



CHURCH STAFF

Thomas L. Kennedy: Pastor	860-267-6540
Jill Walker: Director of Parish Life, Development and Education	860-267-7180
Keumok Heo: Director of Music	
Ann Buracchi: Church Secretary	860-267- 1216
Jerry Gerkey: Chatter Editor	860-267-9513
Church Office	860-267-4959
Fax Number	860-267-7424
E-Mail Address	cceh@juno.com
Website	http://www.cc-eh.org

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

P.O. BOX 237, Main Street
East Hampton, Connecticut 06424

**Car. Rt.
Presort**

**U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
East Hampton, Ct.
Permit No. 5**

January



2009

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

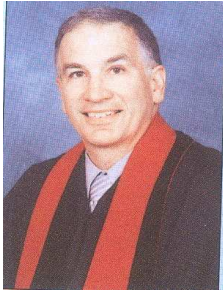
(101) Intentional Giving Pledges have been returned.

You are the rock this church is built upon.
Thank you all for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

- Billie, Jerry, Karen, Bill, Deb & Liz



THOTS FROM TOM



Thank you to all who sent Lois, myself and our family holiday greetings and Christmas cards. It was wonderful to be remembered by you during this holiday season. We hope that everyone has a blessed new year.

We are now in the church liturgical season of Epiphany, a season which began on January 6, the Day of Epiphany, which is the day when traditionally the three Wiseman brought gifts to the infant Jesus, and he was revealed to them and to the world as Lord and King, the Messiah. The season of Epiphany will continue until Ash Wednesday, February 25, which will begin the season of Lent.

The term *epiphany* means “to show” or “to make known” or even “to reveal.” So this season is a time for the Holy Spirit to reveal itself, or make itself known to us, in new ways. Look for ways that God might be breaking into your life during this season of Epiphany.

One thing that I need to reveal and make known to you is that the date for our annual jazz service has changed. It will still be held in the season of Epiphany, but this year the Heartbeat Dixieland Jazz Band will be with us on **February 8**. The service promises to be a wonderful, exciting, and *revealing* time, as we will experience the presence of the Holy Spirit through the inspiration of Dixieland jazz music. Plan to bring a friend!

Looking ahead to events in January, our Church Council will be presenting revised bylaws to the congregation in a special hearing scheduled for Sunday, January 4, after the morning coffee hour. This hearing will be an opportunity for the congregation to comment on the bylaws before they are presented at the annual meeting.

Our annual budget hearing will be held on Sunday, January 18, after the morning coffee hour. This will be a time for the Finance Committee to present the budget for 2009 to the congregation and hear comments.

Finally, our Congregational Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25. After the morning worship and annual meeting, please plan to stay for a “Souper-bowl” lunch of soup and sandwiches being put on by the Seeds of Hope participants who are journeying to Biloxi Mississippi for a week-long work camp experience in late June.

Have a good, blessed, and revealing month!

Peace,

Tom

HAPPY NEW YEAR





Y2K Calendar
 Middle School Youth Group
 Wednesday January 7th and 14th
 5:30-6:45 pm
 Bring \$4 for pizza Friends Welcome

Kudos Korner

Our thanks go out to all our busy church mice: Everyone that prepared sandwiches or baked for the memorial receptions for Emma Prince and Elsie Squiers, the Deacons for decorating our sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season of our church year. Special thanks to Jessie Hazen, a longtime church member and, operator of Hazen's Tree Farm, for donating our Christmas tree of ribbons and love, the High School class for the delicious cookies baked fresh and served during coffee hour, the Church School children for presenting our pageant "The Christmas Tree", Kim Cordiero, Cindy Abraham, Christine Tkaczyk and Jodi Brazal for all their work putting together the Christmas Pageant, the Christian Education Committee for the Christmas Cookie Party, Darlene Dainiak for assisting Jill with cleaning our kitchen for the annual health department inspection, Terry Brogan for giving our trash can a face lift that was badly needed!

Rick Walker for all the miscellaneous tasks performed, and any other church mouse that snuck in and helped out on any way big or small!

Women's Potluck
MONDAY JANUARY 12
(second Monday of the month this time)
 6:30 PM
 at the home of Nancy Dolde
 10 Bevin Blvd 267-6195
 Bring a dish to share and join us for post Christmas debriefing, conversation and fellowship!

It's a Green Thing!

As the person charged with keeping an eye out for our Parish Life together (that's Jill Walker) and in keeping with the ongoing "green" ways of life we are incorporating ways that we can be earth friendly as well as budget savvy.

** Each Committee should be aware that on a regular basis we will no longer be covering the tables with paper during Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. We will continue to do so for dinners or special events. Our new tables look presentable "au natural"!

** The Deacons were asked, as coordinators of coffee supplies, and began purchasing Free Trade Coffee for all to enjoy. By doing so we are supporting the coffee market produced and sold by small coffee bean farms in South America using local workers paid a fair living wage. We hope to expand the awareness of this program with a Second Hour in March that will include the opportunity to purchase this coffee individually as well.

**Please be sure to turn off the lights when you are finished in a room or leave the building.

**Close all doors to the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall when not in use. Please leave the door to the upstairs library/classroom wide open as that room is not heated. And the freezer hall doorway propped open to keep the hallway toasty.

**Bring your clean bottles and cans to the furnace room to be recycled by the Mellon-Quackenbush family for the benefit of Seeds of Hope.

** If you prepare a meal at church that results in



empty food cans, glass or bottles- please consider bringing them home to your recycling bin as we do not currently have any recycling pick up at the church- this will cut down on the space used in our dumpster and less waste going to landfills.

** Check with us before bringing any miscellaneous donations to the church because “someone might need this someday” as we have very limited storage space and often end up paying to have the items disposed of at the dump.

**Talk to Jill with any other ideas on how to be faithful stewards with God’s resources.

Family Evening Gathering

Fun Night

Friday January 16th at 6:00

(snow date Sunday January 18th
no school Monday for MLK Day)

Gather up the family and join us for
pizza, fun, games and stunts!

\$4 per person, \$16 for family of 4 or more
3 and under free!

This is a great way to meet and socialize
with other church families while spending
time with your own loveable brood!

Seeds of Hope Update

**Thanks to everyone that has been purchasing Scrip Prepaid/gift Cards that yield us a percentage of the face value of the cards. On average we earned 6% on each order placed. We will continue to offer cards each Sunday as many of the merchants are those we use in our daily lives. Stop by the table on Sundays and check out the large list to order from.

**Little Cesar Pizza Kits and Cookie Dough will be available to order during January.

** Our Shaw’s receipts collection is booming! We currently have almost \$100,000 of receipts to redeem, which will equal over \$900! Thanks for turning trash into treasure!

** There are still a couple of spaces open if you are interested in being part of our trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi Mississippi June 28- July 4. Talk with Jill ASAP

****Next meeting is Sunday January 11** in the library after church. Second payment of \$100 is due at that time.

Seeds of Hope invites you to
“Souper Bowl Lunch”

Sunday January 25th after the
Annual Meeting Worship Service

Enjoy a homemade soup buffet with bread
Free will offering to help support our trip to
Back Bay Mission
Biloxi, Mississippi

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Thanks to all church membership from the nominating committee for the wonderful response to filling positions on church boards and committees...how wonderful that so many are willing to take part in the life of our church!! Happy New Year!! Karen G, Teri S, Carolyn W & Joyce J.

FROM THE MODERATOR

We have 101 pledges for a total of \$131,241 to date which is down from pledges that were given last year. Between this and the very poor results of the market we will have a very tough budget to pass.

At this time the Finance Committee is working very hard to bring the best budget they can to the annual meeting. Don’t be surprised if we have to come back and ask those that have pledged to see if they may be able to increase the amount, and those that have not pledged to reconsider there response to the pledge campaign.



COSA NEWS

Be a Sweetheart – Donate Blood at Our Valentine’s Day Blood Drive!

Every day in Connecticut hundreds of patients rely on donated blood for the treatments they need to improve, or save their lives. Donated blood is used to treat accident and burn victims, premature babies and their mothers, surgery patients, people struggling with sickle cell disease, and cancer patients receiving chemotherapy to name a few. **Amazingly, each person who gives blood can help to improve, and even save, the lives of up to three people every time they donate!**

COSA is sponsoring a blood drive on **Saturday February 14th. Become a donor!** Look for more information in the near future.

Project Christmas/Christmas Wishes/Family to Family

Thank you to all who donated Christmas gifts to help support the East Hampton Social Services, Department of Family Services, and the Family Advocacy program. The tags disappeared from the tree so fast! Your generous hearts made Christmas possible for many families in our community.

CROP Walk: Final Tally

We now have the final amount that we raised for the Church World Service CROP Walk program along with the East Hampton Food Bank, which receives 25% of the total. Our total was \$4978.65; of that amount, the East Hampton Food Bank will receive \$1,244.62. Participants included seven local churches and the East Hampton Senior Center Walking Club. Thanks again to all who walked and all who sponsored our walkers.

Donations made to Area Ministries

COSA made donations to the following groups or organizations:

Middlesex Hospital Chaplaincy Program
 New Horizons Women’s Shelter
 Mercy Housing
 Eddy Shelter
 East Hampton Food Bank Fuel Assistance
 Interfaith Refugee Ministry
 Family Advocacy
 Seeds of Hope

In addition, COSA made a Family Assistance donation to the Trahans, the family who lost their home to contamination by tear gas when the police responded to a tragic situation in the apartment above the Trahans. Kim Trahan is a waitress at Angelicos; she and her husband Rob have two sons. They have a new apartment on Main Street, but they have little to no furniture. Kim says that they must pay thousands of dollars out of their own pocket (they did not have renters insurance) to get their belongings cleaned. We hope that our donation will provide at least some help to them as they get reestablished. If anyone would like to offer them some additional help, please call Diana Evans at 267-4356 for contact information.