

Christ Church Cambridge

The Episcopal Church in
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Staff

The Rev. Joseph O. Robinson
Rector

The Rev. Jeffrey W. Mello
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Priest Associate

Stuart Forster
Director of Music & Organist

Catherine Belcher
Parish Administrator

Alexizendria Link
Parish Communications

Dona O'Donnell
Financial Administrator

Ashleigh Gordon
Music Program Assistant

Jerry Kucera, Hernan Moya,
Ron Wilburn, Ian Cooper
Sextons

The Rev. Benjamin King
*Episcopal Chaplain
at Harvard*

Officers & Vestry

Karen Mathiasen *Senior Warden*

Sally Kelly *Junior Warden*

Christopher Wolf *Treasurer*

Tanya Cosway *Asst. Treasurer*

Jude Harmon *Clerk*

Jerry Abraham

Charlie Allen

Jonathan Austin

Andrus Baker

Amev Callahan

Timothy Groves

Peggy Johnson

Nancy Sinsabaugh

Members

Wendy Squires

Mimi Truslow

Diocesan Delegates

Louise Ambler

Church Archivist

**March 2009 Leaflet**

Volume LXXVI, No.13

Letter from the Rector

Here we are again in the season of Lent, forty days spent looking within ourselves to determine what we are making available for God's resurrecting power at Easter. What we know about our God and God's Christ is that from just a little human cooperation comes a lot of divine response. The Widow's meal and oil is miraculously stretched to feed the prophet Elijah in the book of 1 Kings. Five loaves and two fish become the basis for a meal that feeds thousands on the shore of Galilee. Given those proportions, it makes sense that if I can give just a little of my self, my will, my potential over to this multiplying God, "God only knows" what can be made of that offering. In our humanity, we often avoid giving of ourselves, by assuming we have to give everything at once. God is ready to accept our gifts as we can give them. The smallest offering of our time and energy for the good of the Kingdom begins an installment plan that over time brings our whole selves into God's presence.

In the days to come, give an edge, a corner, a hem or a cuff over to God's purpose and see if God won't make a whole set of holy garments from the little we think we can share for God's purpose. "And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides the women and children."

Elsewhere in this leaflet you will find the text of the Annual Address from our recent Annual Meeting. I ask your prayers as we continue about the business of becoming — becoming the individuals and becoming the community that God needs us to be for the work of God's reign to become reality "on earth as in heaven." God grant us all a Holy Lent.

Peace, Joe+

Annual Parish Address 2009

My heartfelt thanks to the retiring members of the Vestry this year. Your work with us has been wonderful, we will miss your energy at the Vestry table, and we will look for places where God may inspire you to become involved in the future. These retiring members include: Mimi Truslow, Tim Cutler, Samantha Morrison, and Wendy Squires. All have served with vigor, a positive outlook, and a loyalty to this congregation. Mark McMillan steps down after serving for two years as Treasurer. Mark has overseen much positive change in personnel, and we owe him a great debt for his hard work to establish more clarity and transparency in all our financial and budgeting processes. You will hear from Mark a little later on. Seth Lancaster has finished his term as Diocesan Representative. He has been a great voice at the Vestry table, and has represented us well in diocesan meetings and relationships. Tanya Cosway continues in her role as Assistant Treasurer, and brings to this work a sharp mind and an intimate knowledge of how our office works; we look forward to working with Tanya in the next year. Christopher Wolf moves into the position of Treasurer after heading the Finance Committee. If you have heard Christopher's finance presentations, you know that he carries the double-edged sword of knowing what he's doing and helping the rest of us understand it better.

We have fresh faces in the office. Dona O'Donnell joined us as Financial Administrator one year ago. She has done an outstanding job in that role, and continues to be a great influence on our life together. Catherine Belcher came to us as Parish Administrator at the six-month mark last year. She brings former parish admin. experience to her work, as well as a terrific sense of humor and an amazing ability to get things done. Ashleigh Gordon serves as administrative assistant to the music program, but you'll find her work more broadly represented than that; she has responsibility for assembling the huge amount of data for worship leaflets and special services, and getting it organized in a form that we recognize. Zena Link works with us in a variety of ways: primarily she serves as communications hub; she publishes the monthly newsletter and the weekly service bulletin, oversees edits and additions to the web-site, and provides administrative assistance to the clergy as well. While these are four important presences in our family's hub day by day, we have managed to include them with the addition of only 1.5 full-time positions. In other words, we are getting incredible value for the money we spend in support staff, and I want you to offer them thanks, whenever you have a chance, for the awesome work they do.

Much of our effort in Vestry this year has been around issues of clarity and transparency, first in matters financial and then in other business of the Vestry. In terms of financial reporting, we are moving toward a much streamlined form of reporting income and expenses. This means that we are working to get all the income and all the expenses reported together, so that comparisons can be made "apples to apples" for the first time in recent history. It is not that information has been withheld; rather, it has been reported in separate documents that have inadvertently made bottom-line information an elusive goal. In the financial meetings held in the fall and spring, many of you commented that you were getting better and clearer information on our financial condition than before.

Further, after two years of working to get them together and in presentable form, we are able to announce that all the minutes of Vestry meetings are now available for review and may be found in a bound volume in the office. We also hope to include decision points of the Vestry for publication in the monthly newsletter. Your parish leadership wants to be in communication with you about all the different aspects of our life together at Christ Church. Of course, some subjects will be handled more discreetly in executive sessions of the Vestry, but, for the most part, our work is open to and available for your feedback and ideas. I hope that we will be hearing from many of you in response to the Vestry's hard work in the future, and that the communications we receive from you will be of a patient, caring and helpful nature, as we continually work to discover the path to which God calls our community.

On arriving, my letter of agreement with the Vestry set in motion a standard of Mutual Ministry Reviews that take place every six months. This is a time when I am able to communicate to the Vestry how I perceive things to be going, and they do the same with me. It provides an opportunity for in-course correction, for frank conversation about our life together, and to name issues that some may see on the horizon. As the focal point for these conversations, we always refer back to the goals and responsibilities that were stated in that same letter

of agreement. These were distilled from the parish profile that was collated during the search process and has remained the touchstone for judging our work together.

- Keep before us our Mission and Call
- Be more open, diverse, active, and nurturing
- Grow in prayer, sermons, music, education, and mission
- Retain and grow congregation; deepen diversity
- Strengthen stewardship, finances, and administration

Leadership: Listen to all opinions or groups, welcome differences, engage counteracting currents, and lead to common ground through love of all, prayer, and persuasion.

Guidance: Help us reach out to each other and to God. Spread and interpret the Good News. Help us know our responsibility to God, to ourselves, and to the community.

Parish Growth: Break new ground in outreach to members of all ages. Seek and welcome members from diverse backgrounds. Increase a sense of community and belonging.

Management: Create a culture of financial support and commitment. Work with the Vestry to address financial issues and inspire leadership. Effectively manage the staff.

These remain the guiding principles in determining priorities, direction, and investment of energy in our future. In the next couple of years we will need to revisit these goals and responsibilities in a parish-wide setting, to determine whether they continue to match our mission and vocational paths.

Pastoral Care: One of the places where much has happened this year is in the realm of pastoral care. At the November training of Eucharistic Ministers for the whole diocese, there were 33 people in attendance, 11 of whom were from Christ Church. We are evolving into a community where the responsibility for caring for one another is shared by the whole community. We are not there yet, and this does not mean that you will never get a pastoral call from the clergy, but it means that you will most likely get a call from a wider spectrum of people than would have been the case before. Of course, there are issues of training, privacy, discretion, and appropriate pastoral response that we will be continually fine-tuning in the next year. But, we have made a good beginning of this ministry, and it will make our life together richer and fuller in the years to come. Karen Montagno has taken the lead in this enterprise, and we appreciate her efforts and abilities. She understands that good pastoral care always happens out of a community, rather than out of an individual person, and she is helping to establish just that sort of community here at Christ Church. Karen, please accept our thanks for this important beginning and for all you do with and for us at Christ Church. When someone in your family is sick, injured, or having surgery, or there is a death in the family, please call the church and let us know as soon as possible. Encourage others to do the same. We really want to make a response appropriate to the need, and this helps us determine what our response might be.

I continue to rejoice in the incredible working relationship we all enjoy with Jeff Mello. He is a huge asset to our common life. I've asked him to say a few things about the ministries that he oversees at this point. I am always happy to include a section on visions and dreams for the future. That is an important part of leadership. So I want you to listen carefully. My first vision for all of us as a family of faith is that you recognize what a great job you are doing as a community for the work of God in this place. All too often we concentrate on the thing that we haven't gotten quite right yet, while we ignore the things that are going well. That leads us to fatigue, anxiety and burn-out. But we are blessed to be in a place that has so many things going well. I encourage you to do some reading in this thick parish report. Here are a few highlights from the past year; while the list may seem exhaustive, it is far from complete. There are many important things that for the sake of time do not get mentioned here.

- Your Vestry has adopted a balanced budget for the year ahead. It is not a shrinking budget, but one that continues and propels our mission and growth into the future.
- In this uncertain economic environment, your Stewardship Committee has gathered pledges that amount to 90% of what we budgeted for 2009. In other words, if we were doing the old-time thermometer chart, we would currently be at 90% of our goal. That is extraordinary.
- Our children are participating in a program on Sunday morning that refuses to give them easy answers learned by rote. Instead, each of the stories they hear and learn ends with an “I wonder” question: “I wonder what it is like to be the good shepherd,” “I wonder what it means when God calls us his children.” In response, I wonder what kind of adult Christians these children will become, armed with that supportive, inquiring, childhood memory of the church and the stories of our faith.
- Our music programs continue to grow in size, strength, and the offerings we hear from them week by week.
- There is a strong new sense of camaraderie and teamwork among those who work here day by day, both professionals and volunteers. They report to me that they are happy to come to work in a place that feels inclusive, safe, playful when appropriate, and one that respects the offering that each of them makes to our common life.
- Your Wardens and Vestry have experienced an amazing year of co-operation and leadership. The only trying moments have been due to not having everyone on the same page at the same time. We will redouble our efforts to have better communication within the Vestry and between Vestry and congregation in the year to come.
- Have you noticed that the halls are a bit stuffed on Sunday mornings? That’s because over 55 adults have been a part of our ongoing Adult Formation program on Sunday morning. That is a huge success. And many of you are making appointments with me or shooting me e-mails to discuss what we are talking about or to share a perspective. Another 18 are taking responsibility for Children’s education during that time. 2 more are shepherding the acolyte program, and 44 others are in choir rehearsal. That’s 121 adults taking part in programs here on Sunday morning, and that’s in addition to the 84 children enrolled in Sunday School. No wonder it seems like a traffic jam.

Where we go next:

One of the ongoing discussions about the direction of churches in the future is more about language and philosophy than about motion. There is an important reason behind this. Many congregations are burning off a lot of energy developing new programs that are designed to attract a particular slice of the local demographic. These programs are referred to as Church Growth Initiatives. In some ways, these programs are dedicated to bringing in numbers of new people and tailoring the local program to their needs. One issue with these programs is that, when you get to the end of the process, you may find out that the programs you have introduced to meet the needs of the new have changed the character of the original congregation. We are not doing that.

Another bundle of programs are referred to as Emerging Church programs. These are directed most specifically to worship and liturgy patterns. In some ways they are like the melting-pot experience from 20th-century America. Take a little of this and a little of that, and stir it in until it all makes a nice stew—sometimes to the neglect of color, taste, new ideas, and expanding the existing model of traditional church. We are not doing this either.

Having set these two apart as targets, let me say what a better call to us might be. We are an historic kind of church, liturgically, educationally, theologically. We live in an historic building in the middle of a history-centered community. But Christ Church has managed in much of its life to thrive and grow in that historical setting without being bound by it or to it. That is our birthright. Couple that with the very notion of historic Anglicanism, which from Tudor England forward has been a church that celebrates our common heritage, while encouraging us to find new songs to sing, new problems to address, new alliances to build and care for, using the very vehicle that the tradition of our church provides.

We are catholic and yet protestant, we are liturgical and yet dependent on Scripture. Episcopalians are so many balanced pairs of descriptors that it almost defies reason to define us without using pairs of words. But that is a very different thing than being everything to everyone. It is a different thing than having no boundaries and no sense of history. It is our very history and its proper use that will bring us the best growth. We see that even now. We are not attracting people who are looking for a non-Episcopal thing on Sundays. We are attracting people who are looking for the sacraments, for sound preaching, for good Christian Education for adults and children, for a community of care, belonging, hospitality, and concern.

My point is this. It is the journey that is the thing, not the defined goal. We are heirs of a church and a religious history that has been emerging for the last 500 years. And we need not throw that baby out with the bath-water merely because someone has coined a new phrase for how church works. Here is an example.

Over the last three years I've watched Stuart Forster focus good time and energy toward providing marvelous music for our community. Along with the clergy, Stuart makes sure that our music represents a wide spectrum of musical experience, cultures, and tastes. Now, granted, you are not likely to hear Dixieland or Funk here on a Sunday morning, but, given the locally accepted limits of "church music," you are going to be exposed to an ever-widening arc of musical experience, and it will be well chosen, well rehearsed, and well performed. I am using our music program as a metaphor for our life together. I could use other portions of the bounty we share as well, Christian Education, administration in our offices, the burgeoning programs for Adult Formation. All these have similar traits to our music program, all are on a journey but not one has fully arrived. That's what life in community is like. It's about the journey we take together.

And, taking the journey, we each commit to a community that can't tell us exactly where it is going. And, to make matters more interesting, none of us gets to have everything our own way all the time when we live in community. It's like living in a family. What each of us has is a voice at the table that matches our investment in the life of the place. When we use our voices appropriately to help guide the larger body, great things happen: our dreams, our ideas, our hopes become realities that we could never accomplish on our own.

Can you see where I am going with this? The main point is that in as diverse a community as we enjoy, we are never going to have a clear and simple mission statement that gives us a discernible map to a future goal. We need to be cognizant of the guiding principles like the ones I read to you moments ago, and then our best hope is to lay out a bit of road for the upcoming months and even years, and that's what I'll do in closing. We are working on a new heating system. Just now we are in the design and planning stage of this large project. We will keep you abreast of what happens, and share plans and needs as we go. Being good stewards, we have cheated the present boiler out of two more years than it has wanted to give us, but the jig is up. We need to move prudently, but with dispatch, in procuring a more efficient, greener system for climate control in all our buildings.

Your clergy are actively involved in lots of bridge building, with the diocese, with the deanery, with local ministerial associations, with Episcopal groups, with city government, all in hopes of discovering new ways of sharing ministries, moving into new relationships, and developing new partners in God's work.

We are planning even now how we will continue our historic missions in Cuba, in Honduras, and in several parts of Africa. In this strained economic context, we are looking at new ways of serving the growing needs we find locally, and building up the local missions we have historically been shareholders in.

And, we have a little party to throw. In the fall of 2011 we will be celebrating our 250th Anniversary. It will be a four-month celebration that begins along with the Fall semester and runs through January of 2012. All of us will need to take part, find a role, do a job, to make this celebration something that we and our community will remember for years to come. For that purpose today I am delighted to announce that a large committee

will be formed in the coming weeks to set about this work. Jeff Brown and Nancy Sinsabaugh have graciously agreed to serve as conveners for a group of chairpersons who will design and oversee these festivities.

So, thank you for listening. I continue to be excited about our life together. We hold an incredible history in this place, which is only outshone by our potential for the future. We are building up the body of Christ, and we are becoming more and more the community of reconciliation that God calls us to be. In short, God is doing a new thing with us, not just now and then, but all the time. We have so much to be thankful for. And, in that spirit of gratitude, I thank you for your investment of money, talent, and time, I covet your prayers, and I prayerfully and eagerly look forward to sharing the road ahead. AMEN.



The Wardens' Corner

Wardens' Corner — Mar. '09

At the 232nd Annual Meeting of the Parish on Sunday, February 1, our Rector, The Reverend Joseph O. Robinson, gave the Annual Address to the Parish, followed by reports from the Treasurers and the Wardens. Several people were elected or re-elected to Vestry positions: Senior Warden, Karen Mathiasen; Junior Warden, Sally Kelly; Treasurer, Christopher Wolf; Assistant Treasurer, Tanya Cosway; Clerk, Jude Harmon; Vestry Members, Jerry Abraham, Charlie Allen, Jonathan Austin, Andus Baker, and Susan Root; Diocesan Delegates, Wendy Squires and Mimi Truslow. They join returning Vestry members Amey Callahan, Tim Groves, Peggy Johnson, and Nancy Sinsabaugh. Thank you to all who agreed to run for office. Whether or not your candidacy was successful this year, it is a tribute to your love and concern for Christ Church that you were willing to step forward, and we are all very grateful to you.

Several of our Vestry members had terms that expired: Treasurer Mark MacMillan; Vestry members Tim Cutler and Samantha Morrison; and Diocesan Delegate Seth Lancaster. We thank them all for their wonderful work.

We announced at our Annual Meeting that two of our long time parishioners were stepping down from major roles: Webb Brown as convener of the Anti-Racism and Diversity Committee and Diane Imrey as head of the Thrift Shop. Fortunately they will both be active with us in other roles. Webb and Diane, the standing ovation that you both received is testimony to the parish's appreciation of your good work. Thank you so much.

As our new Vestry plans for our first meeting together, on February 23, we look forward to both opportunities and challenges. In January, the Vestry voted a 2009 balanced budget, in the belief that we will all give whatever we reasonably can of our time, talent, and treasure to help continue the good work of this wonderful and vibrant parish. We are delighted to announce that Karl Loos has been named chair of the Finance Committee, succeeding Christopher Wolf, who is now Treasurer. The Property Committee is also very busy: One of our major initiatives will be the design of a new heating system, one that is much more environmentally friendly than our current system. You will be hearing much more about this in the weeks and months to come.

At their best, challenging times can help build community. As an example, it is gratifying to see how many parishioners donated used warm clothing to the January coat drive. These items were distributed through our Thursday Meals Program to some of the neediest among us. Thank you to all who helped.

A community needs to feel safe, and, to this end, on January 31 a Diocesan program of Safe Church training was held at CCC, co-led by our Assistant Rector, The Reverend Jeffrey W. Mello. Safe Church training will be

offered at various times in various locations throughout the year. It is mandated for parishioners in major leadership positions and for those who work with children.

We end with a look down the road to 2011, the 250th anniversary of Christ Church, which we will celebrate over several months during that year. As the Rector announced at the Annual Meeting, we are delighted that Nancy Sinsabaugh and Jeff Brown have agreed to co-convene a group of chairs (soon to be named) for the 2011 Celebration Committee. Thank you, Nancy and Jeff.

We look forward to a wonderful and challenging year ahead.

Peace, Karen and Sally



Music Program

Choral Evensong for Lent — Sunday, March 1 at 4:00 p.m.

For a seasonal variation, music will focus on the Tudor and Baroque periods. The choral Introit to open this 50-minute service of Evening Prayer, Rite I, will be Thomas Tallis' beautiful setting of *Salvator mundi* ("Savior of the world"), which will lead into Thomas Tomkins' modal *Preces and Responses*. The canticles and anthem will be in the form of "verse anthems," whereby solo and small ensembles alternate in singing portions of the text with the full choir: William Byrd's *Second Service* will be complemented superbly later in the service with William Boyce's *O where shall wisdom be found?* Johann Sebastian Bach's monumental *Praeludium et Fuga* ("The Wedge" in E minor, BWV 548) will frame the service. Please join us for the prelude, 7 minutes before 4:00 p.m., through the friendly and delicious reception in the Library, hosted by Heather Wiley, afterwards. Note that there is no Choral Evensong in April: Holy Week has its own schedule! The final service of Choral Evensong will be on May 3.

Sunday afternoon concert with the Adult Choir — March 15 at 3:00 p.m.

Our dedicated Adult Choir is extending its community outreach to a concert setting during the Lenten Season. Vocal and instrumental soloists and ensembles will offer an hour of extraordinary selections, including remarkable arias from Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* and Stainer's *Crucifixion*; a vocal solo by Vivaldi and a flute solo by Callahan; a chorale and chorale prelude by Bach; a small ensemble rendition of the first part of Tallis's haunting *Lamentations of Jeremiah*; Mendelssohn's exquisite *Hear my prayer* for soprano and choir; and dramatic choral pieces by Vierne, Bruckner and Howells. The full program is posted on the Lobby notice board. The Music Committee will host a reception after the concert. Tickets (\$8/adult, \$12/family, \$5/student, \$5/senior) and sponsorship opportunities are available after services and at the door. Please invite your friends and families to join us for this special occasion with the Christ Church community.

Stuart Forster, Music Director

Easter Memorials

Donations toward the cost of CCC Easter decorations may be made in memory or honor of your family members and friends. Names will be listed on an insert in the orders of worship for the Saturday and Sunday Easter services, April 11 and 12.

Forms to fill out for these donations will be available in the pews on Sundays later in Lent, and they will also be found at our website (cccbridge.org) and printed out. These may be placed in the alms basin or mailed to the Parish Office at Zero Garden Street, Cambridge 02138.

The DEADLINE for requesting memorial flowers for Easter is Friday, April 3, in the Parish Office.

Abundant Blessings,
Joyce Penniston and Poly Cobb



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, time 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. New socks and underwear, especially bras of all sizes, are particularly needed. For another month, warm outer garments will continue to be needed. Because of space constraints, they are unable to accept clothing that is not in season.

OTR has a program called Make It Home, which asks groups or individuals to provide the necessities of moving in to a new home that a woman may have achieved. Each has a particular list of needs, but typically it includes kitchenware, bedding, towels and small appliances. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Marisa Curran whose number and email address are listed below.

Other donations, gifts and services provided by members of our congregation include lunches for the clientele; gifts cards to supermarkets, drugstores and the T; volunteering to sort donations or help with occasional mailings. To help, contact Marisa.Curran@ontherise.org. or phone her at 617-497-4968 x36.

You can also contact Summer Akimoto at summerted@aol.com, 781-391-9891 for information or pick-up of goods. Gifts may be left at the back of the church on Sunday, or brought to the office during weekdays. Bags and ON THE RISE labels are provided. Many thanks.



Altar Guild

Free trial membership! Free One-on-one trainer! Other benefits include great fellowship, a sense of accomplishment and a rewarding contribution to the service of the Lord's table. We are a busy group of men and women who prepare the altar for worship, care for its vessels and assist the clergy as best we can. We invite

you to join us in this holy work. Contact either of the chairs for information or to sign up for training. More hands are needed.

We welcomed two new guilders this past month. We are so pleased to add Morgan Cesa from Tufts University and Mary Beth Clack from our congregation to our ranks. Their help will be especially welcome during our very busy season of Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

Members are reminded to check the rosters in the Sacristy for the schedules for March and April, which includes the added services for Holy Week and Easter. Saturday workday will be March 28th at 9:30 a.m. until we are finished polishing and cleaning. Even if you cannot commit to regular duty at services, you are welcome to join us for the preparation for Eastertide.

Susie White will lead us in decoration for the Church for Easter, beginning with the Great Vigil of Easter. In keeping with the times, we are opting for a simpler, scaled down display, but many hands will still be needed. Watch for emails about this. For the Guild contact, Webb Brown at webb40@juno.com (617-923-0057) or Summer Akimoto at summerted@aol.com (781-391-9891).

Webb Brown and Summer Akimoto

Stitchers and Knitters

Let's get started making things for the Christmas Fair. We will be meeting on Thursday afternoons, beginning March 12 at 1:00 p.m. at Joan Walther's home. Join us if you can. We do have fun working together and would be glad for new ideas, materials and help. Just come March 12 or, if you would like more information, call Joan Walther 617-864-7372, Polly Malcolm 617-876-8052 or Martha Jacoby 617-484-7352



Polly Malcolm

Men's Luncheon Group

Men of the parish have been meeting for lunch once a month in the parish library. It is a social event, a chance to get out and better acquainted with fellow parishioners. Sometimes there is a movie offered after lunch for those who want to stay. The next luncheon will be Thursday, March 12 at 12:00 p.m.. If you can attend, please RSVP to the parish office 617-876-0200. If you are able to help with the cooking or serving please call Polly Malcolm 617-876-8052 or Summer Akimoto 781-391-9891.

Polly Malcolm

Lenten lectures

Thursday Evening Lenten Lectures sponsored by the Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard and the Memorial Church begin on February 26. Yes, it's that time of year again, folks! Please join us for another series of Lenten lectures, beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Pusey Room (upstairs in Memorial Church, Harvard Yard) and running every Thursday in Lent, except March 26. This year's theme will be the Holy Spirit, and among speakers from a variety of religious traditions will be our own bishop, Tom Shaw. The series begins at 8:00 p.m. on February 26 with a lecture by Professor Charles Stang on the Spirit in the early church

The Reverend Dr. Benjamin King

Lenten Study Series On Tuesdays: The season of Lent is a good opportunity to take time from our busy weeks for prayer and quiet reflection in anticipation of the dramatic events of Holy Week and Easter. With this in mind, Christ Church will be holding a Lenten study series on Tuesday evenings (except March 24). As our current liturgical year draws heavily on the Gospel of Mark, the aim of the series will be to explore this rich and complex text more deeply over the course of Lent. We will be meeting 7:30–9:00 p.m. on March 3, 10, 17, and 31 in the Parish Library. All are most welcome to attend. If you would like to join, please come with a Bible and, if so inclined, pen and paper. In the first session, we'll aim to provide some historical context, and to discuss the first quarter of the Gospel (i.e., chapters 1–4). For more information, contact Sarah Insley at seinsley@fas.harvard.edu.

Sarah Insley



Allocations Committee

The CCC Allocations Committee will meet to hear agency presentations on Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vestry room. Both agencies wishing to be heard and present and future committee members contact Betsy Schulz at 617-642-7300.

Thank You, Betsy Schulz



Thrift Shop Update

New winter Thrift Shop hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays 11:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m..

New policy concerning children's items: Until further notice, we will not be selling children's items due to new federal regulations involving re-sale of these products. For more information, see www.cpsc.gov. We continue to accept your donations of children's items and will deliver them to appropriate agencies.

As usual... we welcome your donations of gently used clothing, bric-a-brac, and household goods. These may be brought to the Thrift Shop when it is open or to the bin by the elevator near the church offices. Please do not leave donations outside the Thrift Shop door when no one is present to receive your items. Receipts for tax purposes are available: please ask at the Thrift Shop.

The Thrift Shop recycles.... Donations that we are unable to sell are given to various agencies like the Thursday Evening Meals Program at Christ Church, On the Rise, the Children's Exchange, SolutionsWear, and Goodwill.

Interested in volunteering? If sorting, pricing, or publicity is your interest, contact Joyce Penniston (617-864-4669); if sales and display appeal to you, call Barbara Worcester (617-864-8288).

Winter Sales on clothing are in progress. Come visit us at 17 Farwell Place, just behind the Church building.

Joyce Penniston

Honduras Mission ...

Looking for a chance to make a difference and make new friends as well? The Honduras Mission is recruiting volunteers to travel to Honduras for a week this summer. We will work beside members of our sister parish on a construction project to benefit this poor, rural community. If you're interested--or even simply curious--drop an e-mail to Anker Lerret at anker.lerret@usa.net.

Anker Lerret



Emmaus will continue exploring the theme of CHRISTIAN IDENTITY: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE throughout the rest of the spring semester. Please join us as we continue our study into the origins of our faith and early practices, the current state of Christianity, and the future of the church. In February we heard from Sarah Insley on early Christian monasticism and in March we'll partake in an early church Eucharist hosted by our Rev. Joe and Rev. Jeff. We invite you to fellowship with us this Lenten season!

! SAVE THE DATES !

When? **Saturday, March 7; 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.**

What? **EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MASSACHUSETTS SPRING LEARNING EVENT
EVERYTHING MUST CHANGE WITH BRIAN MCLAREN**

In a time of massive social change and urgent global challenges, the world needs a church less bound to institutional maintenance and internal controversy and more passionately concerned to make disciples: not just converts or church-goers, but people "who do life the way that Jesus did".

Where? Sherman Union, Boston University

Info Register at: www.diomass.org

When? **Sunday, March 8; 6:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.**

What? **CAMBRIDGE-WIDE YOUNG ADULTS (CYA) FELLOWSHIP KICK-OFF**

Join us for an evening of fellowship with young Anglicans from across greater Cambridge. We'll continue the dialogue from the Spring Learning Event. Join us for dinner and discussion followed by Compline.

Groups invited: CCC, St. James in Porter Sq, St. Peter's in Central Sq, St. Bart's, Harvard Chaplaincy, MIT Chaplaincy, Tufts Chaplaincy, Good Shepherd in Watertown, All Saints in Belmont, and others.

Where? Christ Church Cambridge

When? **Friday, March 13; 6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.**

What? **EMMAUS FRIDAY THE 13TH PARTY @ THE RECTORY
HOSTED BY REV. JOE AND REV. JEFF**

Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship as we explore this Lenten season together and continue our study into Christian identity: who we are, where we're from, and where we're going. We'll partake in an early church Eucharist service with figs and olives and spend some quality time around the table with our clergy. You won't want to miss this!

Where? Christ Church Cambridge Rectory

EMMAUS Contact info:

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CCC Health and Wellness Initiative

"Bringing forth Jesus' community-based, public health ministry"

Although Christian religious practice traditionally observes a separation of worship from health care, there is growing evidence that the two can be combined with positive synergy. Eastern faiths in particular have long included spirituality with physical and psychic ministration, with familiar and beneficial results.

Our good fortune at CCC is to have among the congregation practitioners with an interest in sharing their knowledge and expertise. These include specialists in public health, nutrition, medicine, nursing, exercise science, psychology, gerontology, epidemiology, healthcare delivery and other disciplines who are prepared to offer *pro-bono* community-based outreach and ministry.

A Health and Wellness Committee was constituted in mid-February which is planning a program of initiatives. These will commence with an anonymous, voluntary demographic health survey of the parish to determine priority health issues and interests. Data collected will inform a parish health and wellness report which will serve as a baseline for developing relevant and appropriate health support programming at CCC. Group activities for health maintenance may encompass a health and wellness fair, health screenings, educational campaigns, activities promoting good nutrition and fitness. Other possibilities include activities addressing issues such as diabetes, weight management and caring for the aging. Referral services would be available for needs exceeding CCC Committee's capabilities.

The new committee is keenly aware of the importance of cooperating with the CCC pastoral team, the Greater Boston Inter-Faith Organization (GBIO), the Aging with Dignity Program, the Cambridge Health Alliance and other community partners. We will look to Jesus' public health ministry in the gospels as a model for our work and in all instances respect the privacy and dignity of every individual.

The Health and Wellness Initiative envisions its role as informing, empowering and supporting congregation members in their search for the most effective and recent health maintenance solutions. We welcome inputs and ideas from all interested parties as we move forward.

For more information about the Health & Wellness Initiative, please contact Jerry P. Abraham at abraham@alum.emory.edu.

Intros nos.

I am grateful for the prayers and best wishes from you, my parish family. My bladder cancer is treatable and I am under excellent care, for which I am grateful. I appreciate your ongoing concern, but I'd rather not talk about my medical condition.

Charley Musselman

Shrove Tuesday Celebration

We had a joyful gathering and a feast of pancakes followed by a showcase of Christ Church Cambridge talent. Special thanks to Sue Fisher for coordinating dinner and to the many volunteers who mixed, flipped and served. Thanks also to those who shared their talent and to Poly Cobb who was the evening's M.C. The evening ended with a service of Compline and burning of palms. A wonderful time was had by all!



April Leaflet Deadline

Please submit articles, rotas, committee reports and upcoming events to the office no later than March 18, 2009. Please send submissions to zena@cccbridge.org.

Sofie Snow's Poem

In honor of her Granfather, Reverend John Snow

I was there on your wedding day
Waiting to be born
I was there for your first child's breath
Waiting for my father to be next
I was there at his wedding
There before you knew I was coming
I was there in the last moments before your last breath



You knew I was coming
I was there after your spirit left your shell
to kiss you myself
Warm lips against cold skin
Cold journey to warm room
Warm tears trace cold thoughts
I found courage in knowing
You knew I was coming
You knew I was there
Warm moment to end cold uncertainty.

I'm here now
As you are here
We all celebrate your memory
As we celebrate your legacy
As we celebrate your life
As we celebrate our lives
As we celebrate our children
Born and waiting to be born
Living and waiting to live
By the example you lived for us
That we will continue to live for you
for those to come
for each other
Thank You, We love You

Check the March Rota for your name!

Below is the March 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.

MARCH ROTA

		1-MARCH-09	8-MARCH-09	15-MARCH-09	22-MARCH-09	29-MARCH-09
		First Sunday In Lent	Second Sunday In Lent	Third Sunday In Lent	Fourth Sunday In Lent	Fifth Sunday In Lent
7:45	Lector	Mary Beth Clack	Nan Stone	Jill Herold	Elizabeth Webb	John Clarke
	Lector	Nan Stone	Hope Hare	John Clarke	Mary Beth Clack	Donna Tillotson
	Intercessor	Mimi Truslow	Donna Tillotson	Anne Lowell	Hope Hare	Jill Herold
	Acolyte	Andy Boughton	John Clarke	Andy Boughton	John Clarke	Andy Boughton
	CH	Mimi Truslow	Jill Herold	John Clarke	Donna Tillotson	Mimi Truslow
10:15	Lector	Barbara Worcester	Mary P. Gitlin	Aimee Primeaux	Kathleen Coleman	Hillary Hopkins
	Lector	Susan Root	Richard Parker	David Angney	Christopher Wolf	Jerry Abraham
	Intercessor	Peter Lee	Camilla Titcomb	Gwen Jensen	Sarah Corvene	Tanya Cosway
	CH (1)	Donna Kirven	Henry Lewis	Jude Harmon	Webb Brown	Samantha Morrison
	CH (2)	Poly Cobb	Ellen Brockman	Samantha Morrison	Poly Cobb	Jude Harmon
	CH (3)	Craig Kelley	Peter Lee	Richard Parker	Sharon Stanfill	Richard Parker
	CH (4)	Webb Brown	Sylvia Williams	Donna Kirven	Ellen Brockman	Henry Lewis
	CH (5)	Jeff Brown	Sharon Stanfill	Jeff Brown	Craig Kelley	Peter Lee
	Server	Solomon Montagno	Jack Hallowell	Victoria Cabral	Mark Lerrett	Matthew Lerret
	Crucifer	Mark Lerret	Victoria Cabral	Seth Lancaster	Eleanor Regan	Jack Hallowell
	Gospel Bearer	Rachel Bliss	Rachel Bliss	Grant Baker	Mary Caroline Regan	Grant Baker
	Torch Bearer 1	Colin Lee	Ben Costa	Ross Baker	Colin Lee	Emily Henry
	Torch Bearer 2	Reuben Link	Emily Henry	Reuben Link	Ben Costa	Ross Baker
	H. Usher	Doris Possi	David Smith	Doris Possi	Mike MaGruder	Howard Crowell
	Usher	Ralph Greico	Suzanne Smith	Salim Kabawat	Mike West	Karen Mathiasen
	Usher		Amey Callahan	Susie White	Jonathan Austin	Sue Hallowell
	Usher		Peter Grossman	Peter White	Melissa Hirshson	Nick Banten

The Leaflet is
published monthly by Christ
Church Zero Garden Street,
Cambridge, MA 02138
Distributed FREE to All
Parish Members.

Periodicals Class postage
paid at Cambridge, MA
(USPS 024-022)

**Postmaster: Send
address changes to
Christ Church
Cambridge, Zero
Garden Street,
Cambridge, MA
02138-3631 USA**