NEWSLETTER
for August, A.D. 2008

QUOTE FOR THE MONTH

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. - *Margaret Mead*

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our weekday services, Tuesday Vespers and Wednesday Communion are suspended until September. Sunday Worship is being held in the air-conditioned chapel.

CLUB FOR KIDS & YOUTH GROUP

Summer is here and our kids are on holiday. Club for Kids and Youth Group will return on Friday, October 3, at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor. If you can't wait three whole months for the return of Club, join us the week of August 25 for Vacation Bible School.

SUMMER YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT WORK TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS & MISSISSIPPI

It's been three years since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and the flood that destroyed the homes of our neighbors on the Gulf Coast. Currently, we have twenty-eight committed volunteers for our August work trip to New Orleans and Mississippi. If you would like to volunteer, call Jim Sterner at the church office immediately. This trip is a joint effort among West End, Fort Washington and Middle Collegiate Churches. We will depart from New York on August 18 and arrive home on August 24.

Jim and the "kids" from the Talent Show thank their many contributors for helping raise over four thousand dollars to defray the costs of their trip. Further donations are needed and would be most welcome.

CHOIR SCHEDULE

Look for next season's rehearsal schedule in the September Newsletter.

WONDER HOUR

During the Wonder Hour of Adult Education, 9:45 every Sunday morning in August, Pastor Robert will lead "Bible Basics". This informal Bible study will be held in Room 25.

Continuing in September, as we enter this time of transition and consider our future direction, we as a congregation have an opportunity to focus on the essential elements of our church.

What makes a church unique?
What makes any church a church?

We will open the new season with a four-week series featuring Dr. Roger Haight, S.J., visiting professor of systematic theology at Union Theological Seminary, on what it means to be a church.

Come join us for a thought-provoking series!

YOGA

The yoga class is on recess through August and will reconvene on Wednesday, September 3.

SERVICE PROGRAMS

Saturday Center resumes on September 6.

Tuesday Supper Center will resume on September 2.

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations to **Debbie and Gilbert Lee Foon** on the birth of **Jayima Jordin Lee Foon** on July 25! Jayima weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces. **Jeanine Lee Foon** is the big sister.

The Church unites in sympathy to **Betty Brummett and Albert Watson** on the death of Betty's mother, **Dr. Catherine Bell Brummett.**

OUR ARTISTS AT WORK

Christa Scott-Reed is in Seattle, Washington rehearsing the role of Diane in *The Little Dog Laughed* by Douglas Carter Beane for the INTIMAN THEATRE. Previews begin on August 15, and the play opens on August 20, running until September 13.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our sixth annual Vacation Bible School for first through eighth graders will be the week of August 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor and Chapel. Vacation Bible School is a unique performing arts-oriented camp where a new Bible story is learned each day. Through the five-day curriculum, children learn story-telling, singing, drama, dance, and arts and crafts. We also enjoy recreational games in our neighborhood parks. A morning snack and lunch are provided, as well as all Vacation Bible School supplies. Call Jim Sterner at the church office to save your child's spot for what many of our kids call "the most fun I have all summer."

NEW COMMITTEE LEADERS

Katherine Charapko is the new leader of the Hospitality Committee. Pat Whitsett, who has been Hospitality Committee chair for several years, will be taking over leadership of the Communications Committee in this exciting time of change and growth in the area of communications for all four churches and Intersections. Both Katherine and Pat welcome interested members to serve on these committees.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

For those interested in church membership at West End Collegiate Church, please speak to Naomi Niles about the Inquirer's Class. We will be setting dates for the next series of classes in the fall.

CLASSES FOR TUTORING

For those who are interested in tutoring, our instructor Dan Clancy is available to train tutors this summer. The classes (seven) could be either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 depending on the availability of interested participants. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn how to give help to children who have reading difficulties and who develop not only stronger reading skills, but also confidence in their own abilities. We have some great success stories of children's improvement in school work and are hoping to help many more children in this way. Please email Anne Todd at atodd@westendchurch.org or call (212-787-1566) if you'd like to receive training this summer.