

SCARBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

www.scarboroughchurch.org

Articles Invited from Members & Friends

April 2009

WORSHIP CALENDAR

10:30am Worship

Communion 1st Sunday of the Month.
Childcare provided for 1st grade + younger

- March 29 **Draw All People**
Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 12:20-33
- April 5 **When Friday Comes**
Palm/Passion Sunday
Isaiah 50:4-9; Mark 11:1-11
- April 9 8pm **Maundy Thursday Worship**
Communion
- April 12 **Easter Sunday**
7am Sunrise Service-Scarborough Park
10:30am **While It Was Still Dark**
John 20:1-18; Isaiah 25:6-9
Easter Egg Hunt
- April 19 **Rev. Sim Gardner Guest Preacher**
Confirmation Class Midnight Run
S.S. Trip Phillipsburg Manor
- April 22 *Earth Day*
- April 24 *SPCC Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser*
- April 24-25 *Confirmation Weekend at Holmes*
- April 26 **Why Do Questionings Arise?**
Luke 24:36b-48; Acts 3:12-19
- May 3 **Other Sheep**
Communion
John 10:11-18; Acts 4:5-12

From the Pastor's Pen...

The Eye of the Beholder

When he was at table with them, he took bread and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. Luke 24:30-31

In my office, directly in the line of my sight from my desk, there sits in front of the window, perhaps, the most hideous plant I or you have ever seen. It is an over grown coleus plant. So far no one has asked what the heck it is doing there. No one has commented on how hideous it is. This only points out how nice the people of this church are because it is awful. I keep it though because it was given to me by someone special. It was given to me by one of my clients. This particular client has had a life of struggles and yet she also has a warm and giving heart. She bought it at her church's rummage sale. It is a symbol of what makes her life worthwhile (gratitude and graciousness) and it is for me a wonderful reminder of how important faith is in the midst of every struggle. That ugly plant is far more than just an ugly plant.

Easter, or at least part of Easter is a hideous event, far uglier than my plant, and it is not easily understood especially for those who were there. In scripture we read time and again of people trying to make sense of not only the death of Jesus but also the Resurrection of Jesus. The arrest and trial and execution of Jesus had to have been the worst events that his disciples and his family ever went through. It is a truly hideous string of events. If we were to travel back through time and show any of those people that we put crosses around our necks and in our churches as symbols of God's Grace, they would

Rev. Timothy Ives, Pastor
Mr. Kenneth Potter, Choir Director & Organist
Mrs. Barbara Devir, Commissioned Lay Pastor
Ms. Florence Fletcher, Office Administrator
Mrs. Katya Montelbano, Director Children's Center

P.O. Box 8835, Scarborough, N.Y. 10510
Church (914)941-1142; Fax (914)944-0027
e-mail: office@scarboroughchurch.org
SPChildren's Center (914)941-0025
SPCC e-mail: spchildrenscenter@yahoo.com

think we had lost our minds. To them the cross was a terrible reality that brought them nothing but grief. At the very least it would take quite a lengthy explanation to express the power of this symbol. And no matter how long we talked they probably would not get it. We often take for granted the depth of faith it takes to experience Good Friday and ever arrive at Easter Sunday. It is too bad because it is this kind of faith that can change our very lives. Yes, just by being Christian and believing this story we have the kind of faith that can move mountains and make this world a much different place. We have such good news and yet I don't think we are always impressed by our good news.

The crucifixion was an ugly event until someone began to believe that there was much more to the story than there seemed. It became a much different event when faith was involved and they started to look a little closer. When the disciples began to search with the eyes of faith a most hideous event began to change. Much of what happens in this world can seem hideous until we remember that no matter how terrible it may seem, God is involved. Usually it only takes a closer examination with the eyes of faith to see that God is involved. It is a reality worth sharing and we share it by simply acting as if God is here and now because God is here and now. It makes life much different. It can make that which is hideous into something beautiful .just add faith and even something as ugly as the crucifixion can be redeemed. Happy Easter.

Amen.

WORSHIP SUPPORT TEAMS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Coffee Hour Host</u>
3/29	Sandy Evans	John Codman	Catherine McKinley Karin Chaudhari
4/5	Angela Rogers Will Ingraham	Chris Potter	Doris Anglin Lucy Milne
4/12	Gene Croft, Ed Payne, Steven Cho Karin Chaudhari	Joel Cambron	Deacons Easter Formal Coffee Hr.
4/19	Peter Chapman Linnea Carnes		Camille Lane
4/26	Tom Davis Debbie Wenninger		Inge & Ken Vought

We need volunteers. Sign Up sheets are located on the Information table in the Chapel. If you are unable to serve on the assigned dates, please arrange for a substitute and/or call the office; you will receive a reminder call the week prior to your date of service. Guidesheets are posted at the Pastor's Study and Kitchenette. Thank you, in advance, for your willing-

Youth Midnight Run

It turns out that not all Midnight Runs happen at midnight! Some of them take place in the full light of day. The **Confirmation class will be participating in a breakfast Midnight Run on Sunday, April 19.**

Sunday morning runs involve preparing breakfast for a group of about 40 people. Fliers inviting people to breakfast will be distributed on the Friday and Saturday night runs.

On Sunday morning, instead of making several stops, we will go to one location. We will arrive at about 9 AM and set up shop. We will prepare a hot breakfast, then share food and conversation with our friends on the street.

We will also be bringing toiletries and socks to distribute.

Barbara Devir, CLP

Food Pantry Update

I usually spend Thursday evening from 6 until 8 PM at the Ossining Food Pantry. It is something I have done for the past few years. As you might guess, things look a bit different there these days.

When I first volunteered a busy night meant that we would see about 60 families during the evening. At Christmas or Thanksgiving there might even be 100 families. The usual count for an evening was between 40 and 50. The other night didn't seem to be very busy. At the end of the evening I asked how many families we had seen. The answer was "only 80!" Well, to tell you the truth that really didn't seem very busy.

Lately we have been seeing 100 families on a regular basis. The count at Christmas was closer to 150. Part of the reason we saw only 80 people the other night is that families may only come for food twice a month these days. (They can come three times if there are five Thursdays in the month.) Until this fall, they had been able to come three times a month. Obviously, there are lots of hungry people in our community these days.

The Gospel tells us to feed the hungry. The Ossining Food Pantry does a great job of fulfilling that mandate. It happens because lots of people give lots of support. These days that support is even more essential.

How can you help?

Donations of money and food are always welcome. Financial support goes to buy the staples that are provided at each visit. Food that is donated is put in a special section where families can choose the things

they prefer. It is always humbling to see people return items from the prepacked bags because they will not use them. They don't want the food to be wasted. People return food for religious reasons as well as personal preference. The section where you can choose what you like is a favorite for our customers.

You can also volunteer your time. There are volunteer opportunities of all sorts. You can work distributing the food, stocking the shelves, keeping records, delivering to shut-ins, or packing bags. Volunteers who speak Spanish are particularly needed on Thursday evening and Friday morning to help with food distribution and interviews. For a complete listing of volunteer opportunities, visit the Food Pantry website at <http://ossiningfoodpantry.org>.

Remember Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

It is very easy to feed the hungry right here at home. Please help.

Barbara Devir, CLP

TOO MUCH ANGER AND NOT ENOUGH OUTRAGE!

When Jesus went into the temple and saw gambling, Mark 11:15, *He became outraged (or angered?) and overthrew the tables* .

The big question for me has always been, and still is, what is the difference between anger and outrage? I believe it to be a spiritual difference.

I believe Jesus was outraged by the behavior of the moneychangers, their trespassing and desecrating of what was Holy. And it made Him angry.

When I see pictures from Haiti, people living in garbage and eating garbage, when I see people tortured and intimidated by stronger powers, when I see the heart-break of mothers separated from their babies and babies crying out to the world for justice, I become almost breathless with outrage and anger.

But anger without outrage is both dangerous and futile. Outrage comes from an inner sense of the holy, both in our personal lives and in the world around us. Anger gives it voice and passion; a passion we do not have to fear. A passion when embraced in Jesus will be able to feed, heal and reconcile the world. Anger is one reaction to outrage but not the only one. Outrage can lead us to a stronger conviction to change whatever it is or to an inner transformation that can make us infinitely more loving because that is what is needed. I am grateful to Tim Ives for having explored this with me.

In Christ, Karin Chaudhari

APRIL ADULT EDUCATION NEWS:

NEW WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB FORMING:

Angela Rogers is leading a Women's Book Group starting Friday, March 27th, at 6:30 pm meeting at Angela's home. The first book to be discussed will be: *The Shack* by William P. Young. The discussion will focus on the characters in the book. Please feel free to contact Angela at: arogers35@hotmail.com or 845-665-9838 with any questions and to sign up. We hope to continue to meet on the 4th Friday of the month!

THE BOOK OF CONFESSIONS COURSE

OFFERING: We began weekly meetings in January at 9:30 a.m. and will conclude on April 5th. Please feel free to come join us Sunday morning before the 10:30 service.

NEW COURSE: UTS CALVIN LECTURES by Prof. Morse of Union Theological Seminary will be downloaded and viewed Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. starting April 19th and continuing through May 31st. This will be facilitated by Tom Davis and Joel Cambron. Tom reminds us that this is the 500th anniversary of Calvin!

LECTURE SERIES: Rev. Dr. Tim Ives concludes his monthly series of lectures on "The Second Death of Christ" on April 17th at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Carriage House. Rev. Ives looks at the diversity and tolerance that was part of the church in the first three centuries of existence. Then a change came with the first Christian Emperor Constantine. Did the resulting orthodoxy help or hurt the ministry of Christ? Refreshments will be provided. Call the office at 941-1142 with any questions.

BIBLE STUDY: Rev. Ives continues to lead weekly Bible study of the Sunday Lectionary Readings every Wednesday at 11 a.m. This is an opportunity to look at the Bible with historical and theological perspectives. Come for discussion only or bring a bag lunch. Please call the office at 941-1142 if interested in attending. Everyone is welcome to join at any time and can find the Lectionary Readings online at www.PCUSA.org by selecting: Devotions and Readings.

POTLUCK DINNER & A MOVIE GROUP: The group met on March 13th to view "The Gin Game." The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 1st at 7 p.m. in the Carriage House Conference room where we will view and discuss "Babette's Feast." Participants may bring themed dishes from the movie. Please contact Kathy Davis at housekyd21@aol.com or #941-5537 if you would like to attend.

SPIRITUAL LIFE DINNERS: continue to meet every first and third Thursdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Dinner is provided by regular participants and all are welcome to come and share in the meal and conversation. Meetings are planned for: April 2nd & 16th and May 7th & 21st.

Spiritual Life Dinners have been ongoing for the last five years and sustained by participants sharing their individual spiritual journeys while sitting around the great big table in Fellowship Hall and enjoying a delicious meal provided by regular participants. We begin with Prayer and Blessing of the Food.

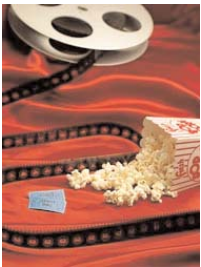
After casual conversation while passing the food around we move into our "true sharing" with each other in turns. Everyone is asked to listen with open and authentic hearts and minds. After everyone has had the opportunity to share, as he or she has felt led, discussions often take place around topics related to someone's sharing and continue over dishwashing. We try to close with prayer around the table before anyone has to leave, around 9 p.m.

For newcomers: we gather at 6:30 p.m. for our opening prayer and pass the food around over casual conversation. Then we often ask newcomers to share a little about their religious background and/or spiritual journey and if appropriate go around the table introducing ourselves to the newcomers by sharing a bit about our religious backgrounds and spiritual journeys. Otherwise we take turns sharing whatever we are inspired to share about our spiritual lives at this moment. Everyone is invited and given the space to share their truth. This makes the space sacred and holy.

Spiritual Life Dinners are an open place for anyone who feels moved to share as well as explore his/her journey. Everyone is invited to join at any time. Spiritual Life has sometimes served as an entrance into the Church through fellowship with a small group. Please feel free to contact Karin Chaudhari at 941-5736 or Amy Kitahata-Sporn at amyks@optonline.net for further explanation or information.

LENTEN MEDITATION: Rev. Ives will lead a special Lenten reflection on Thursday, April 2nd joining the Spiritual Life Dinner meeting. We invite all to come to this special Lenten gathering. Dinner is provided and begins at 6:30 p.m. Please contact the SPC office if you would like to attend.

THE SPC LENDING LIBRARY: is open and located between the Sanctuary and Chapel in The Pastor's Study. Please feel free to sign out & in any books on the shelves stamped "Scarborough Presbyterian Church."



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2- Beth Henriques-McMains
- 7- Barbara Thomas
- 11- Sandy Beach-Nayak
Kim Schuster
Maggie Wright
- 12- Elizabeth Sutterlin
- 13- David Ingraham
- 16- Caleb Iosso
Margaret Wheeler
- 18- Marion Fickenschler
- 19- Ed Croft
Jennifer Phelps
- 20- Tom Evans
Ann Guerra-Ives
Conner Ives
Malcolm
Kostuchenko
- 21- Sean Curran
- 26- Jeff Thomas
- 27- Kelly Wolff



Thomas Family Newsletter

from Woodstock School, Mussoorie India -
March, 2009

Lenten Reflections

In preparing to write this newsletter article, we were struck by this week's Lenten devotional offered by the Presbyterian church denomination at www.pcusa.org.

SCRIPTURE

Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also .-John 12:26

Belief in Christ is a full-body experience. That is, what we decide in our hearts and minds takes on life through our actions and everyday decisions. Jesus said those who would serve him must follow him. Their lives and values reflect the places he would go and do the things he would do. We pray best when we are ready to be God's answer to our prayers. When we cannot be everywhere there are needs, we can find ways to support one another as we each do our part.

Red blossoms on rhododendron trees announce



the beginning of Spring in the Himalayas

PRAYER

Loving God, lead us to those places you would go. Teach us to serve where your Spirit is at work. And in times and places where we cannot go, help us to support the work your people are doing in your name. Amen.

We want to take this opportunity to thank each of our faithful supporters for their prayers, letters of encouragement and financial support that have aided us in serving God in northern India. We read with admiration the church newsletters and notes from individuals that reveal the wonderful service you are doing where you are. Please know that we support your work with our prayers and are grateful that we are partners in Christ's service.

This Lenten season seems like a time of waiting - waiting for the renewal of spring and the Easter promise. We are waiting for God's call for next steps on our faith journey. Son Chris is waiting for college acceptances and graduation ceremonies. Woodstock School is waiting for government approval to renovate the high school boys' dormitory. The country of India is waiting for nation-wide elections. We wait for the economic hard times to be over. We wait in hope.

Lenten hope and Eastertide blessings to each one.

--Namaste,

Jeff, Barb, Chris and Coleman Thomas
Woodstock School
Mussoorie 248179 India

barbarathomas@woodstock.ac.in

Thomas India Mission Fund c/o Doris Kersten, Coordinator

Checks to made out to: Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

(memo line Thomas India Mission Fund)

400 Bedford Rd Pleasantville, NY 10570

SCARBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S CENTER

March/April 2009

Winter is finally over and signs of Spring are all around us! The children at SPCC have been busy learning about colors, shapes, St. Patrick's Day, Spring and the 4's celebrated the 100th Day of School. In April we will be working on: signs of spring, seasons, weather - rain & wind, Passover, planting and we will celebrate "Father's".

We had a wonderful visit from Dr. Ann Guerra. Dr. Ann spoke with the children about healthy dental practices and the importance of eating healthy foods. The children really enjoyed Dr. Ann's visit and especially liked meeting "Freddy the Flossasaurus". We also had two visits from "The Nature of Things", an organization that brings nature and animals to children's programs to educate and inform. The children met:

Ketchup" the tomato frog, "Pidge" the white pigeon,

"Dudley" the blue tongued skink, "Zoe" the ferret "Pixie" the dwarf rabbit, "Peabody" the ball python "Fred" the American Toad, "Merlin" the water dragon, "Hazel" the hedgehog and "Mikey" the red milksnake

On Friday, April 24th we will hold our 3rd Annual **Fun Family Night - Spaghetti Dinner**. There will be

a children's performance by Evy Dee - the Magician Clown to entertain the children. Please RSVP by April 17th. The dinner will cost \$40 per family or \$20 per adult and \$10 per child. We are looking for donations of items to raffle or auction off. If you have tickets or have resources to tap for tickets to a Broadway show, concert or sporting event we would love to hear from you. Other ideas for raffle and auction items could include a donation of your or your company's services. In the past we have received and auctioned off certificates for free cooking demonstrations, an art or craft lesson, doctor or chiropractic exam, yard work, personal invitations or announcements printed just for you and sports lessons. If you would like to make a donation, please give me a call at the school at 941-0025, ext. 17. If you can not attend or do not have an item to donate to the raffle, please feel free to make a monetary donation. All donations are tax deductible. All proceeds from the Parent - Child Spaghetti Dinner will benefit the Children of SPCC. Monies raised will be used to purchase equipment for the classrooms or playground and will go towards our Scholarship program

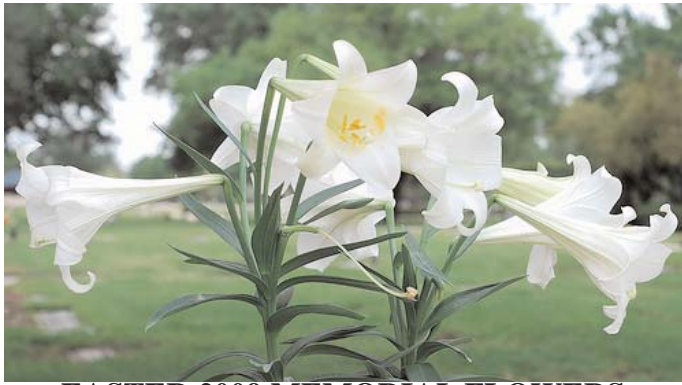
Registration for the 2009 - 2010 school year is still on-going. We are now accepting applications for: an Afternoon Four's Class, which will meet Tuesday through Friday from 12:30 to 3:00pm. an Afternoon Three Year Old Class that meets Tuesday through Friday from 12:30 to 3pm. an Afternoon Two Year Old Class that meets Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday from 12:30 to 2:30pm.

We are currently accepting **Registration for the 2009 Summer Camp** program that begins on Monday, June 15th. Summer Camp runs from June 15th through Friday, August 7th. Summer camp hours are 9:00am to 12:00 noon. The children enjoy lots of time outdoors with water play, sprinklers, bikes, and playground time. Indoors they enjoy arts & crafts, free play, snacks and story time. If you are interested, in any registration information, please give me a call at 941-0025 ext. 17.

Reminder:

All submissions for the Newsletter must be received in the office no later than the 20th of each month to insure timely mailings.

Katya Montalbano, Director



EASTER 2009 MEMORIAL FLOWERS

If you wish to have lilies displayed at Easter time to remember or honor loved ones, or to give thanks to God for the joy of life, please fill in the appropriate spaces below.

Please PRINT names as you wish them to appear
Given by:

In Honor/Memory/Other of Name(s)

Lilies @ \$12.50 each Total \$ _____

Please submit your order by Sunday, April 5th to ensure delivery; bulletin information must be received by Wednesday, April 8th to be included in the Church bulletin on Easter Sunday. Make checks payable to the SPC Deacon's Flower Fund.

I will pick up my lilies following the 10:30 Easter Service.
 I wish to donate my lilies to home bound or nursing homes

Confirmation Retreat

April 24 & 25

**Camp & Conference Center
at Holmes**

This year we have a great group of kids in our Confirmation Program. Tim Ives and Patty Chapman will accompany Julia Anglin, Justin Cho, Emma Codman, Virginia Croft, Conner Ives, Kelly and Kevin Wolff. Everyone attending must complete a registration form at least one week prior to the event.

The Confirmation Programs at Holmes have proven to

be a wonderful opportunity to explore God's creation and the Christian faith, as well as meeting kids from churches throughout the Hudson River and New York City. The following persons have been selected by the congregation who are willing to serve in a leadership capacity. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail if you have a prayer request, an idea, a joy, a concern, a resource or a talent to share.

SPC LEADERSHIP 2009

Rev. Timothy Ives	645-1482	Pastor Tlves4932@aol.com
Elder Barbara Devir	923-3517	CLP Prison Ministry barbdevir@yahoo.com

Church Treasurer

Jim Simmons	762-0979	simmons1aw@hotmail.com
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Elders

Linnea Carnes	941-0996	Personnel; SPCC linnea529@aol.com
Patty Chapman	760-2453	Christian Education pchapman@stonesoupmarketing.com
Karin Chaudhari	941-5736	Congreg'l Life/Flowers karin.chaud@hotmail.com
Steven Cho	762-9129	Buildings & Grounds shcho@optonline.net
Richard Cody	769-5929	Stewardship/Finance rmcody2verizon.net
Connie Curran	941-3622	SPChildren's Center ccscarborough@yahoo.com
Tom Davis	941-5537	Clerk of Session davis@clm.com
Lindsay Farrell	762-6586	Worship & Music lfarrell@ood.org
Will Ingraham	923-3736	Finance, B&G wingraham@mac.com
Amy Kitahata-Sporn	944-0471	Adult Christ. Educ. amyks@optonline.net
John Pavlik	762-4827	Communications john@thepavliks.com
Ed Payne	941-5407	edwin.payne@verizon.com

Deacons

Susan Burlazzi	631-6611	sburlazzi@yahoo.com
Peter Chapman	490-1882	chapman@steinersports.com
Barbara Cody	769-5929	barbarab Cody@yahoo.com
Kathy Davis	941-5537	housekyd21@aol.com
Beth Henriques	762-7847	landairnyc@msn.com
Lucy Milne	373-4133	(President) lucymilne@optonline.net
Claire Payne	941-5407	claire.payne@verizon.net
Angela Rogers	(845)665-9838	(Secretary) arogers35@hotmail.com
Signe Seelinger	941-6862	signek@aol.com
Inge Vought	271-5223	ivought@optonline.net
Debbie Wenninger	769-5476	(Treasurer) wenn27@aol.com
Terri Zuckerberg	762-8222	Theresa907@verizon.net

Congregational Nominating Committee

Lisa Cerny, Michele Croft, Connie Curran, Amy Kitahata-Sporn, Catherine Savell, Jay Sutterlin and Signe Seelinger