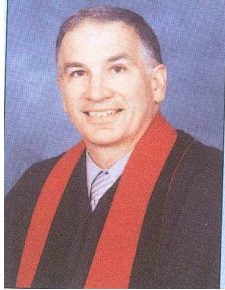


February



2010



THOTS FROM TOM

Happy February! Have you noticed that the sun is setting later in the afternoon? I have! Yea!! Our winter season is making its long march towards spring. One of the foreshadowing's of spring

is the season of Lent. Lent comes from an Anglo-Saxon word which means spring, or the "lengthening of days." The season of Lent lasts forty days, not counting Sundays, and matches Jesus' forty days in the wilderness, a time when he faced temptation as a way to prepare himself for his forthcoming ministry.

Lent is often characterized as a time for sacrifice or self-deprivation. In the church of yore, Lent was traditionally a time to fast from eating certain things, except on the Sundays before Easter, (which were feast days). People did this as a way to physically and spiritually prepare themselves for Christ's passion and resurrection. People fasting during Lent did not eat meat, eggs, cheese, or butter, and did not drink milk, because these things came from animals. Some very ascetic monastic orders ate nothing during the week, drinking only water, sustained only by their faith and whatever they ate on Sundays.

In our tradition we tend not to fast; but often during Lent, to match Jesus' denying of his own material needs during his time in the wilderness, we take on a symbolic "fast", by denying ourselves something that we enjoy, or even need, as we prepare ourselves spiritually for Christ's passion and resurrection. Often times, rather than giving something up, we take on something new, that we can do, during the Lenten season as a way to spiritually prepare ourselves.

Lent this year begins on February 17, and the first Sunday of Lent falls on February 21.

Easter is April 4.

Bible Study will continue to meet on Wednesdays, at noon and 7:00 pm. The plan is to continue the class through at least the season of Lent, unless interest and attendance wane. No advance preparation is required. Currently the class is studying Paul's Pastoral Letters. If you would like to join the class, you are welcome to drop in!

Have a blessed and warm month!

Tom



COSA

COSA will be putting together hygiene kits for Church World Service. Look for the board with tags in Fellowship Hall. Take a tag and purchase the requested item. COSA will combine the items into kits that may be sent to Haiti.

COSA is also collecting new hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and socks that will be distributed by the East Hampton Food Bank. Place these items on the "Giving Tree" in Fellowship Hall.

Please remember that non-perishable food items for the East Hampton Food Bank can be left outside the church office at anytime.

BLOOD DRIVE

COSA is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, February 13th in Fellowship Hall from 8 am to 1 pm. You can schedule an appointment during coffee hour or by calling Diana Evans at 860-267-4356.

Looking Ahead so Save the Date!!

**Women's Stop, Look and Listen for
God Getaway
Because you Can and Therefore you
Should!**

Friday, March 19 at 6:00 pm-Saturday,
March 20 3:00 pm
at Camp Hemlock in Hebron, CT.

Heated cabin accommodations, 3 meals cooked by someone else!! We'll seek spiritual renewal just in time for Spring! Treat yourself to a brief time out

with women of our church family as we stop, look and listen for God inside of ourselves while outside of our busy world. See Jill Walker with any questions. Sign-up sheet will be in Fellowship Hall starting February 14th. Cost is \$60, with a \$25 deposit due at sign up or by March 7th. More info will be provided prior to our getaway. Come be refreshed and renewed- God has reserved this time for you, won't you meet Him half way?

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Please remember that the Senior Choir practices from (7:10-8:30 PM) each Thursday and the Bell Choir practices from (6-7PM) each Thursday. Two new bell ringers are needed at this time. Anyone that would like to sing with the Senior Choir is welcome to join. Please note that child care is available each Sunday during the Sunday morning practice (9-9:45 AM).

The Senior Choir and Bell Choir will be doing a Cantata on Easter Sunday this year (April 4), and we are interested in getting additional singers. The cantata practices for Senior Choir have begun and run from 7:10-8:10 pm, with the 8:10-8:30 pm period devoted to rehearsing music for the following Sunday service. Please come out and support this special Easter Sunday Service with your talent, enthusiasm, and dedication. Singers must be able to attend most Thursday rehearsals, and no new singers will be accepted for the Cantata after February 28th. Please contact Keumok at the church office if you have any questions, or simply show up for practice at the times noted, ready to sing or ring.

Our church family lost a treasured member of 49 years. Our prayers go out to the family of Lorraine Ellis.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
 Y2K Calendar
 Middle School Youth Group
 Wednesday February 3
 5:30-6:45
 Bring \$4 for pizza Friends Welcome

Bowling at EH Lanes
 Wednesday February 17th
 4:00-5:30
 Meet at the lanes Friends Welcome!!
 Bring \$10 for bowling and shoes
 Bring \$\$ for video games and snacks

Women's Potluck Book Discussion

“Have a Little Faith”
 by Mitch Albom
 Monday February 1st at 6:30 p.m.
 the home of Lorraine Barlow
 5 Fairlawn Dr.
 Bring a dish to share

Seeds of Hope Updates

** Thanks to everyone that enjoyed our “Super Bowl Lunch” on January 31st.
 ** Butter Braid Bread orders will be taken beginning February 28 until March 14.
 **More and more people are buying SCRIP cards for Shaw's among other places, and we continue to earn a % of the face value of the cards. Stop by our table every Sunday during Coffee Hour to place an order.

Just a Friendly Reminder

Our Coffee Hour beverages and yummy Island Trader donut holes are provided by our weekly donations to the baskets on the tables each Sunday. Please help keep the treats!!

Email for College Students

Our Chatter editor, Jerry Gerkey can email a copy of our monthly Chatter to your college student if you send him their email address. Jerry's email is: **j.gerkey@sbcglobal.net** Students can begin receiving the Chatter this month!

Helping Hands

Be sure to let Jill Walker (860-267-7180) or the church office (860-267-4959) know if you or someone you know of from our church family is in need of some Helping Hands. We can provide meals, rides, help with simple household projects, or stop by for a visit! Thanks to Karen and Regan Gallmon and Jackie Hooper Hage for providing a meal complete with flowers last month.

Kudos

Senior Choir for their continued beautiful music that fills our house every Sunday.

Finance Committee for the many hours of effort and time put in on our annual budget.

Emily Wilson for keeping the church web site up to date and already having the 2009 Annual Report on the web site.



FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Den 7 Cubs, 6-7:30pm Women's Pot Luck Dinner, 6:30pm	2 Boy Scouts #57, 7pm	3 Art Class, 9:30-11:30am Bible Study, noon Y2K, 5:30 Bible Study, 7pm AA, 8pm	4 Girl Scouts, 3:15-5pm <u>1</u> Choir Rehearsal Bell Choir, 6-7pm Senior Choir, 7:10pm	5	6
7 Communion Sunday CE, 9am Worship/Communion, 10am AA, 8pm	8 Den 7 Cubs, 6-7: AA, 8pm	9 Mom's Group, 10-noon Boy Scouts #57, 7pm	10 Art Class, 9:30-11:30am Cub Pack 57 Leaders meeting, 7-9pm AA, 8pm	11 <u>1</u> Choir Rehearsal Bell Choir, 6-7pm Senior Choir, 7:10pm	12	13 Blood DRIVE 8am-12:45pm
14 Valentine's Day Women's Service, 10am Diaconate, 11:30am AA, 8pm	15 School Vacation YPCCA Camp 8:30-3pm	16 School Vacation YPCCA Camp 8:30-3pm Boy Scouts #57, 7pm	17 ASH WEDNESDAY School Vacation YPCCA Camp 8:30-3pm Art Class, 9:30-11:30am AA, 8pm	18 School Vacation YPCCA Camp 8:30-3pm <u>1</u> Choir Rehearsal Bell Choir, 6-7pm Senior Choir, 7:10pm	19 School Vacation YPCCA Camp 8:30-3pm <u>SHOW, 7pm</u>	20 Chili Cook-off Square Dance 4-10pm
21 Worship, 10am Lunch Bunch following coffee hour AA, 8pm	22 Mom's Group, 10am Pack 57 Cubs, 6:30	23 Church Council, 7pm Boy Scouts #57, 7pm	24 Art Class, 9:30-11:30am Book Discussion, 7pm AA, 8pm	25 Girl Scouts, 3:15-5pm <u>1</u> Choir Rehearsal Bell Choir, 6-7pm Senior Choir, 7:10pm	26	27 Pack 57 Cubs Blue & Gold Banquet 10am-4pm
28 Worship, 10am Music, 11:30am AA, 8pm						