

February 2008

Volume 7 Issue 6

# THE LION'S ROAR

## ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



### Lent 2008 at St. Mark's

With Ash Wednesday on February 6—very early this year—we begin the forty days of Lenten observance as spiritual preparation for the great feast of Easter. Since the early church, Lent (deriving from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, or spring) has served as a time of heightened spiritual discipline and devotion, a time for preparation of catechumens for baptism, and a penitential time during which notorious sinners prepared for reconciliation with the body of Christ. (Regarding the latter, our parish clergy are available for individual consultation.) Secure in our assurance of Christ's ultimate victory, we use this season to conduct a sober spiritual inventory of our life with God and one another. We also use the time to make preparation for Easter, the central feast of our Christian life.

Please explore the many opportunities for fellowship and spiritual reflection contained in this *Lion's Roar*. Anne Richards and I continue two Sunday 9:00 classes—Christian Basics and God in the Media—to which we invite your participation. Carol Hoidra leads a Tuesday evening Lenten Bible study. Yoga, the parenting class and other opportunities round out a rich supplement to our normal rhythms of youth ministry, choir and related ministries. Search meetings and other committee meetings should be nurtured by the rich spirituality of Lent.

Last year, I noted that a wonderful Greek word, *metanoia*, captures the spirit of Lent. Yes, it's the opposite of paranoia: *metanoia* implies a healing change of mind and heart whereby we reorient ourselves toward God and away from the crushing demands of ego. *Metanoia* allows us to surrender our distractions and more closely imitate the values and holiness of Jesus as he journeys toward Jerusalem on our behalf. Individuals engage in *metanoia*—a turning toward health—and so do faith communities. As we experienced at our annual meeting, St. Mark's continues a wonderful journey toward health and discipleship in spite of inevitable curves in the road. Let's take this rich spirit into the forty days of walking with Christ in our common Lenten journey.

DMR

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### Ash Wednesday Services

HOLY EUCHARIST AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 AT 9:30 AM AND 7:30 PM



† † † † † †

## Outreach News

This coming March, the Outreach Commission transitions to new leadership and welcomes five new members.

Brian Hollstein is the new commission chairman. New members are Susan Cotter, David Kalal, Dudley Roski, Sara Smith, and Caroline Tucker. Rotating off after three-year terms of service are Charlene Berardino, Eloise Killeffer, and McKelden Smith. Traditionally, members are invited to serve by the rector.

The Outreach Commission invests the profits from May Fair, which have in recent years amounted to approximately \$90,000. The criteria for making gifts is online at [www.stmarksnewcanaan.org](http://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org)

Recent grants include:

**Camp Hand-in-Hand:** \$20,000 for the 2008 season. This grant, gradually declining from year to year, requires matching by new individual contributors and other houses of worship, as an incentive for the camp to achieve financial self-sufficiency.

**Meals-on-Wheels** (\$6,000) and **GetAbout** (\$7,000) are two organizations involving very significant numbers of St. Mark's parishioners.

**Pivot Ministries:** \$5,000. This is a local faith-based, residential program for men who are victims of substance abuse. St. Mark's has a long-standing relationship with Pivot.

**Episcopal Bridgebuilders.** \$15,000. This supports a coalition of Episcopal churches helping to finance and construct multifamily structures in Stamford. Bob Stephan, for St. Mark's Church, is the energetic leader of this coalition.

*continued on next page*

## 244<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

January 27, 2008

### ELECTION OUTCOME

#### OFFICERS (For one-year terms):

Senior Warden:	Katie Roach
Junior Warden:	Stephen Wyckoff
Treasurer:	Tom Berardino
Clerk:	Brian Hollstein

#### VESTRY: (For three-year terms)

Jon Fleming  
Chris Gruseke  
Joy C. Luke  
Stan Twardy

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE : (For two-year terms)

Nancy McSorley  
Jill Sautkulis  
McKelden Smith

#### SUBSTITUTE DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION AND MID-FAIRFIELD DEANERY (For one-year term):

Katharine Adamson                      Joy H. Luke

*Our sincerest appreciation goes to all those who stood for election and their willingness to serve St. Mark's Parish.*

## Annual Parish Meeting Came to Order

The St. Mark's 244<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting took place Sunday, January 27 to a packed Morrill Hall. Following the opening prayer and presentation of the slate, votes were cast. During the tallying of the ballots, presentations by Senior Warden Katie Roach, Stewardship Co-Chair Diana Smith, Treasurer Chris Gruseke, Search Committee Co-Chairs Brandon Sweitzer and CynnTimer Thunem, Land Sale Committee Co-Chair Phil Restifo, Church Growth Committee Chair Jill Ernst, and Outreach Chair McKelden Smith were heard. For notes and handouts from some of the presentations, click on the following links.

[Annual Meeting Remarks](#) by Senior Warden, Katie Roach  
[Stewardship Presentation](#) by Stewardship Co-Chair, Diana Smith  
[Search Committee Remarks](#) by Search Co-Chair, CynnTimer Thunem

For the complete listing of vestry members and contact information, visit our website at this address:

<http://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/vestry.asp>.

## It's not just about "giving up" ...

Many of us, in addition to practicing a Lenten discipline of abstinence, also find value in *adding* something to our plan for personal devotions during the coming weeks. We may commit to a plan to read the stories of our Lord's passion, or to study them with friends; we may add an extra service of prayer or Holy Eucharist to our weekly church attendance; or we may decide to serve the St. Mark's community by taking up a new ministry. This *Lion's Roar* has a full Lenten menu of opportunities. If you'd like to join our teams of lectors or ministers of communion, the altar guild or the acolyte corps, please call or e-mail the Rev. Carol Hoidra for information about training and scheduling.

With blessings for a Holy Lent!

CH+



## A Journey of Faith and Flowers

Friday, February 8 at 2:30 in the Library



The Lion's Den is happy to offer a joyful event combining hospitality, flowers and a special book.

Our guest, parishioner Cathie Pike, will arrange flowers as she speaks; each arrangement will reflect spiritual moments we experience on our daily path and will share some passages from her book, *Generous Moments, Snapshots of Goodness on Ordinary Days*. To her, life blooms with faith and generosity.

As a former president of the New Canaan Garden Club, Cathie is well known for her flower arrangements, and as an exhibitor, lecturer and artistic judge. Ms. Pike is the author of a book, *Generous Moments: Snapshots of Ordinary Days* published in 2004. *Generous Moments* is a celebration of everyday kindnesses – “the little good deeds that provide a bright moment for others, yet often appear to go unnoticed or unappreciated”, according to Ms. Pike. The text is enhanced by 16 watercolor illustrations by Alison Buchanan of Wilton.

A lifelong New Canaanite, Ms. Pike grew up on Rosebrook Road with her family, the Crawfords, and two swans, Romeo and Juliet that lived in the family pond. She attended New Canaan Public Schools, graduated from Dana Hall and Stanford University and received a master of education degree from Harvard. She returned to New Canaan with her husband Bill Pike in 1969, making their home on Indian Waters Drive.

Ms. Pike's “Generous Moments” will be available at the event on Friday. The public is welcome. The event will be held in the library at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on 111 Oenoke Ridge in New Canaan. Please call the main office 966-4515 or the bookstore 966-3838 for more information or to reserve a book. Visit the Lion's Den on our website: [www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/lionsden.asp](http://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/lionsden.asp).

## Outreach Grants

(from previous page)

**Episcopal Relief and Development:** \$10,000. This grant represents a new initiative to support global activity and to connect with the Millennium Goals. Look for announcements in the near future that will offer unusual ways for parishioners to become personally involved. Information about this organization is online at [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org)

**Chanticleer:** Up to \$5,000 to support the Chanticleer concert that takes place at St. Mark's on April 1. Chanticleer is one of the world's most renowned choral groups. The grant helps pay for Fairfield County-wide promotion and reception following the concert. (The concert itself is funded by ticket sales and a generous parishioner.) One of the primary goals of the Outreach Commission is to bring “unchurched” people to St. Mark's.

**Lion's Den Bookstore.** \$15,000. This grant supports the bookstore located in Morrill Hall. The Outreach Commission is interested in supporting the bookstore's intent to be an important all-community asset attracting non-parishioners as well as parishioners.

## From the Search Committee...

The Search Committee met in December and January and will meet with the new Vestry on February 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the mechanics of the “renewed” search. The Search Committee and the Vestry will meet again with the Rev. Erik Larsen, Canon for Transition Ministries on February 12 to formally get the list of names.

The “window” for new candidate submissions has been open since late November. Word that our search had re-opened spread very quickly through the clergy world. We have received names again from a variety of sources: parishioners, clergy, friends of St. Mark's, The Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes, and self-submitted clergy.

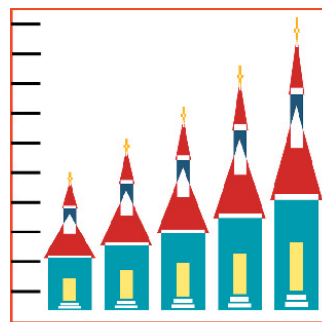
Our goal is to have an abbreviated process. Our consultants tell us that the process will go more quickly because we have been through it before. We ask for your patience. We don't know how long it will take, but we will move deliberately and carefully. We all want this to be done, and we all want it to be done right. This is not our decision – it is in God's hands, and it will happen in God's time.

*(Check the website for periodic updates under the Rector Search tab.)*

## 2008 Pledge Campaign Update

We thank all who have pledged thus far. To date, 271 households have pledged \$987,053 toward our \$1.2 million 2008 stewardship goal. If you have not pledged, please give prayerful consideration and submit your 2008 pledge card in the offering plate, mail/deliver it to the parish office, or e-mail it to our Financial Secretary, Nadia Cwiach, at:

[ncwiach@stmarksnewcanaan.org](mailto:ncwiach@stmarksnewcanaan.org).



**2008 Pledge Campaign**

## Book Group

*2nd Wednesday of the Month, 12:30-2p.m.*

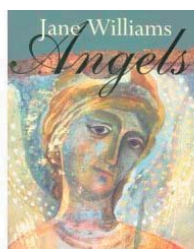
Please note the change of meeting day, we are going back to meeting on the second Wednesday of the month from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. in the Education Center. All are welcome – you do not need to come to all the meetings. Come when you can; bring a lunch. The schedule alternates fiction and non-fiction. The meeting dates are the second Wednesday of each month. Each month's selection will be available to order in the Lion's Den Book and Gift Store. For more information call the church office, 203.966.4515

**Wednesday, February 13, 2008:** *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri

*The Namesake* takes the Ganguli family from their tradition-bound life in Calcutta through their fraught transformation into Americans. From the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Interpreter of Maladies*, Jhumpa Lahiri's critically acclaimed first novel is a finely wrought, deeply moving family drama that illuminates her signature themes: the immigrant experience, the clash of cultures, the tangled ties between generations.



**Wednesday, March 12, 2008:** *Angels* by Dr. Jane Williams



The Bible describes a universe in which we are not the only created beings. There are other creatures who are not human, not animal and not God. Angels are one of those orders of being. In this beautifully illustrated book, acclaimed author Dr. Jane Williams explores the world of angels in Scripture and what we can learn from them today. Dr Williams is an author, lecturer and theologian and is married to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

## Chanticleer Comes To St. Mark's

Tuesday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m.

New York, NY, November 6, 2007: Chanticleer – the award-winning, San Francisco-based “Orchestra of Voices” – has been named the 2008 “Ensemble of the Year” by the editors of the Musical America International Directory of the Performing Arts. The award is especially notable this year because it is the first time a vocal ensemble has been so recognized.

St. Mark's is delighted to announce the return of Chanticleer, the “world's reigning male choral group,” to our church for their 3<sup>rd</sup> performance. Tickets (\$40) will go on sale next week in the Lion's Den; don't miss this outstanding event on Tuesday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m. Get to meet the singers in the festive reception in Morrill Hall following the concert.

Visit their website, [www.chanticleer.org](http://www.chanticleer.org) or contact Dudley Roski for further information, [dudley.roski@gmail.com](mailto:dudley.roski@gmail.com).



## Pageant Pics



## MUSIC NOTES

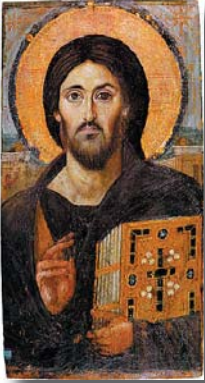
Many **thanks** to all the members of our choirs including *Joyful Noyze!*, *Choristers* and our *Parish Choir* for adding so much to our Advent and Christmas liturgies with beautiful music. Our choral participants come to weekly rehearsals throughout the season and we appreciate their dedication.

**An abundance of thanks** goes to all who made this season's *Messiah* performance a huge success, including those whose contributions make our programs possible. Our adult choir and other parishioners and friends who make up the *St. Mark's Chorale* were brilliant, and performed the best ever on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The splendid gala reception following was both plentiful and attractive - thanks to all who set-up, cleaned-up and contributed tasty treats. We are indebted to Margot Thorsheim and Lori Wyckoff who organized and coordinated the party.

**Our Director of Music**, Brian-Paul Thomas performed two concerts in January. Mid-January found him at the *Gulf Stream Golf Club* in Delray Beach, Florida with Broadway veteran Mary Munger Taylor. January 25<sup>th</sup> he performed an organ concert for an audience of two hundred plus at the Central Lutheran Church in Yakima WA. Later that weekend he helped his mother celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with family gathered from Pennsylvania, Illinois and Oregon.

## Winter/Spring Adult Education Classes and Lenten Programs at St. Mark's

The season of Lent presents a unique opportunity to depart from the usually scheduled programs and experiment with new themes and ideas. This year, St. Mark's Episcopal Church has a wide variety programs designed for small groups who desire to be in real relation to one another in their faith lives. Join us as we begin our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, February 6; two Holy Eucharists with the Imposition of Ashes will be observed at 9:30 a.m. and at 7:30 p.m.



### **Morning Prayer**

8:00 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday during Lent

As part of your Lenten discipline, join us for the traditional service of Morning Prayer, a hidden gem in the Episcopal tradition, at 8:00 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays starting February 7. (We will continue to offer our 9:30 service of Holy Eucharist on Wednesday mornings.) This lay led program combines scripture and prayer from the Book of Common Prayer. If you would like to be added to the rota of lay officiants, or if you'd like to be trained to officiate at the Daily Office, please contact the Rev. Carol Hoidra in the church office.

### **Sunday Mornings from 9:00-9:45**

*Christian Basics: An Exploration of What We Believe*  
The Rev. Anne Richards    Outreach Room

In this 9-session class, the Rev. Anne Richards presents various foundational aspects of Christianity for class members to discuss. The goal of the class is to help members formulate their own working theology and to be able to put words to what they believe. This will be an informal, low-key group, based on conversation and reflection.

We will use various brief readings from such essayists, poets, and writers as C.S. Lewis, Dorothy Sayers, Simone Weil, Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, N.T. Wright, James Alison, Flannery O'Connor, Franz Wright, Jane Kenyon, William Stafford, and Wislawa Szymborska. We will also look at brief portions of Scripture.



### *God in the Media*

The Rev. David Rider    Education Center

This class reads one article per week from the mainline press to explore major Christian themes through a larger cultural lens. How do journalists portray church dynamics and Christianity's impact on the larger world? On Martin Luther King weekend, we engage King's final sermon preached at the Washington Cathedral, days before his death. David Rider will select an article for group reading before Sunday discussion and careful listening to each other's perspectives.



### **Monday Mornings from 9:15-10:30**

*Parenting Book Group Discussion Series*

*The Price of Privilege: How Parental Pressure and Material Advantage are Creating a Generation of Disconnected and Unhappy Kids*  
The Rev. Anne Richards    Library

All are welcome to join this book discussion group, which began Monday, January 14 and is held in the library. Join St. Mark's priest associate (and mother of two grown sons) Anne Richards in an informal conversation about parenting and child raising in a culture of affluence. The class will run for 7 sessions, each on a Monday (Jan. 14 and 28; Feb. 4, 11, and 25; and March 3 and 10).

## Tuesday Evenings from 7:30-8:30

*Lectionary Bible Study  
The Rev. Carol Hoidra Library*

Beginning Tuesday, February 5 and continuing on successive Tuesdays through Holy Week, the Rev. Carol Hoidra will lead an evening discussion of the scripture passages that will be read at the following Sunday's services. Our conversations and meditations on the lectionary will provide additional insights into the Sunday sermons, and help to keep the major themes of this Lenten season "top of mind" as we go about our work in the world. Join us at 7 p.m. for soup and salad and discussion from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the library.



## Wednesday Mornings from 10-11:15

*Letter to the Romans  
The Revs. David Rider and Carol Hoidra Education Center*

For seven Wednesdays in Lent beginning February 6, our Wednesday morning Bible study engages Paul's Letter to the Romans. The longest and weightiest of Paul's epistles, Romans beautifully expresses Paul's faith in God's salvation and justification for all who believe in Christ. As we make our way through the epistle, we will consider the ways in which it powerfully impacted Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformers, both aiding and complicating our reading of Romans today. Join David Rider and Carol Hoidra from 10:00 - 11:15 a.m. in our Education Center.

## Saturday Mornings from 7:00-8:00

*Saturday Men's Bible Study and Fellowship  
Lay Led Library*

We invite you to join this group, led by men of our parish who meet from 7:00-8:00 a.m. around our library fireplace to engage the Sunday scriptures and apply insights to our busy lives. No prior Bible study is presumed, and we hope to gather men of all ages and family situations. We plan to meet for seven Saturdays beginning February 9 through March 22. Contact Rick Pivrotto or Dave Krueger if you would like to participate or for more details. Rick: richard.pivrotto@morganstanley.com (212) 953-5897 David: Dlksr@optonline.net (914) 721-6016



## Saturday Morning Yoga from 10:00-11:16

*March 1, 8, & 15 in the Library*

All are welcome to this yoga series with an emphasis on meditation held on 3 Saturday mornings in Lent – March 1, 8 and 15 from 10:15-11:15 in the St. Mark's Library. Come as your schedule permits. Anne Finan, director of the Ananda Yoga and Healing Arts Center in New Canaan, offers this class to all levels of experience or inexperience.

## Journey of Faith and Flowers

*Friday, February 8 at 2:30 p.m. in the Library*

The Lion's Den is happy to offer a joyful event combining hospitality, flowers and a special book. Our guest, Cathie Pike, will arrange flowers as she speaks, using them as metaphors for spiritual moments we experience on our daily path. She will also tell about writing her book, *Generous Moments, Snapshots of Goodness on Ordinary Days*, reading a few short, crisp stories that raise our awareness of the immeasurable gift of small touches of goodness. To her, life blooms with faith and generosity.

## Ukrainian Egg Decorating

*Sunday, March 2 at 11:45 a.m. in the Undercroft*

Learn this ancient art of "writing" with hot wax to create magnificent and authentic Ukrainian Easter eggs. Nadia Cwiach, our resident artist, leads this meditative 3-hour class in the undercroft. Sign up early as space is limited; \$20 covers the cost of the decorating implements and a donation to the Ukrainian National Women's League of America. Children must be 14 or older to participate.



## EYC Celebrates

### "The Year of the Rat"



Leviticus 11:29 prohibits the consumption of rats as food, but the Holiness Code is silent on the issue of rodent-focused celebrations, so our St. Mark's youth partied down on Sunday, January 27 to welcome the Chinese New Year (which, this year, is the Year of the Rat). We studied our Chinese horoscopes, and learned many useful things



about ourselves as Metal Horses, Water Monkeys, Water Dragons and Metal Lambs. (Metal Lambs, for example, are "quite often deeply religious"! Assistance with cuisine and festive décor was graciously provided by Katie Roach, to whom we are all most grateful.

*The Rev. Carol Hoidra*



## St. Mark's Serves New Canaan

Many parishioners are unaware of the use of St. Mark's facilities during the week. Some even think that St. Mark's is open only on Sunday. How wrong that perception is.

We are blessed to have abundant space for use by many outside organizations, as well as many groups within the Church. In a normal week, here are the people enjoying the use of our space:

- *St. Mark's Nursery School – Monday through Thursday mornings*
- *The Lion's Den Bookstore & Gift Shop – various days*
- *Three AA groups – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday*
- *Bible Study Group – Wednesday morning*
- *7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes – Wednesday evening*
- *Choir rehearsals – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday*
- *Troop 70 Boy Scouts – Thursday night*
- *The Food Bank – Tuesdays and Thursdays*
- *The Senior Men's Club of New Canaan – Friday morning*
- *Flower Committee and Altar Guild – Saturday, Sunday and Monday*

Obviously, the facilities are used by all groups within the Church for meetings, etc. – but less frequently than those that meet weekly. Examples include Outreach, Vestry and the Book Group. We also have special programs from time to time, i.e. Anne Richards' class on parenting, author signings and the ever-popular Messiah Concert in December. Then we have the Summer Courtyard Concerts and the grand daddy of all events – May Fair. May Fair takes a full three weeks from start to finish in April and May. As everyone knows, St. Mark's is totally immersed in activity during that period.

Other outside organizations use our building as well. Here are some of the people who have used and in some cases will use our facilities again:

*American Red Cross – blood drives*  
*CaTS – monthly meetings*  
*EMS – training sessions*  
*Camp Hand-in-Hand – summer day camp*  
*Cub Scouts – monthly pack meetings*  
*Historical Society – several seminars have been held here*

*Camp Hand-in-Hand – day camp during the summer*  
*New Canaan Sewing Group – two sales a year*  
*St. Frances Group – monthly*  
*GetAbout – board meetings*  
*Staying Put – Rally event*

Stop by and see all the action!

## NURSERY SCHOOL NOTES

January has been a very busy month here at St. Mark's Nursery School! The entire school, along with their families and friends, celebrated Christmas in January with our annual Sing-A-Long. The children sang songs they had learned prior to the new year but were unable to belt out for their families in December due to the first ever snow day on Holiday Sing a Long day!! After their voices rang out of Morrill Hall, they enjoyed pizza and juice with their classmates. A good time was had by all!!



The 3s classes have been talking about winter this month. They will read and do lots of fun activities about winter, hibernation, snowflakes, snowmen and everything winter. The Nature Center will be blessed with their sweet little faces on January 28th to discuss "Animals in winter" with them. Then, on January 31st, the children in the threes classes will have PJ day! They will wear their pajamas, make pancakes and hang with their favorite teddy bears. What fun they will have!!!



St. Mark's Nursery School also said goodbye to a teacher in the 3s, Mrs. Mitchell. She will be missed and everyone enjoyed the short time we were lucky to have her. Now, Mrs. Chang will be teaching with Mrs. De Givenchy, a former fours teacher here! Welcome and we are so happy to have you with us again!

In the world of the 4s classrooms, rockets have been taking off in the lawn as a wonderful culmination of Space Week! The children built a class spaceship, made rockets to take home and decorated "moon rocks". Lots of fun was had by all and they were lucky enough to have Jack and Jennifer Murphy come to school to shoot off rockets in the great lawn. It was very cold but spirits were high!

The 4s will take a walk over to the Nature Center to learn all about animals in winter and how and where they hibernate. The following day, they will celebrate Pajama Day while hibernating in the classroom in their "cave".

This month, Mrs. Palmesi hosted a Tea Time featuring her famous "Mrs. Palmesi's Rules". The morning discussion was open to all current families and anyone contemplating joining what we feel is the most wonderful preschool in New Canaan. It was a very successful morning!

### Calling All Earthlings

Surprisingly, after all the hype over compact fluorescent bulbs, there are still many New Canaan households in the dark about these earth savers. For Valentine's Day, give your loved ones a gift of light and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Each bulb cuts down CO2 emissions by 100 pounds annually. The town of Westport is trying to reach a goal of 100% use of compact energy bulbs, maybe New Canaan will go for the same. This is a small but tremendously effective way to start to heal our planet.

*60, 75 and 90 watt compact fluorescent bulbs are available outside Morrill Hall and in the church office for \$2 each. Please help yourselves!*

Stay tuned for more exciting news on St. Mark's Nursery School.



## Newcomers Wine & Cheese

Sunday, March 2, 3:30-5:30

The Church Growth Committee invites all newcomers to a get-to-know-you gathering at the home of Wendy and Jim Hilboldt in the afternoon on March 2 (118 Heather Drive, New Canaan). You are a newcomer if you have been at the church and haven't really plugged into the community yet or are relatively new (last 2 years or so) and would like to get to know other families in the church.

Please call the church office, 966.4515 and we can answer all your questions and take your RSVP.



## Circle of Concern

The Circle of Concern is an outgrowth of the Community Life Commission, founded by The Reverend Vicki Davis in the autumn of 2003. She introduced the Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila which supports the lay pastoral ministry at the heart

of the service. It is as follows:

*Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
Compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.  
Christ has no body now but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
compassion on this world.  
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*

The goal of this group is to strengthen connections in the parish community by creating functions that open communications, promote credibility and trust; opening the way for lay involvement with the clergy by helping in the delivery of support in times of crises is a primary objective.

Hospital visiting was long a role played by some of the original members of the group but with the passage of privacy laws, changes have come about. Opportunity to reach out to the sick, elderly or house-bound of the parish is taken at Christmas by the angel delivery program. Teas and luncheons are arranged to foster social interaction among our church family.

Other programs are being considered by this important ministry – we welcome new ideas and suggestions. More hands are sought to re-invigorate this initiative and new people are encouraged to participate. Contact either Molly DePatie or Jan Maynes for more information.

## Lion's Den Manager Invited to Bookseller's Winter Institute



Melanie Moyna, Manager and Buyer of The Lion's Den Book & Gift Store, recently attended the American

Bookseller's Winter Institute in Louisville, Kentucky.

Limited to 500 booksellers from around the United States and Canada, the Winter Institute is a meeting place for authors, publishers and booksellers to learn through a series of seminars and workshops, and to share ideas and participate in the creation of new ideas and policies for their stores and the ABA through round table discussions.

Melanie participated in a series of classes tracked to The Lion's Den business presence and included Cost of Goods Sold, Improving Efficiency to Achieve Success and The 2 % Solution among others. Speakers included Danny Meyer founder of Union Square Café and author of Setting the Table: The Transforming Power of Hospitality in Business. "Exhausting, inspiring and motivating," says Melanie who plans to attend more ABA programs in the future.

## Need A Notary?

*Nadia Cwiach, our Financial Secretary has recently received her Notary Certification in the state of Connecticut and is happy to offer her services to the parish. Please*



*call/email her to set up a time to meet if you need a document notarized, 203.966.4515 or*

[nzwiach@stmarksnewcanaan.org](mailto:nzwiach@stmarksnewcanaan.org).

## Camp Hand-in-Hand

Distinguished by its commitment to diversity, the camp provides a unique opportunity for children from different backgrounds and life experiences to come together and create life-long memories of summer camp. This year the camp offers 3 two-week sessions for children 5-8 years old:

Session 1: June 23 - July 3

Session 2: July 7 - July 18

Session 3: July 21 - August 1

Camp Hand-in-Hand is a Connecticut state licensed day camp operated by Hand-in-Hand Foundation, Inc., and independent Connecticut not-for-profit corporation, sponsored by St. Mark's Parish and Interfaith of New Canaan. While the traditions and values of all sponsors are reflected in the camp culture, the activities do not include specific religious instruction.

Want to learn more? Contact the camp office at 203.966.6920 or visit the St. Mark's website under the Outreach tab. Camp applications will be available February 1 in the Camp Office (in the church house) .

### Upcoming Baptism Dates:

†	Easter Vigil	Saturday March 22, 2008	8:00 p.m.
†	Pentecost	Sunday, June 7, 2008	10:00 a.m.
†	All Saints' Day	Sunday, Nov. 2 2008	10:00 a.m.
†	Baptism of Our Lord	Sunday, January 11, 2009	10:00 a.m.

At St. Mark's, we celebrate Baptism on the feast days listed above. For information, please call the church office and if you want to schedule a baptism be sure to call several weeks before the desired date.

## ST. MARK'S PARISH REGISTER JANUARY 2008

### BIRTHS

Blake Sherman DiCapua  
*born to Brooke, Lawrence and Henry DiCapua*

Katherine Martyn Drugge  
*born to Heather, Rhett, Grace and Frank Drugge*

### BAPTISMS

Anne McKenzie Boggess  
*daughter of Stefanie Lyons Boggess and Spencer Norton Boggess*

Edward Croft Harrison  
*son of Suzanne Jennings Harrison and John William Harrison*

### MEMORIAL SERVICES

Elizabeth Harlow Burlingame

Jane Busted Farnham

Christine C. Slagle



**Celebration of Baptism on January 13 with the Boggess and Harrison families and sponsors**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Morning Prayer 8:00 a.m. Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri					1 9-1:00p Bookstore 10:00a Senior Men	2 10-12:00p Bookstore 4-5:30p Adult Choir
3 <i>Souper Bowl</i> 8:00a HE I 9-1:00p Bookstore 9:00a Adult Ed 10:00a HE/Children's Ed/Worship 11:15 Mardi Gras 6:00p Taize HE 7:00p No EYC 	4 9:15a Parenting Workshop 12:00p ACOA/Al-Anon 	5 9:15 NS Chapel 10:00a AA 12:00p Al-Anon 4-4:30p Joyful Noyze 7:30-8:30p Scripture Study	 6 ASH WEDNESDAY 9-1:00p Bookstore Coffeehouse 9:30a Eucharist & Healing; Imposition of Ashes 10:00a Bible Study 10:00a AA 4-5:00p Choristers 7:30p HE, Imposition of Ashes	7 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 7:00p CaTS St. Mark 7:30p No Adult Choir	8 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 10:00a Senior Men 2:30p Faith & Flower Display 	9 7-8a Men's Bible Study 9-3p Vestry Retreat 10-12:00p Bookstore 4-5:30p Adult Choir  Vestry Retreat 9-3pm
10 <i>Lent 1</i> 8:00a HE I 9-1:00p Bookstore 9:00a Adult Ed 10:00a HE/Children's Ed/Worship 11:15 Coffee Hour 6:00p Taize HE 7:00p EYC	11 8a Morning Prayer 9:15a Parenting Workshop 12:00p ACOA/Al-Anon	12 8a Morning Prayer 9:15 NS Chapel 10:00a AA 12:00p Al-Anon 4-4:30p Joyful Noyze 7:30-8:30p Scripture Study	13 9-1:00p Bookstore Coffeehouse 9:30a Eucharist & Healing 10:00a Bible Study 10:00a AA 12:30p Book Group 4-5:00p Choristers 7:30p Confirmation	14 <i>St. Valentine's Day</i> 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 7:30p Adult Choir 	15 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 10:00a Senior Men	16 7-8a Men's Bible Study 10-12:00p Bookstore 4-5:30p Adult Choir
17 <i>Lent 2</i> 8:00a HE I 9-1:00p Bookstore 9:00a Adult Ed 10:00a HE/No Children's Ed 11:15 Coffee Hour 6:00p No Taize HE 7:00p No EYC	18 <i>President's Day</i>  8a Morning Prayer 12:00p ACOA/Al-Anon Office Closed	19 8a Morning Prayer 10:00a AA 12:00p Al-Anon 7:30-8:30p Scripture Study	20 9-1:00p Bookstore Coffeehouse 9:30a Eucharist & Healing 10:00a Bible Study 10:00a AA	21 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 7:00p CaTS Pres 7:30p Adult Choir	22 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 10:00a Senior Men Deadline for March Lion's Roar	23 17-8a Men's Bible Study 10-12:00p Bookstore 4-5:30p Adult Choir
<b>No Children's Programs or Choirs This Week</b>						
24 <i>Lent 3</i> 8:00a HE I 9-1:00p Bookstore 9:00a Adult Ed 10:00a HE/Children's Ed/Worship 11:15 Coffee Hour 6:00p Taize HE 7:00p EYC	25 8a Morning Prayer 9:15a Parenting Workshop 12:00p ACOA/Al-Anon	26 8a Morning Prayer 9:15 NS Chapel 10:00a AA 12:00p Al-Anon 4-4:30p Joyful Noyze 7:30-8:30p Scripture Study	27 9-1:00p Bookstore Coffeehouse 9:30a Eucharist & Healing 10:00a Bible Study 10:00a AA 4-5:00p Choristers 7:30p Confirmation	28 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 7:30p Adult Choir	29 8a Morning Prayer 9-1:00p Bookstore 10:00a Senior Men	

**Lent 2008 At A Glance**  
**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
**February 6 – Palm Sunday, March 15**

Sundays	9:00-9:45 a.m. 9:00-9:45 a.m.	God in the Media - David Rider, Ed Center (through 3/9) Christian Basics: An Exploration of What We Believe - Anne Richards, Outreach Room (through 3/9)
Mondays	8:00 a.m. 9:15-10:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer – Chapel <i>The Price of Privilege</i> - Parenting Book Discussion, Anne Richards, Library (through 3/10)
Tuesdays	8:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.	Morning Prayer – Chapel Lectionary Bible Study - Carol Hoidra, Library (begins 2/5)
Wednesdays	9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist and Healing Service – Chapel Paul's Letter to the Romans - David Rider & Carol Hoidra, Education Center (through 3/19)
Thursdays	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer – Chapel
Fridays	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer - Chapel
Saturdays	7:00-8:00 a.m. 10:10-11:15 a.m.	Men's Bible Study (2/9-3/22) Yoga Class – Library, March 1, 8, & 15

**Special One-Time Events During Lent**

- |   |                    |            |                                 |
|---|--------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| † | Friday, February 8 | 2:30 p.m.  | Journey of Faith and Flowers    |
| † | Sunday, March 2    | 11:45 a.m. | Pysanky Egg Decorating Workshop |
| † | Sunday, March 2    | 3:30-5:30  | Newcomer Gathering              |

# MARDI GRAS

## POTLUCK BRUNCH



**FEBRUARY 3 AFTER CHURCH**

*Calling New Orleans Style Cooks!  
Gumbo Would Be Great!  
Red Beans & Rice Would Suffice!  
Even Hot Cross Buns Are Nice!*

**IT'S SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!**



### Weekly Service Times

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Rite I Holy Eucharist
	10:00 a.m.	Rite II Choral Holy Eucharist
	10:00 a.m.	Children's Eucharist
	6:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II with Taize Music
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II with Healing

The  
Lion's  
Roar



**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**

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**The Rev. Carol Hoidra**  
Assistant to the Rector

**Helen Palmesi**  
Nursery School Director

**The Rev. Anne Richards**  
Priest Associate

**Melanie Mandler**  
Bookstore Manager

**Brian-Paul Thomas**  
Organist and Choirmaster

**Nadia Cwiach**  
Financial Secretary

**Rhonda Morrill**  
Director of Christian  
Education & Communications

**Thea McGee**  
Parish Secretary