

# The Spire



*A Newsletter by and for the people of Christ Church Bronxville*

Dear Friends in Christ,

## New Beginnings

Less than one year ago we set aside a Sunday for Vision Awareness. At that time we elaborated a vision for our parish that we hoped to accomplish in three years, at the conclusion of our work to the facilities. That Sunday served as a catalyst for a great deal of self-examination and forward progress. Vision Awareness 2007 suggested:

- A way to regain the Sacrament of Healing
- A new Youth Group that meets weekly
- A weekly gathering of the parish family, for food and education and fellowship
- A relationship with the after school program of Iglesia San Andres
- A relationship with Fessenden House
- A working mother's group that meets monthly
- More parish wide events
- Increasing the presence of the Arts at CCB

As you have read in the Spire over the last few months, and been witness to through our many programs, we are already well on our way to accomplishing most of our three year goals! It is really quite startling and quite marvelous. It is also a testimony to the healthy heart of our parish family. We acknowledge our weaknesses, embrace our strengths and seek to be ever better members of the Body of Christ.

This self-examination and recommitment is also an essential component of the season of Lent, which is soon upon us. Starting with Ash Wednesday, February 6, we are given the gift of a 40 day period specifically set aside for quiet and reflection, for honest engagement with ourselves and our God, for the practice of humility and spiritual growth.

Please join us for this holy season of Lent. Participate in our programs and liturgies and walk with us as we reenounter the greatest story ever told – the story of God's love for us in all of its wonder, majesty and mystery.

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## Contact us:

914.337.3544

Monday-Thursday

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Fridays

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

[www.ccbny.org](http://www.ccbny.org)

## *Annual All Parish Meeting Vestry Election Results from Annual Meeting January 2008*

### **Serving Three Year Terms**

Bill Bates

Sheldon Reynolds

Paige Nagle

Leon Potgieter

### **Serving a One Year Term**

Ken Richardson

### **Serving a Two Year Term**

Letizia Seirup

## School Calendar

### Godly Play (Pre-K-1st Grade)

- Feb. 3rd The Parable of the Mustard Seed  
 Feb. 10th Youth Sunday/  
 No Children's Chapel  
 Feb. 17th No Church School/  
 Vacation Week  
 Feb. 24th No Children's Chapel  
 Combined Classes

### Second Grade

- Feb. 3rd Instructed Eucharist  
 Feb. 10th Youth Sunday/  
 No Children's Chapel  
 Feb. 17th No Church School/  
 Vacation Week  
 Feb. 24th No Children's Chapel  
 Combined Classes

### Third Grade

- Feb. 3rd Instructed Eucharist  
 Feb. 10th Youth Sunday/  
 No Children's Chapel  
 Feb. 17th No Church School/  
 Vacation Week  
 Feb. 24th No Children's Chapel  
 Combined Classes

### Fourth Grade

- Feb. 3rd Instructed Eucharist  
 Feb. 10th Youth Sunday/  
 No Children's Chapel  
 Feb. 17th No Church School/  
 Vacation Week  
 Feb. 24th No Children's Chapel  
 Combined Classes

### Fifth Grade

- Feb. 3rd Instructed Eucharist  
 Feb. 10th Youth Sunday/  
 No Children's Chapel  
 Feb. 17th No Church School/  
 Vacation Week  
 Feb. 24th No Children's Chapel  
 Combined Classes

### Sixth Grade

- Feb. 3rd Instructed Eucharist  
 Feb. 10th Youth Sunday/  
 No Children's Chapel  
 Feb. 17th No Church School/  
 Vacation Week  
 Feb. 24th No Children's Chapel  
 Combined Classes

## Children's Christian Formation

# Instructed Eucharist

### *Your Chance for a Backstage Tour!!*

On February 3rd there will be an instructed Eucharist in Taylor Hall for all children in grades 2 through 6. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to see what happens during the Eucharist at close hand, and to learn the names and purpose of the items used on the altar. There will also be a tour of the sacristy and robing room to complete the behind-the-scenes look at this most important part of our Sunday morning service. Please make every effort for your children to attend.

### *Save the Date: March 2nd Children's Lenten Theater Event*

The children of Christ Church are invited to act out favorite Bible stories at the annual Lenten event, "Heroes and Heroines of the Bible." Costumes, props and scripts will be provided—no memorization necessary. We will meet, rehearse, perform, enjoy food, fellowship and take part in an outreach project. After the performances, all are encouraged to attend the 5:00 pm service of Holy Eucharist together. Details to come. For more information, contact Barbara Potgieter (bpotgieter@ccbny.org) or Mo. Kate Malin.

### *Children's Chapel & Event Schedule*

**February 3rd Instructed Eucharist:**  
 Children's Chapel Regular classes for Godly Play (The Parable of the Mustard Seed) Instructed Eucharist for Grades 2 through 6

**February 10th:**  
 Youth Sunday  
 No Children's Chapel

**February 17th:**  
**No Church School**  
 (vacation week)

**February 24th:**  
 No Children's Chapel. Combined Church School Classes at 10:00 AM

## Nursery Available

Located on the first floor of the Child Center, this resource is staffed by two loving and caring professionals from 9:30 A.M. to noon each Sunday. Parents are also welcome and encouraged as extra volunteers.

## Youth Sunday

*February 10th: If your child is in 5th or 6th grade and would like to be an usher on Youth Sunday please contact Deborah Ross at rosshogan@optonline.net. Children that sing in the Sing 'n Ring choir cannot also be ushers.*

# Music

## Evensong

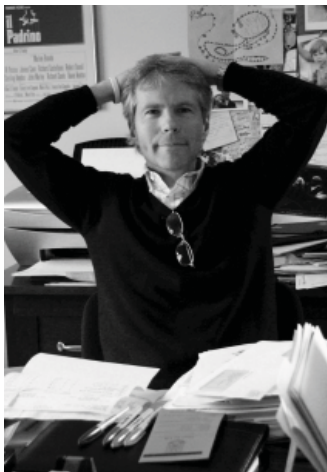
What is Evensong? Choral Evensong is simply a fancy way of saying Evening Prayer—Sung. It is one of the great musical traditions of our Anglican heritage. There's nothing else like it out there!

When Evensong is presented, as it is several times each year at Christ Church, it is sung by one or a combination of our choirs and/or visiting choirs. Often one of Christ Church's children's or youth choirs participates in Evensong. One of the benefits to young singers is that it affords them the opportunity to learn chants and canticles, and memorize creeds and prayers. It also offers the possibility of singing anthems in diverse styles ranging from traditional sacred music to world music from Latin America, Africa, Native American traditions and beyond.



It's a beautiful, restful service totally appropriate to the time of day and one of the somewhat under-valued "treats" offered by Christ Church Bronxville to the community. When you hear that one is coming up mark your calendar and join us.

## New Addition to Christ Church Staff



At the Annual Parish Meeting last month, Father Bird announced the addition of Ken Richardson to the staff in the newly created position of Director of Parish Growth. Among the wonderful developments we've experienced over the last few years are an increasing number of new families joining our congregation and an expanding, multi-faceted outreach effort. Ken's job will be to coordinate efforts within Christ Church to respond to this growth and the challenges and opportunities it presents; to ensure we continue to meet the needs of those whom we serve, both within the parish and beyond; and to expand our interaction with the community, the diocese and the world in which we live by increasing public awareness of what we do. Ken, his wife Michele, and children Dylan and Caroline have been parishioners for over two and a half years, and you can frequently find him taking pictures at church events or singing with the Christ Church Choir on Sundays. Please help us welcome Ken to the Christ Church staff.

### Note!!!

*There are NO choir rehearsals February 18-25. Please mark your calendars.*

### The Rev. Dr. William Steele to retire from The Reformed Church

*On January 27, 2008, the Rev. Dr. Bill Steele announced that he would be taking early retirement from his position as Senior Minister of The Reformed Church due to health problems. Dr. Steele has served God, his church and the village of Bronxville faithfully during the past nine years and is a beloved pastor, teacher and friend to many in this community. While Dr. Steele will preach his last sermon at The Reformed Church on Sunday, Feb. 3rd, he and his wife Jane plan to stay in Bronxville until June, at which time they will move to Vermont. Fr. Bird and Mo. Malin join the vestry, staff and members of Christ Church in wishing Dr. Steele and Jane every blessing in their retirement.*

## January Birthdays

1: Duncan Mahood; 2: Callie St. Phillip; 3: Sophia Allan, Lucy Fowlkes, Claire Hayes, John Kirby, Jane Sears, Sarah Thaler; 4: Nicholas Hibbler Tyler Morse; 5: Andrew Cherna; 6: John Engelhardt, Elizabeth MacGregory, Theodore Rooney; 7: Lily Crystal; 9: Sarah Sullivan; 12: Peter Hoover, Jim Lee; 16: Laura Holland, Bailey Johnson, 17: Ann Krieger, Heidi Wolfgang; 18: Robert Richter; 21: Michael Connors, Chelsey Ivy; 22: Fred Heintz, Caroline Walker; 23: Tyler Carroll; 24: Robert O'Connor, Ellen Tighe; 25: Kathy O'Guin, Ian Palfrey; 27: James Collins, Virginia Newcombe; 28: Christopher Wells, Bill Bates, Bradford Marvin; 29: Hadley Barr, Erin Foley, Elliot Walker, Nathaniel Walker, 30: Omar Abboud, Andrew Hibbler, Wilyem Thoms; 31: Kyle Connors

### ***Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper***

**Tuesday, February 5th at 5:30 PM**

Don't miss our traditional fabulous feast of fluffy flipped flapjacks, courtesy of the Men of Christ Church Bronxville. Join us at 5:30 pm in Taylor Hall for the Feast before the Fast.

## Adult Christian Formation

### *Communication Team Meeting for Carpenter's Kids*

#### ***February 3rd***

Would you like to join the Communication Team, providing a parish-to-parish link with Iloilo Parish in Tanzania? Our first meeting is Sunday February 3rd after the 10:00 am service. We will plan how to launch and maintain regular correspondence with the community we have pledged to serve through the Carpenter's Kids program. For more information, contact Mo. Kate Malin or just come to the meeting. If you want to learn more about Carpenter's Kids, check out the monthly newsletter at [www.thecarpenterskids.org](http://www.thecarpenterskids.org).

### **ONE Tuesday February 5th**

OK, it's a blockbuster this year. Just as we're all recovering from our boy Eli's GIANT win in the SuperBowl, we've got the Presidential Primary elections of "Super Tuesday" and Shrove Tuesday (AKA Mardi Gras) all rolled into our February *ONE Tuesday* celebration: ***the Annual Pancake Extravaganza!***

Come join us in Taylor Hall from 5:30 pm on for delicious pancakes with all the trimmings, courtesy of the Men of Christ Church. And perhaps another pancake eating contest (let's see if Fr. Bird can retain his championship.)

We'll keep abreast of the election on the BIG screen and if you're unhappy with the results, you can always drown your sorrows in real maple syrup!! The cost is \$6 for persons over 12 and \$3 for children 12 and under.

### **First Friday Films: *Evil and Good***

#### ***First Friday Films February 1st***

On Friday February 1st we will screen "Bonhoeffer" as part of our continuing series on "Evil and Good." This poignant documentary traces the life of German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, one of the first to speak up against Adolf Hitler throughout Hitler's rise to power. Bonhoeffer organized the Confessing Church, the only structured revolt against Hitler, and turned to his roots as a devout Christian for the strength to take a political stand for Jews everywhere. Klaus Maria Brandauer provides the voice of Bonhoeffer. We meet in Taylor Hall at 6:30 pm for food and fellowship before the 7:00 pm screening. Immediately following the film, please stay for an informal discussion and theological reflection. You may enter Taylor Hall through the double wooden doors on Kensington Road.

#### ***First Friday Films in March***

PLEASE NOTE: First Friday Films in March will meet on the Second Friday, March 14th. The March screening will be "Monster."

## Working Mothers' Fellowship

**Wednesday February 27th at 7:00 pm**

If you are a Mother working outside the home who could use a little "time out" for the soul, you are not alone. Drop in for a "Working Mothers' Fellowship" meeting on Wednesday, February 27th at 7:00 pm in the Crispell Lounge. There will be wine, cheese, comfortable chairs and conversation. No commitment is required and all are welcome. For more information, contact the Rev. Kate Malin at [kmalin@ccbny.org](mailto:kmalin@ccbny.org).

## Heritage Luncheon/Tea

**Sunday February 10th**

The next Heritage Tea will be a luncheon following the 10:00 service on Sunday, February 10th, 2008. We will be honoring Jim and Barbara Lee for their extraordinary spirit and service to Christ Church. Please mark your calendars for this wonderful and festive occasion. For more information or to learn how you can help, please contact Vicky Carter.

## Winter Variety Show is Back!

**Christ Church**

**Winter Variety Show**

**Saturday March 1st .**

**Start Rehearsing NOW!!**



The Second Annual All-Parish Variety Show is on! Can you sing, dance, read, strum, pluck, act or unclog a sink? Then it's time to take your talents public and start gearing up for Saturday, March 1. If you missed last year's madness, we're very sorry, but here's your chance to see it all again, plus new acts never before on stage anywhere (thank goodness)... For more information, contact Amy Axelson at [aaxelson@ccbny.org](mailto:aaxelson@ccbny.org).

For a sign-up form, visit [www.ccbny.org/wvshow/varietyshow.pdf](http://www.ccbny.org/wvshow/varietyshow.pdf).

# Annual Parish Meeting

*This past Sunday, January 28, the Christ Church family gathered in Taylor Hall for the Annual Parish Meeting and Eucharist.*

Following the consumption of far more donut holes at breakfast than any of us would care to admit, wardens Mary Taylor Behrens and Jim Redpath and treasurer Michele Richardson briefed those gathered on financial matters for the parish, including the success of our capital campaign and the ongoing 2008 Stewardship drive. A video by Amy Axelson and Ken Richardson reflected on Who We Are, What We Do, and Where We've Been. And Father Bird, Mother Malin and Krista Miller explained the many Christian Formation efforts we've embraced in the last year, those we've continued to be part of, and where we hope to go in 2008 and beyond. The morning concluded with Holy Eucharist accompanied by the music of Taizé, serving to remind us why we do what we do, and to give thanks to God for what we share as members of Christ Church.



## February Birthdays

1: Meghan Duval; 2: Catherine Foster; 3: Amy Freed, Paige Nagle; 4: Hendrik Kranenburg; 7: Carter Callaway, Brian Firth; 8: Stephen Howard; 9: Jim Beit, Hanna Buendia, Stephen Mordaunt, Victoria Mordaunt; 10: Beckett Johnson; 11: Patrick Conaton, Joshua Philips; 12: Sophie Cappello; 13: Christopher Behrens; Robert Murray; 15: Lisa Harrington, Sophia Montero; 16: Andrew Garvey; 17: Patrick Bird, Blanche Johnson; 18: Agatha Dunbar, James Rooney; 19: Rita Durniak; 20: Thomas Bender, Betsy Howard; 21: Peyton Elder; 22: William Anderson; 23: Didi Romley, Camilla Seirup, Lorenzo Seirup, Scott Thomas; 24: John Duval, Alleigh Thoms, Christian Welch; 25: Lucille Noone, Hollis Petersen; 26: Elizabeth Garvey, Peter Holland; 27: Cherry Lawrence, Charles McKhann; 29: Marv Turino

### *Anglican Women's Empowerment*

Women from around the Anglican communion will be gathering together for the UN Commission on the Status of Women. This year's theme focuses on financing for gender equity. On Saturday March 2nd, Trinity Church will be hosting the annual event. Details are to follow.

## Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)

### *Pilgrimage to the Taizé Monastery*

Krista Miller and Father Bird will lead fourteen members of the Episcopal Youth Community on their annual pilgrimage to the Taizé monastery, February 14th-25th. Mother Malin and Father Jernagan will also be chaperoning the trip.

Taizé is a monastery for all Christians, focused on peace and reconciliation, that draws tens of thousands of youth between the ages of 14 and 30 each year. It is a place where teenagers from around the world gather to spend time in prayer and silence, build friendships and learn about other cultures.

When Christ Church was at Taizé last February, there were teenagers from thirteen different countries present. We learned the same game and its accompanying song in four languages! Many teens on the trip went home feeling that Taizé was the place where they truly discovered their personal relationships with God and began to understand the things we all have in common.

In addition to their time at Taizé, the teens will spend four days in Barcelona. While in Barcelona they will have a chance to recover from their jetlag and see all the sites that Barcelona has to offer.

### *Protecting God's Creation Diocesan Youth Event at CCB March 7th-8th*

This year, youth ministry at Christ Church has opened its doors to teens throughout the Episcopal Diocese of New York.

Director of Youth Ministry Krista Miller will lead the next diocesan event "Protecting God's Creation" at Christ Church March 7th and 8th. Participating teens will learn practical ways we can save our earth, and they will learn theology behind it. The teens will also have plenty of time to play games, watch movies and build friendships with their peers from other churches in the diocese. For more information contact Krista Miller at [kmiller@ccbny.org](mailto:kmiller@ccbny.org).



*Save the Date* Monday, March 17  
**"A Night at the Tonys"**

*A Benefit for Young at Arts featuring Broadway Stars*

On their night off, for one night only, see some of your favorite stars perform at the Bronxville Field Club. All proceeds from the event will go to YAA. Call 914-961-1360 for more information or to order tickets. Or visit us online at [www.youngatarts.us](http://www.youngatarts.us).



## Center for Spiritual Growth

### *A Trip to the Musuem of Biblical Art*

#### *February 5th-The Art of Forgiveness*

The Art and Spirituality Committee invites you to begin your observance of Lent with a trip to the Museum of Biblical Art to see “The Art of Forgiveness: Images of the Prodigal Son.” The cost of the trip is \$15 and includes admission and lunch when we return. We will depart Christ Church at 9:30 AM on Tuesday February 5th and return to the church around noon for lunch and a discussion. For more information and to reserve a space, please contact Hondi Brasco at mmhdb1@aol.com or Mo. Kate Malin at kmalin@ccbny.org.

**Met Trip** Special thanks to Letizia Seirup who shared her passion and knowledge of Ghiberti’s Gates of Paradise with us in January. All who went were immeasurably enriched!

If you are interested in helping with this committee, please contact:  
Hondi Brasco (771-8870) mmhdb1@aol.com



## Ash Wednesday

### *Ash Wednesday is February 6th*

Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting and penitence, is the gateway to Lent. The ashes we receive remind us of our mortality. Our coming to receive them is a sign that we will make a sincere effort to cleanse our lives of sin and to put God first. Ash Wednesday calls us to put aside pride and choose humility. It calls us to acknowledge our failings and amend our hearts in the comfort of knowing that we are loved.

### *The Christ Church service schedule for Ash Wednesday is as follows:*

7:00 AM	Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
12:00 PM	Imposition of Ashes
7:00 PM	Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

### ***Traditional Lenten Regulations:***

*The Book of Common Prayer indicates two days of expected fasting and abstinence from meat – Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.*

*For many Christians, Fridays in Lent have been days of special observance, generally including fasting. Traditionally, fasting has meant that one full meal per day be taken. Two smaller meals have also been allowed to maintain strength. The tradition has also been to refrain from eating meat on Fridays.*

*Remembering Jesus’s death through some form of observance on Fridays is an important aspect of any Lenten spiritual discipline. It is our hope that these Forty Days of Lent might be well used to set our hearts, minds and souls toward “things of importance.”*

## Highlights

Friday February 1st	6:30 PM First Friday Film
Sunday February 3rd	11:15 AM Carpenter's Kids Meeting 12:00 PM EYC Event ( <i>off premises</i> ) 6:00 PM Middle School Super Bowl Party
Tuesday February 5th	9:30 AM "The Art of Forgiveness" 5:30 PM One Tuesday/Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Supper
Wednesday February 6th <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	7:00 AM Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes 12:00 PM Imposition of Ashes 7:00 PM Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes with Music
Monday February 18th	Office Closed/Presidents' Day
Tuesday February 26th	7:30 PM Vestry Meeting
Saturday March 1st	10:00 AM Chorister Training Workshop 7:00 PM All Parish Winter Variety Show

### *Sunday*

*February 3rd is the next Healing Sunday*

The sacrament of Laying On of Hands and Anointing with Holy Oil will be offered during the 10:00 AM service of Holy Eucharist.