



# CONNECTIONS

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR BLINIFEST 2008

Sunday, February 3, in the Parish Hall after the 9:15  
and 11:15 a.m. Liturgies



## Ash Wednesday Liturgies

**Next Wednesday, February 6**

**7:30 a.m.**, followed by hot cross buns & coffee

**12:00 noon**, with hymns

**5:00 p.m.**, especially for children, all welcome

**7:30 p.m.**, with choir

### Our Mission

#### WELCOME

all seekers

#### NURTURE

one another in our  
journeys of faith

#### SERVE

God's world

## Keeping Lent at SPR

**Look inside, beginning on p. 3, for a variety of opportunities for  
spiritual deepening this Lent at St. Paul & the Redeemer.**

## An Invitation to a Holy Lent

**This invitation, read by the presider, begins the Penitential Rite for Ash Wednesday, found in the Book of Common Prayer, page 264.**

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

## **Keeping Lent at St. Paul & the Redeemer**

### **Adult Formation**

#### **Sunday Morning Class - Self-Examination Through Parables**

Most of us can remember learning the parables as children in Sunday School; but can they teach us anything now that we are adults? The adult formation series for Lent will focus on the role of parables in self-examination and Christian formation. The group will study and discuss favorite familiar parables and how they inform our Christian life.

Every Sunday at 10:20 a different St. Paul & the Redeemer Parishioner will introduce the class by discussing a favorite parable and how it has influenced her/his life, as a way of initiating a broader discussion involving participants. Please join us.



February 10

Charlie Cooper

February 17

Megg Hoover

February 24

Laurna Strikwerda

March 2

Naomi Haynes

March 9

Shirley Knight



#### **Tuesday Night Class - Why Did Jesus Have to Die?**

Have you ever asked yourself this question? Or, have you ever asked yourself another question – *Did Jesus have to die?* Are you still struggling with the answers? If so, SPR's Lenten Theology course – *Why Did Jesus Have to Die?* – is the place for you! Join us on Tuesday evenings, 7:30 to 9:00, from February 12 to March 11 in the Lindsey Room, as we explore what Christian thinkers and writers from New Testament times to the present have said about the atonement.

We will begin by studying the most important New Testament passages and then spend the next three weeks looking at the major atonement theories. Finally, we will end with two recent critiques of these theories from a Womanist and a Mennonite. Packets with all the readings will be made available to participants at the first meeting. Please sign up in the Narthex or contact Joshua Daniel at [jvigdan@hotmail.com](mailto:jvigdan@hotmail.com) with any questions, or to let him know you plan on attending so the proper number of packets can be copied.

## ***Keeping Lent, Continued***

### **The Adult Inquirers Class**

A dozen inquirers began inquiring on Tuesday. It's not too late to join this annual exploration of Faith, Belief, and Values. Last week we explored the basic human need to be in community with others. Next Tuesday, we'll look at what it means to be a church, with an emphasis on how Anglicanism does this. What is distinct about this tradition? How is it like other religious approaches? During the next seven weeks we'll explore other topics, including Sin, the Eucharist, and Saviors, on Tuesday nights from 7:30 till 9:00 in the Byllesby Room. At the conclusion those who wish can be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, or renew Baptismal Vows. Baptism will also be offered. If interested, please speak to Jim Steen or email him at [sjs@sp-r.org](mailto:sjs@sp-r.org), or just come.

---

## **Opportunities for Worship and Prayer**

### **Morning Prayer**

Wednesday Mornings at 7:30 in the Chapel. SPR Young Adults Mark Hopwood and Adam Yates have committed themselves to leading the traditional Anglican "morning office" during Lent. This 30-minute service of canticles, readings, and prayers is a good way to start the day and to get a mid-week refresher. For those who can stay, coffee and pastries will be served afterwards in the Byllesby Room.

### **Centering Prayer**

Tuesday and Thursday Mornings at 7:30. This 20 minute time of silent group meditation will take place during Lent in the Byllesby Room. Participants often describe Centering Prayer as both challenging and rewarding. It involves being silent and emptying our minds in order to create room for the Spirit to enter and "work on" us. Simple instructions will be provided at the beginning of each session.

## ***Keeping Lent, Continued***

### **Opportunities for Giving**

Every year during Lent we support mission in our local community and beyond by giving to one, two, or three organizations that serve. This year we have chosen to support Shoemith School, The Hyde Park & Kenwood Hunger Programs, and St. Etienne School in Haiti. Envelopes will be provided with a place for you to check the outreach of your choice; or simply make a note on the memo line of your check.

#### **Shoemith School Uniforms**

When we asked Shoemith Principal Pat Watson how we could best support the school during Lent, she replied that helping provide uniforms for their Basketball Program would be a godsend. We already enjoy a vital relationship with Shoemith. This is another opportunity for SPR to serve a nearby neighbor in a tangible way. \$400 will make a big difference to Shoemith kids.

#### **The Hyde Park & Kenwood Hunger Programs**

Every month the Food Pantry and the Open Kitchen Lunch Program serve over 500 people who live between 39th and 60th Streets, between the Lake and Cottage Grove Avenue, and beyond. SPR volunteers already purchase and prepare lunch for Open Kitchen guests once a month. Recently, our Middle School Youth served lunch to the guests. This Lent we want to support both the Open Kitchen and the Food Pantry financially. There is always a need for more money to support these programs, which cost \$110,000 per year to operate.

#### **St. Etienne School in Haiti**

St. Etienne Church, Buteau, Haiti, where SPR has been involved for nine years, runs a thriving school for hundreds of poor children. The need for scholarships is endless. Every gift will help send a child to school at St. Etienne.

## **Annual Giving Update**

**As of January 30, 172 households have pledged nearly \$480,000 for 2008.**

We're inching toward our goal of \$510,000.00. Thanks to all of you who have already made a pledge for 2008. We are still 22 pledges short of where we were at this time last year. If you haven't pledged yet, please do, as soon as possible. Your generosity makes possible the vital mission of SPR.

---

### **SPR Pledging Facts**

If you're interested in the details of giving at SPR, here are some specifics:

- A huge percentage of the income that supports the work of SPR comes from pledges: Of a total annual budget of \$620,000, \$510,000 comes from pledges.
- The average 2008 pledge from 2007 pledging households is \$3,002.
- The Median 2008 pledge is \$1,200.
- 64 households have increased an average of \$699 for a total of \$44,720.
- There are 20 new pledges averaging \$ 1,192 for a total of \$23,825.
- 27 households decreased their pledges for a loss of \$16,416.
- 27 household have moved away or chosen not to pledge for a loss of \$44,941.
- 17 households who pledged last year and many new households are still invited to pledge for 2007.





## **Coming Attractions**

### **BliniFest 2008**

This Sunday, following the 9:15 and 11:15 liturgies, before we start the Great Fast of Lent, come celebrate the end of Epiphany the Russian way, with Maslenitsa—Butter Week (from the Russian word “maslo” for butter)! Traditionally, the way to cram all the eggs, caviar, butter, sour cream, etc. possible into your diet and to eliminate them from your refrigerator, before they become forbidden in Lent, is to eat piles of blini (yeast-raised savory “pancakes”) heaped with all these delights at every meal.

Harold Olivey is organizing a crack team of prep cooks to prepare a traditional Russian Blini feast for Sunday, February 3, Want to help? Please call him at 312-328-0697 or email him at [heolivey@alumni.ncsuledu](mailto:heolivey@alumni.ncsuledu). Especially needed are helpers before and during each Sunday morning pig-out. Of course, you can also just show up in the kitchen on Sunday Morning.

### **Absalom Jones Day Celebration**

Sunday, February 17, the Union of Black Episcopalians will sponsor a celebration of Absalom Jones, the first African American Episcopal Priest, at 3:00 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 3801 S. Wabash Avenue.

The preacher will be The Rev. Petero Sabune, Chaplain of Sing Sing Correctional Facility in New York State, and one of the candidates for Bishop of Chicago in the recent election. Fr. Sabune is a charismatic speaker. Everyone is invited to attend.

### **Fair Trade News**

We are one of 16 faith based organizations that are members of Chicago Fair Trade, joining 23 Fair Trade businesses, such as Maya Works and Marketplace India, 13 non-profits, such as Little Black Pearl Art and Design Center (47th Street) and Chicago Jobs with Justice, and 3 University and student organizations. The push is on to help Chicago become a Fair Trade City, taking our lead from the successful movement in the United Kingdom.

At SPR, Fair Trade Products will next be sold on February 10 & 24 and March 16.

## ***Coming Attractions, Continued***



### **Palm Branches Needed**

Help! We need palms branches. Please bring your old palms in by February 3 so that we can burn them to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. There will be a receptacle in the Narthex.



### **Easter Baptisms**

The only time of the year when we don't baptize is Lent. That's because from early times Lent has been the season of baptismal preparation. In the early Church, people were only baptized during Easter Season, and it's still a wonderful time to be baptized. If you or your children aren't yet baptized, we invite you to consider Baptism during the Great 50 Days of Easter, beginning with the Great Vigil of Easter on the night of March 22. If you're interested, please contact Jim ([sjs@sp-r.org](mailto:sjs@sp-r.org), 773-624-3185 ext. 222) or Peter ([pcl@sp-r.org](mailto:pcl@sp-r.org), 773-624-3185 ext. 223).

## SPR People

### February Birthdays

02/01 James Curtis Morin  
 02/02 Alexandra Tongsgard  
 02/05 Lynn Lanfair  
 Christian Sutter  
 Gloria Ajayi  
 02/06 Clarence Crooks  
 George Walker  
 Margaret Schneemann  
 02/07 Victor Mowatt  
 Kenita Ajayi  
 02/08 Charmaine Lemmie  
 Chris Lanfair  
 02/09 Mia Antonia Vitale  
 02/12 Jean Snowden  
 Barbara Creighton  
 Beverly Lane  
 02/13 Ron Gatton  
 02/14 Gretchen Eng  
 Laura Maule  
 02/15 Christiane Ronneberg  
 Walker Thisted  
 Gabrielle Gorham  
 02/17 Lyriss Clark  
 Nicole Hubbard  
 Maya Kirby  
 Claude Dwyer  
 Leila Adams Cowan  
 02/19 Louis Materre  
 Carol Pilot  
 02/21 Peter Lane  
 Susan Swanton  
 Muriel Wilson  
 02/22 Teagan Bigger  
 Kelen Seymour  
 Paul (PJ) Karafiol  
 02/24 Tina Dugas  
 02/25 Jeanette Dibble  
 Heidi Haverkamp  
 02/26 Eric Clark, Jr.  
 Malitta Engstrom  
 02/27 Steve Foster  
 02/28 Donald Stewart

### February Anniversaries

Feb. 3 Maria & C. Lincoln Thomas  
 Feb. 13 Andy & Alexis Pruitt  
 Feb. 14 Robert Nelson & Margaret Olin, Jim Steen &  
 Tom Chesrown  
 Feb. 16 Ron Gatton & Leslie Pilot-Gatton, Dennis &  
 Delores Irvin

### Thank you to...

... Robert Davis and Richard Lundgren, who are responsible for the beautiful new *Book of Gospels* that adorns the church. The book was purchased from gifts made by friends in thanksgiving for Robert and Richard on the occasion of their marriage.

...all those who hosted coffee hour in January:

Jan. 6 Vinita Wright  
 Jan. 13 David & Sharla Stewart  
 Harold Olivey  
 Jan. 20 Kate Baldwin  
 Cheryl VanOrsby & Julienne Collins.

... all those who assisted with the Annual Meeting: Anne Marie Kirby, who was in charge of the event, Harold Olivey, Kim Hart, and Charlie Cooper who helped serve and clean up, and all those who brought food for the bountiful potluck. As always there was food in abundance.

... to all those who assisted with Project Renewal, Especially Harold Olivey and Kate Spellman, organizers, and the many others who volunteered.

### Congratulations to...

...Katharine Lee Christensen and Valencia Hearon, who were baptized on January 13, the Baptism of Christ.

...the newly-elected Vestry Members: Kim Hart, Steve Heyman, and Dave Stewart.

## *Vestry Meeting Highlights*

**Present:** Jim Steen (Presiding), Rahsaan Clark Morris, Kate Collins, Hank Underwood, Tim Bohrer, Gail Williams, Beth Angell, Ruth Woll, Charlene Jones-Foster  
**Excused:** Eric Pelander, Chris Nippert Eng; Barbra Goering

**Opening Bible Study**, led by Jim, focused on Matthew 6.25-33, relating to the great spirit of generosity that is prevailing at SPR.

Beth moved, Ruth seconded to approve the **minutes** the Vestry's special meeting on 1/12/08 to approve a package of approximately \$75,000 for the new Director of Music, Brian Bloye. Brian is due to start 3/1/2008.

Hank moved, Gail seconded and we approved the December minutes.

**Jim's report:** December attendance held even. Christmas services saw an increase in attendance; Stewardship Campaign is getting closer to \$500,000 goal; we have \$462,000 in pledges as of today, still almost \$40,000 from our goal.

**Nominating Committee Report:** For 3 year term on the Vestry: David Stewart, Kim Hart, and Steve Heyman; Gail Williams and Barbara Goering for a second term as Wardens.

Tim moved, Rahsaan seconded. The Slate was accepted. (Quite happily!) Only disappointment: On behalf of the Committee, Jim approached 5 members of SPR who are persons of color, each of whom turned him down for this upcoming election.

Jim expressed delight that, if approved by the Vestry, (!) Tim has agreed to serve as Treasurer.

**Capital Campaign:** Tim reported that \$1,000,000 has been pledged. Many gifts have been paid upfront. We currently have more than \$500,000 in the bank from the campaign.

**Mortgage Update:** Tim reported. The Hyde Park Bank has agreed to renegotiate the current mortgage to very positive effect for us. The final terms will be made available as soon as Tim has confirmed all the details.

**Equity Report:** Hank reported. The Schwab and Vanguard accounts are down a little, as one might expect given the volatility in the market, but they have dropped less than the market as a whole. We have \$120,000 in reserve for the air conditioning fund. Hank suggested opening an account at the Hyde Park Bank to facilitate the mortgage application/payments.

**Budget vs. Actual:** Jim reporting. 2007 bottom line: Income is under budget by \$8,659, which is good as we did not have our auction this year, due to the Capital Campaign. Pledges came in within a few hundred dollars of budget. Net overall surplus/loss came to a deficit of 28,534.

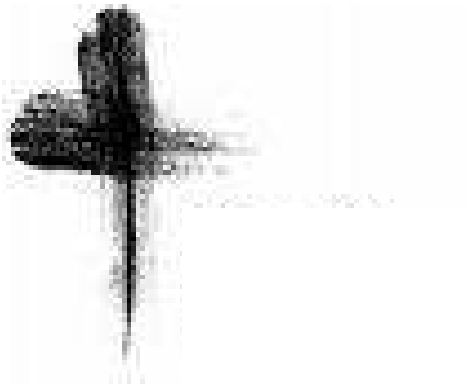
**Budget 2008:** Jim/Hank/Tim reporting. We project \$4,000 less in total income, due mostly to the diminishing Lilly Fund Grant. There was consensus that we go to the Annual Parish Meeting with a balanced budget. The 2008 budget shows a surplus of about \$3,000. Hank moved/Gail seconded. We approved recommending this 2008 balanced budget to the Parish on 1/27/2008.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by Kate Collins, Clerk pro-tem

*Attendance in January***WELCOME!**

<b>Sun</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>Ave</b>	
<b>2008</b>	275	362	265	277	295	The following newcomers and guests made themselves known to us in January:
<b>2007</b>	294	294	279	256	281	Barton and Michelle Dassinger and daughters Sarah and Sage
<b>2006</b>	156	282	300	287/228	251	Eric Martin and Son Sullivan
<b>2005</b>	251	237	228	200	229	Kate Flinner
<b>2004</b>	236	241	251	210	235	Jennie Kitch
<b>2003</b>	196	208	216	215	209	Sarah Rafferty
<b>2002</b>	248	224	209	197	220	Karla Heuer
<b>2001</b>	243	223	202	199	217	Tim Heuer
<b>2000</b>	126	214	172	130	161	We are also delighted to have with us all
<b>1999</b>	42	131	110	139	106	those who have not filled out a
<b>1998</b>	111	87	113	79	98	Newcomer Card.



**The Church of St. Paul & the Redeemer**

An Episcopal Community in Hyde Park-Kenwood

4945 South Dorchester, Chicago, Illinois 60615

Phone: 773-624-3185 • Fax: 773-624-3676

E-mail: [info@sp-r.org](mailto:info@sp-r.org) • Website: [www.sp-r.org](http://www.sp-r.org)

**Staff**

S. James Steen, Rector

Peter C. Lane, Assistant Rector

Jack Seymour, Deacon

Michael Kozakowski, Organist

David Bashwiner, Adult Choirs Director

Robyn French, Treble Choir Director

Irene Claude, St. Nicholas Choir Director

Frenchelle Hoskin, Administrative Assistant

Daryl Ramsey, Financial Secretary

Virginia Woodward, Nursery Director

Charline Johnson, Nursery Assistant

Ron Hoskin, Sexton

Jake Bitner and Donna lalongo, Parish Interns

**Vestry**

Barbra Goering and Gail Williams, Wardens

Kim Hart • Steve Heyman • David Stewart

Hank Underwood • Ruth Woll • Kate Collins

Beth Angell • Charline Jones-Foster • Eric Pelander

Tyler Simons, Clerk

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Sunday Worship**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (no music)

9:15 & 11:15 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist, Rite II

With Children's Chapel

10:20 a.m. Christian Formation for all ages

Nursery care available 8:45 a.m.—12:45 p.m.