

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Parish Visitor

Two Emerson Street @ Gregory Boulevard, East Norwalk, Connecticut 06855 203.866.7442
The Reverend Frank Wismer, Vicar ~ www.christchurcheastnorwalk.org

ORDINARY PEOPLE ✦ EXTRAORDINARY SPIRIT

Easter tide 2011

Dear Friends in Christ,

If I were to ask us to identify the two great holidays of the church year, how would you respond? I suspect that if we are like most people we would say that the two great holidays of the church are Christmas and Easter. And, we would be half right. Easter is, in fact, the great celebration of the Christian faith. It is the reason why the church exists in the first place. Without a risen Lord, there would be no Christianity. There would be no Christianity if the Jesus story ended with his crucifixion and burial.

The early Christians who were also Jews worshipped as faithful Jews on the last day of the week. Then they met again on the first day of the week to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The early church understood every day to be a "mini Easter". This is also true for the church today. We too understand every Sunday to be a "mini Easter", but not perhaps to the same degree as our Christian ancestors. It wasn't until 325 A. D. that the church finally settled on one particular day in the calendar and named it "Easter". Actually the day wasn't called Easter until later. Nevertheless, one day was established to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Over time, the rest of the church calendar grew into what we have today.



The second great celebration of the church is Pentecost. Pentecost is the celebration of the sending of the Holy Spirit upon the church. It is the Holy Spirit, not our human endeavor; that is God's agent in the world. We are the vehicles through whom the Spirit of God works, but it is the Holy Spirit that permits us to continue the work of Jesus Christ in the world. We've all probably heard someone say that "God never gives us more than we can handle." The truth of the matter is that God always gives us more than we can handle, but God never gives us more than we and the Holy Spirit together can handle.

We will soon arrive at Easter when we celebrate the new life given to Jesus and to us. So, what will we do with the new life we're being given? Perhaps the answer to that question is found on the Day of Pentecost. What we will do is to live lives that reflect the new life of Jesus Christ in us. In order to do that, God will empower us with the Holy Spirit.

God bless,

Father Frank

IN THIS ISSUE : APRIL 2011

Parish Archives	Page 2
Lenten Study	Page 2
Easter Flowers	Page 3
Parish Calendar	Page 4



May they rest in peace...

Audrey Joan Cole	1.2.11
Philip R. Marzolf	1.6.11
Jan Edwin Liddy	1.14.11
Robert R. Warnick	1.22.11
Edwin Clark Friend, Sr.	2.8.11
Phoebe Sweet Dunlap	2.27.11



From the parish archives...

At an April 9, 1948 vestry meeting, secretary John Taylor reported the following:

"Letter received from Bishop Budlong in which he requested a twenty-five cent donation from each member of the church to ward off a cut in the missionary work of the church."

If life were only that simple today. It should also be noted, in that same report, the parish treasury was recorded at \$24.01.

LENTEN STUDY CONTINUES

The Beatitudes

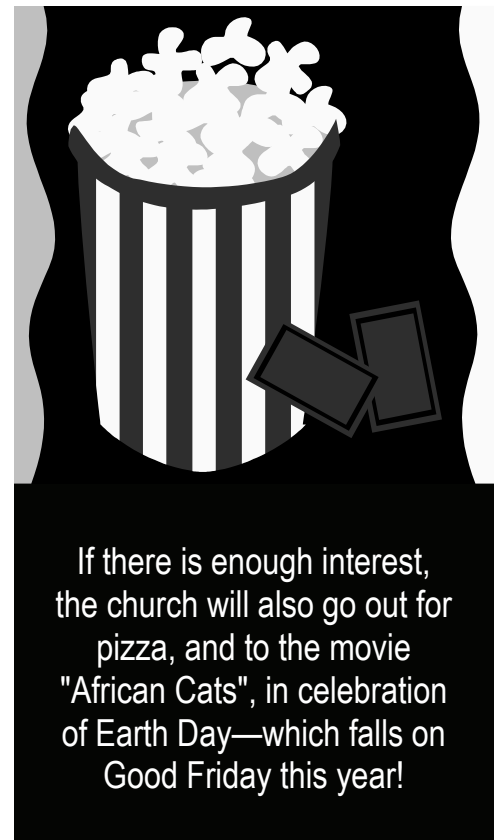
Our Lenten Study continues on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. The topic for this year's study is the Beatitudes. We will be exploring the "law" that Jesus the "new law giver" gave to his disciples.



HUNGRY MAN BREAKFAST

Will you feed a hungry man until he can feed himself?

APRIL 10th @ 5:00 a.m.



If there is enough interest, the church will also go out for pizza, and to the movie "African Cats", in celebration of Earth Day—which falls on Good Friday this year!

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 21st @ 6:00 p.m.

The Maundy Thursday observance begins at 6:00 p.m. with a Seder and meal in the parish hall. Following the Seder and lamb dinner we move into the church for the Order of Compline.

The service of Compline is followed by the setting of the Altar of Repose. The Altar of Repose reminds us of Jesus' night in the garden

and his invitation to watch with him. Members of the congregation are encouraged to come throughout the hours of the night to keep watch with our Lord as we approach Good Friday.

The procession to the Altar of Repose ends and the stripping of the altar begins to turn our attention to Good Friday.

GOOD FRIDAY

Field of Flags and the Way of the Cross

The worship for Good Friday will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Guild Room. We will celebrate the Holy Eucharist with the consecrated bread from the reserve sacrament. At 10:00 a.m., we will have a short memorial service at the front of the doors of the church as we host

the memorial flags for those killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan. Immediately following the short service outside, we will walk the Way of the Cross with the church school children in the nave. On Good Friday evening, a Tenebrae service will be held in the sanctuary.

Flower Memorials for Easter

The Altar Guild is now accepting memorial donations for Easter Flowers. Please complete the form below and send it in no later than **April 17, 2011**, for inclusion in the Easter bulletin. Please print the exact words you would like used in the bulletin. Help us make the Church even more beautiful than last Easter. If you have any questions, please call Sarah French at 203.820.5000, or email at frenchsarah@att.net.

Memorial Message:

Donor Message:

APRIL 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PALM SUNDAY EGG HUNT Sunday: April 17, 2011 ~ following 10:00 a.m. worship						
3 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Christian Formation 10:00 a.m. Worship	4 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study 7:30 p.m. AA 45 min. Traditions CTD 8:30 p.m. AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS	5 8:30 a.m. Clover Hill School 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Beginner's Topic OD 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour Beginner's Steps 1-2-3 CST 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour ALL Steps 1-12 CST	6 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 2-6:00 p.m. Piano Lessons	7 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 8:30 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour As Bill Sees It CD DEADLINE FOR MAY PARISH VISITOR ~ THANKS!	8 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. Clover Hill School—Growing Together 8:30 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Big Book CBB	9 9:00 a.m. Spring Churchyard Clean-Up Noon AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS
10 5:00 a.m. Hungry Man Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Christian Formation 10:00 a.m. Worship	11 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA 45 min. Traditions CTD 8:30 p.m. AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS	12 8:30 a.m. Clover Hill School 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Beginner's Topic OD 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour Beginner's Steps 1-2-3 CST 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour ALL Steps 1-12 CST	13 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 2-6:00 p.m. Piano Lessons	14 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 8:30 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour As Bill Sees It CD	15 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. Clover Hill School—Growing Together 8:30 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Big Book CBB	16 Noon AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS
17 PALM SUNDAY 8:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship Palm Sunday Passion 11:45 a.m. Egg Hunt ALL ARE WELCOME!	18 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study 7:30 p.m. AA 45 min. Traditions CTD 8:30 p.m. AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS	19 8:30 a.m. Clover Hill School 10:30 a.m. Honey Hill Care Center 7:00 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Beginner's Topic OD 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour Beginner's Steps 1-2-3 CST 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour ALL Steps 1-12 CST	20 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 2-6:00 p.m. Piano Lessons	21 MAUNDY THURSDAY 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School Field of Flags Set-Up 6:00 p.m. Paschal Supper 7:00 p.m. Compline 7:30 p.m. Stripping of the Altar 7:45 p.m. Setting of the Watch	22 GOOD FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. Mass of the Pre-Sanctified 10:00 a.m. Field of Flags 10:30 a.m. Way of the Cross 11:00 a.m. Baking of Easter Host 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae 8:30 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Big Book CBB	23 10:00 a.m. Altar Guild Noon AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS 4:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Al Madany Islamic Center Community Gathering
24 EASTER DAY 8:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship	25 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 7:30 p.m. AA 45 min. Traditions CTD 8:30 p.m. AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS	26 8:30 a.m. Clover Hill School 7:00 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Beginner's Topic OD 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour Beginner's Steps 1-2-3 CST 8:45 p.m. AA 1 ¼ Hour ALL Steps 1-12 CST	27 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 2-6:00 p.m. Piano Lessons	28 8:30 a.m.—Noon Clover Hill School 8:30 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour As Bill Sees It CD	29 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. Clover Hill School—Growing Together 8:30 p.m. AA 1 ½ Hour Big Book CBB	30 Noon AA 1 Hour 3 Speaker OS

A-A Meetings Legend: CTD = Chord, Tradition, Discussion; OS = Open, Speaker; OD = Open, Discussion; CST = Chord, Step, Discussion; CD = Chord, Discussion; CBB = Chord, Big Book