

# news

WEST END COLLEGIATE CHURCH

368 West End Avenue  
(at Seventy-seventh Street)  
New York, New York  
10024

Telephone (212) 787-1566

## **NEWSLETTER** for February, A.D. 2010

### **QUOTE FOR THE MONTH**

“With malice toward none; charity toward all.” -*Abraham Lincoln*

### **CONSISTORY**

The local Consistory will meet on Monday, February 22 at 6:45 p.m. at West End Collegiate Church.

### **HOLIDAYS**

The Church Office and programs will be closed on Monday, February 15 in observance of Presidents' Day.

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

**February 16 at 7:00 p.m.**

Join us for delicious pancakes, fruit, nut toppings, real maple syrup, breakfast sausages and a variety of mustards. If you'd like to get some exercise flipping pancakes, see Katherine Charapko to volunteer.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 17**

Agape Meal at 6:00 p.m.  
Communion Service (ashes available) at 7:30 p.m.

### **SERVICE PROGRAMS**

Tuesdays - SUPPER CENTER for the hungry and homeless  
4:00 p.m. – Bible Study  
4:30 p.m. – Supper

Saturdays - SATURDAY CENTER for the mentally and emotionally healing  
12 Noon to 3:00 p.m.

### **SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE THEMES**

- February 07 Message: “Emotionally Healthy Spirituality”  
Isaiah 6:1-9a, Luke 5:1-11
- February 14 Message: “Domesticating God”  
Exodus 34:29-35; II Corinthians 3:12-4:2
- February 21 The First Sunday in Lent  
Message: “Challenges and Clarifying Our Future”  
Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Luke 4:1-13
- February 28 The Second Sunday in Lent  
YOUTH SERVICE

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR**

Help for the People of Haiti

We have all watched in disbelief the devastation of the earthquake in Haiti. As images of the aftermath stream across the television and internet, we catch glimpses of the untold destruction and loss of life. Being the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti does not have the resources or infrastructure to respond. Before the earthquake, life was tenuous and difficult. Now, helplessness and hopelessness have begun to sink in.

This is one of those situations in which we realize that not only can we help, we must help! We are now receiving funds that we'll direct to our relief agency, the Reformed Church World Service. They are using their partner, Church World Service (CWS), to deliver immediate help. CWS has staff in the region which positions them to align support with the greatest needs. Currently, the funds received are being used to provide essentials such as water, temporary shelter, health assistance, and baby kits. This is critical to preventing further loss of life. West End is part of the ministries of the Collegiate Churches of New York, who have already designated \$50,000 for Haiti. Through the individual ministries of the Collegiate Church, we are seeking to raise an additional \$50,000. We invite you to join with us in helping the people of Haiti.

This is only the first step. The devastation is so great that it will take a sustained commitment to help the Haitians recover. May God use our thoughts, prayers, and concerted action to bring help and hope in Haiti.

Donations can be sent to West End Collegiate Church with the designation “Haiti.” - *The Reverend Michael S. Bos*

### **THE WEST END COLLEGIATE CHURCH BOOK CLUB**

The Book Club will meet Friday evening, February 12 at 7:00 at The Gorsuch House, 306 West 77 Street. The book to be discussed is *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. The March meeting is Friday, March 12; we will discuss *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. Questions? Kay Uytterlinde may be reached at [uyterlinde@hotmail.com](mailto:uyterlinde@hotmail.com) or 212-787-1285.

### **THE WEST END PEACE SERIES**

Intersections, West End Collegiate Church and the Collegiate School will present The West End Peace Series beginning on Thursday, February 11, 7:00 to 8:30, with The Heart of Conflict: Becoming Students of Peace. Our guest speakers are Sharareh Esfandiari, a Shi'ite Muslim from Iran, and Ezekial Abdullahi Babgario, a Baptist Christian who resides in Nigeria. Musical performers include Fred Johnson, Victor See Yuen, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and Daniel Kelly.

### **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Adult Christian Education class meets every Sunday morning from 9:45 to 10:45 in Room 25. Beginning February 7, Dr. Roger Haight will lead a series of six workshops on “Spirituality for All People.” What *is* spirituality, and how does one develop spiritually? Why is spirituality so important to so many people who have questions and reservations about religion? What forms does it take? How does it relate to the faith of Christians? Dr. Haight is returning, having previously led classes in which we explored “What Makes a Church a Church?” Those who attended those sessions know that he is provocative, thoughtful, and straightforward in his approach and his perspective, and engages the class in a lively discussion. Please come join us!

On March 14, our Pastor, Michael Bos, will lead a discussion on his experience in Oman, providing insights into the work of the RCA there, the society in which he operated, and how the Al-Amarna Center developed. We will resume the series on spirituality with Professor Haight on March 21.

### **LENTEN FILM SERIES**

The Worship Committee is presenting a Lenten Film Series on the theme of redemption. The films are “The Front”, “On the Waterfront”, and “Tender Mercies”. They will be screened on three Friday evenings, February 19, March 5 and March 19, at 7:00, and each will be followed by a discussion. If you would like to attend any or all of these events, please sign up on the list at the back of the sanctuary.

## **FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY**

There will be several opportunities during the coming weeks to contribute the cost of flowers in memory of loved ones or in celebration of a family event such as a birth or an anniversary. If you are interested in providing for flowers that decorate our sanctuary for Sunday worship, you may sign up on the sheet on the back table for the specific Sunday you prefer or call Karen in the church office at 212-787-1566.

## **INQUIRERS' CLASS**

The Membership Development Committee will host an Inquirers' Class on Sunday morning, February 21 from 9:45 to 10:45 in Room 23. (Childcare will be available.)

## **OUR ARTISTS AT WORK**

**Terry Schreiber** will direct *The Cherry Orchard* by Anton Chekhov (a new adaptation by Carol Rocamora) at the T. Schreiber Studio, running from February 25 through April 4. Postcards with detailed information are available in the back of the sanctuary.

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC**

Join us on Sunday, February 14 at 11:00 a.m., when our worship will include choral music by the Harvard University Chamber Singers. The group will explore choral works from the *a cappella* repertoire, particularly the early Renaissance. They have toured the United States, Canada, France, Spain, Portugal, and Australia. We look forward to glorious music with the Harvard Chamber Singers and their participation in the service that morning.

Looking ahead, on Sunday, May 2 at 3:00 p.m. we will welcome Marble Collegiate Church's stellar Festival of Voices, who will join forces with the West End Octet and Choir in a joint performance.

If you enjoy singing and are familiar with music notation, why not consider singing with the West End Choir this season? Your participation can be adjusted to your own schedule. Speak to Cynthia Powell or email her at [cpowell@westendchurch.org](mailto:cpowell@westendchurch.org). See you in church, --*Cynthia Powell, Minister of Music*

## **LOOKING AHEAD...**

Mark your calendars for the **Warwick Retreat** on June 18, 19 and 20, 2010. Further information will be detailed in subsequent newsletters.

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Positive and Inclusive