisa.Curran@ontherise.org, or 617 497 7968 x 36.

You can also contact Summer Akimoto at summerted@aol.com or 781 9891 for more information or pick-up of goods.

Gifts maybe left at the back of the church on Sunday, or brought to the office on weekdays, where there is a basket with plastic bags and ON THE RISE labels just inside the office doors. Many thanks.

Summer Akimoto, Mission Committee



Services for Ash Wednesday will be held on February 25th at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.



Parish Event Policy

In our effort to be environmentally responsible at CCC, we are excited about instituting a new “green” policy for parish events. We will now be using the silverware, plates, cups, bowls, etc. which are located in the kitchen cabinets under the counter. This will eliminate the use of disposables. Our helpful Sextons will be happy to assist with the running of the dishwasher after events. For all of you who so unselfishly give your time and talent to the set up and break down of parish events, I thank you for all your efforts in reaching our “green” goals.



Catherine Belcher, Parish Administrator



Bigelow Cooperative Day Care Center Annual Open House

On January 27, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the Bigelow Cooperative Day Care Center located in Christ Church Cambridge will hold its open house. The Bigelow Cooperative Day Care Center is a non-profit day care center committed to providing an extended family experience and a safe and caring environment for children. The program is designed to nurture the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional development of children from 11 months to kindergarten age. Parents and teachers will be on hand for any questions you may have. The teachers look forward to talking with you about curriculum, daily schedules, and all the fun we have at Bigelow. We hope to have you and your family join us. For additional information contact Bigelow Cooperative Day Care Center at 617-45-7335.



Bigelow Cooperative Staff

Check the February Rota for your name!

Below is the February Rota for Lectors, Chalicers, Ushers, and Acolytes. The office staff and volunteers do their best to make courtesy reminder phone calls, this is generally done on Wednesdays. Please, check the rota for your name and write it in your calendar or post it on your refrigerator! Please remember that if you are unable to serve on the date assigned, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Once you have a replacement, please call your coordinator **and** Catherine Belcher, Parish Administrator (617-876-0200 x10 or parishadmin@cccbridge.org) so that schedules can be updated appropriately. If you can't find a replacement, please contact your group coordinator. The coordinators are: for **Acolytes, Wendy Squires (617-864-3026 or Squires44@aol.com)**; for **Chalice Bearers, Donna Tillotson (617-547-0871 ordhtsings@yahoo.com)**; for **Lectors & Intercessors, Lois Bennett (617-306-7314 or lois@mac.com)**; and for **Ushers, Doris Possi (781-729-3272)**. If you would like to be added to the rota or removed, please contact the appropriate group coordinator.

FEBRUARY ROTA

		1-Feb-09	8-Feb-09	15-Feb-09	22-Feb-09	25-Feb-09
		Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany One Service at 9:00 a.m.	Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany	Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany	Last Sunday After the Epiphany	Ash Wednesday Noon & 7:00 p.m.
7:45	Lector		Elizabeth Webb	Lee Born	Walter Raymond	TBD
	Lector		Jill Herold	Anne Lowell	Elizabeth Webb	
	Intercessor		Mary Beth Clack	Mimi Truslow	Donna Tillotson	
	Acolyte		John Clarke	Andy Boughton	John Clarke	
	CH		Jill Herold	Donna Tillotson	Seth Lancaster	
10:15	Lector	Annual Meeting	Christopher Wolf	David Angney	Gordon Lee	
	Lector		Susan Root	Jim Tanner	Joanne van der Woude	
	Intercessor	Annual Meeting	Sarah Corvene	Karen Mathiasen	Roberta Hirshson	
	CH (1)	Jude Harmon	Richard Parker	Webb Brown	Ellen Brockman	
	CH (2)	Donna Kirven	Ann Austin	Craig Kelley	Jude Harmon	
	CH (3)	Samantha Morrison	Sylvia Williams	Seth Lancaster	Donna Kirven	
	CH (4)	Peter Lee	Jeff Brown	Henry Lewis	Samantha Morrison	
	CH (5)	Ellen Brockman	Mino Sullivan	Sharon Stanfill	Peter Lee	
	Server	Mark Lerret	Matthew Lerret	Solomon Montagno	Jack Hallowell	
	Crucifer	Grant Baker	Eleanor Regan	Solomon Montagno	Victoria Cabral	
	Gospel Bearer	Rachel Bliss	Henry Regan	Victoria Cabral	Seth Lancaster	
	Torch Bearer 1	Colin Lee	Mary Caroline Regan	Ben Costa	Emily Henry	
	Torch Bearer 2	Ross Baker	Rachel Bliss	Reuben Link	Ben Costa	
	H. Usher	Annual Meeting	Mike Magruder	Doris Possi	David Smith	
	Usher	Annual Meeting	Sue Hallowell	Melissa Hirshson	Suzanne Smith	
	Usher	Annual Meeting	Ralph Greico	Peter Grossman	Howard Crowell	
	Usher	Annual Meeting	Nick Banten	Mike West	Nancy Sinsabaugh	

Thank you to all coordinators and volunteers for all your time and talent!

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