



# Bellringer

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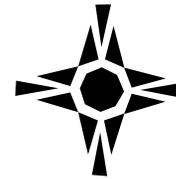
March 2006

Interim Pastor:  
The Rev. Betsy Johns Roadman

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church ♦ 6 Old Post Road North, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520 ♦ 914-271-3501 (Office)

## March 2006

1	Wednesday	12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist II First Wednesday following service - Light luncheon (for those who are not fasting) and conversation about Lenten observances and an ongoing rule of life.
		7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist II
		7:00 p.m.	Taizé service at Mariandale Conference Center, Highland Ave., Ossining
3	Friday	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
4	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II
5	<b><u>The First Sunday in Lent</u></b>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
		9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II
7	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	EFM Class
8	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Taizé service at Mariandale Conference Center, Highland Ave., Ossining
10	Friday	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
11	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II
12	<b><u>The Second Sunday in Lent</u></b>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
		9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II
		11:15 a.m.	Youth Council Meeting
14	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	EFM Class
15	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Taizé service at Mariandale Conference Center, Highland Ave., Ossining
		8:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
17	Friday	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
18	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II, Teresa McGee preaching, followed by book signing
19	<b><u>The Third Sunday in Lent, Teresa McGee preaching, each service followed by coffee hour and book signing</u></b>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I,
		9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II
		3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Walking Together program at Temple Israel
21	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	EFM Class
22	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Taizé service at Mariandale Conference Center, Highland Ave., Ossining
24	Friday	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
25	Saturday	9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Lenten Quiet Day in the parish hall
		5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II and Healing Service, followed by service of Holy Baptism
26	<b><u>The Fourth Sunday in Lent</u></b>		
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
		10:00 a.m.	Children's Eucharist (No Sunday School)
		3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Walking Together program at Temple Israel
28	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	EFM Class
29	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Taizé service at Mariandale Conference Center, Highland Ave., Ossining
31	Friday	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross



**Walking Together, a program to bring Christian, Jewish and Muslim families together,** will begin its seventh year in March. The program is open to fourth through seventh graders and their parents. Register soon since space is limited. Please call Rachel Norfleet (271-0812) or Becky Haynes (271-3166) to RSVP or see the back table in the church for more information.

**St. Augustine's House  
March 2006**

Dear friends:

In a sermon a couple of weeks ago, I talked about working on a mission statement for my life, an assignment that was given to me by my "personal coach" in 2004. In the sermon, I didn't say what my mission statement is, as I encouraged parishioners to consider what their own might be.

Last week in the office, our parish administrator, Jenn Latham, told me that she believed that the core of my ministry during my time as interim pastor of St. Augustine's has been to empower people for ministry. I smiled to myself at that remark, because my mission statement, which I had not told Jenn, is this: "To build community through affirming peoples' gifts."

This is, truly, what I've been about during my time with you, and it will be my focus during our remaining time together. My hope and prayer for us as we enter into this holy season of Lent is that we will, even more, build, deepen, and strengthen this beloved faith community. As we do so, we will be empowered to serve each other and to be the light of Christ in the world.

The gifts of St. A's parishioners are many and varied. Will you share those gifts with our community during Lent? As we continue our tradition of gathering together during Lent to participate in a "house church," we need those with the gift of hospitality to host a potluck lunch, or tea, or dinner in their home. We need those with interest and creativity in leading worship to offer a short, simple worship experience during the house church gathering. We need those with skills in small group facilitation to lead a discussion on some aspect of our life of faith, as we gather together. I have plenty of resources to share, as needed, for worship and discussion ...you're on your own in the cooking department! Please indicate your interest and availability by signing up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the parish hall, or by calling the parish office (271-3501).

Theologian Paul Tillich has written that the primary work of the Spirit is the creation of a new community, the church. What a privilege and a responsibility for us to be part of what God is about here at St. A's.

Blessings -

Betsy

**Please note** that Betsy's sermon each week will be posted on our website, [www.stacroton.org](http://www.stacroton.org), and copies will be available the following Sunday on the back table in our sanctuary.

**Please keep those who are grieving the loss of a loved one in your prayers**, especially the Danett family for the loss of Victor's father, Chester and the Moore/Rosenow family for the loss of Chris' mother, Ruth Moore.

**The Diocesan Commission on Criminal Justice** welcomes the participation of anyone interested in prison ministry. Please contact The Rev. Canon Charles Pridemore (914-941-0806) regarding the meeting schedule.

**Ossining Prison Ministries at Sing Sing** offers hospitality to family members visiting inmates as well as a children's program for those whose relatives are incarcerated, on Saturday and Sunday mornings. For more information, please contact Betsy Roadman.

**Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison** offers college courses to inmates at Sing Sing. There are many ways to be involved. Call Hudson Link for more information (941-0794) or check out their website at [www.hudsonlink.org](http://www.hudsonlink.org).

**First Wednesday for March and April:** Following the Ash Wednesday 12:00 Noon service we will gather for a light luncheon and a discussion of traditional Lenten observances. Our April "First Wednesday" celebration will be held on March 29th instead of April 5th. We will meet at the church at 11:45 a.m. to drive to the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers for lunch, followed by the *Sounds of Westchester* concert by members of "Music from Copland House," playing selections from Copland, Gershwin and others. Cost is \$3.00 plus cost of lunch (or you can bring your own bag lunch if you wish). Please sign up on the bulletin board in the parish hall, or call the parish office at 271-3501 to RSVP by March 26.

**St. A's will celebrate the publication of parishioner Teresa Rhodes McGee's latest book, *Transforming Trauma: A Path Toward Wholeness***, the weekend of March 18 and 19. Teresa will preach at all three services. A book signing and sale will follow each service in the parish hall. Teresa has graciously offered to donate \$5.00 from the sale of each book to Christ Church in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, which was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. From the back cover of *Transforming Trauma*: "Teresa McGee looks at the many wounds that shatter the human heart and asks, 'Where is God in all this?' Drawing on experience, psychology, and spirituality, McGee sheds new light on individual and

*communal trauma to guide readers to the healing power within, and transform our suffering into compassionate witness to the truth."*

### Lent at St. A's

- **Lent is an opportunity for a spiritual pilgrimage for Christians.** Living Lent intentionally may put us in a position to hear and know God in ways that we have not heard or known God before. It may be the beginning of a spiritual healing and renewal for which we have longed.  
To help us in our pilgrimage, devotional materials for individuals, for families, and for children are available on the table at the back of the church. Also available is a brochure describing our services of worship during Lent, as well as special opportunities for fellowship and for spiritual growth. Please make use of all of these resources as we journey through Lent together.
- **House Church:** We will gather in one another's homes in the manner of the early church to share a potluck dinner, worship and discussion. See the parish hall board to sign up to participate.
- **Stations of the Cross:** Walk the way of Christ in "Stations of the Cross"--a service of remembrance, prayer and rededication, Fridays at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to lead this service one Friday, please sign up in the parish hall.
- **Please join us for our Lenten Quiet Day on Saturday, March 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
This Quiet Day will focus on finding non-intellectual ways to be with God, to be in the present moment, and to be ourselves. The day will be scheduled to allow plenty of time for quiet contemplation, and all activities will be optional. Activities to be offered include meditation, looking at images, drawing, gentle consideration of how our prayer lives can be deepened, and spiritual direction.  
The Quiet Day will be led by Lindsay Boyer, a spiritual director who specializes in working with people who are uncomfortable with institutional religion. A light lunch will be served. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the parish hall, or call the parish office at 271-3501.

**Hurricane Relief Road Trip:** St. A's may be sending a group of volunteers to Christ Church in Mississippi during the Easter recess (April 9-15). Room and board will be provided at Coast Episcopal School by Lutheran-Episcopal Services. Transportation arrangements, options and costs will depend on the level of interest. Please sign up in the parish hall if you wish to participate.

**St. A's Bible Study will not meet on March 25<sup>th</sup> as previously scheduled, but will meet the following Saturday April 1 at 3:30 in the parish hall.** The topic for discussion is the Passion in John's Gospel. Reading list is on the table in the back of the church.

**Support Connection** offers free support services for those suffering from breast and ovarian cancer. For upcoming events and more information see the bulletin board in the parish hall or [www.supportconnection.org](http://www.supportconnection.org).

**Youth Council elected new officers at our Annual Meeting on January 29.** They are as follows: Chelsea Westphal, President, Stephanie Lawton, Vice President, Meredith West, Secretary, Claire Leyden, Treasurer.

**Croton's Interfaith Council** has been meeting regularly to discuss taking action to stop the genocide in Darfur Sudan. If you would like more information, contact Laura Seitz or call the church office (271-3501).

### Vestry Notes from the February meeting:

- The search committee will be giving vestry the final three names for prospective rectors the week of February 20. Interviews will be scheduled there after.
- Pledges are in much better shape than a month ago due to '05 monies being paid in '06 and more parishioners pledging mid year.
- The new vestry committee chairs are:  
Finance/Stewardship - Dana Garrett  
Fundraising - Terri Huntington  
Community Building - Loren Zack  
Parish Ed - Gerald Ardito  
Youth Council - Duncan Cleary  
Outreach - Ty West, Penny Morgan  
Buildings - Louise Levey  
Grounds - Laura Seitz
- Plans are underway to produce a new Parish Directory. Hopefully, photos can be taken in May. Loren Zack is coordinating this with Olen Mills
- Positions sought - new thrift shop coordinator  
new acolyte coordinator

Respectfully submitted,

*Chris Moore, Clerk of the Vestry*

### **Treasurer's Message: January Operations**

Financial operations for the first month of the year are strong. Expenses are in line with expectations and revenues have been strong, especially pledges (there are no fundraising efforts during January). At year end 2005, pledges were over \$8,000 behind budget, but of that amount close to \$4,500 came in during January of 2006.

**At our annual meeting in January, elections were held for the positions of Senior Warden and for five open Vestry positions.** The following are the names of those parishioners who are currently serving as wardens and members of the Vestry, as well as their areas of focus:

<b>Informational Chart of Parish Responsibilities</b>		
Senior Warden – Gerald Ardito	Jr. Warden – Ty West	Fundraising – Terri Huntington
Outreach – Ty West and Penny Morgan	Buildings and Grounds – Louise Levey and Laura Seitz	Long Range Planning – Ty West
Finance – Dana Garrett	Liaison to Youth Council – Duncan Cleary	<b>Non Vestry position</b>
Parish Education – Gerald Ardito	Community Building – Loren Zack	Stewardship – Gail Wilson

Interim Pastor:                    The Rev. Betsy Johns Roadman

Rector Emeritus:                The Rev. David B. Wayne

2006 VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden:                    Gerald Ardito                    Junior Warden:                Ty West  
 Treasurer:                         Holly Anzani                    Clerk:                             Chris Moore

Terri Huntington	Ellen Irvine	Duncan Cleary
Penny Morgan	Louise Levey	Laura Seitz
Dana Garrett	Chris Moore	Loren Zack

Meeting Schedule: Vestry, 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.

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 6 Old Post Road, North  
 Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520  
 www.stacroton.org

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