

NEWSLETTER

for June, A.D. 2008

QUOTE FOR THE MONTH

“Cowardice asks the question 'Is it safe?' Expediency asks the question 'Is it politic?' Vanity asks the question 'Is it popular?' But, conscience asks the question, 'Is it right?' And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right.”
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

CONSISTORY

The full Consistory of the Collegiate Church will meet on Monday, June 2 at Marble Collegiate Church. The Consistory will honor Allen Sever for his years of service, and Allen will play for them on the organ in the Marble sanctuary. The local Consistory of West End Collegiate Church will meet at West End on Tuesday, June 17 at 6:45 p.m. The Classis of New York will meet Tuesday, June 24 at 6:00 p.m. at the Marble Collegiate Church.

CHOIR SCHEDULE

In recognition of Ken Gorsuch's last service, we would like to invite all current and past volunteer choir members to join the Octet and sing on June 29. If you can join us, please attend the rehearsal in Room A/B from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Monday June 16 and in the sanctuary from 9:00 to 9:45 on Sunday mornings June 22 and June 29. This will be the last service the choir will sing until the Fall. Have a great summer!

CLUB FOR KIDS

Club for Kids will continue to meet every Friday through June 27. Club is for boys and girls and their friends from second through eighth grades. We meet in the Parlor from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. to enjoy fun, fellowship, pizza and play in a church family environment. Our seventh and eighth graders are welcome to stay until 10:00 p.m. for Club Late Night.

OUR FAMILY NEWS:

Introduction to Robert Palin, Interim Minister

The invitation to share with West End Collegiate Church the next 12 months or so prompts this introduction to the interim minister, the **Reverend Dr. Robert Palin**. Robert and his wife, **Carol**, look forward to residing in the parsonage at 306 West 77 Street. They have family living in Brooklyn, Long Island, and Connecticut. Robert, as he likes to be called (or Pastor Robert), was educated at Middlebury College, AB., Union Theological Seminary NYC, M.Div., and New York Theological Seminary, D. Min. Ordained in the United Church of Christ in 1970, Robert has served as settled pastor in Vermont, Connecticut, Virginia, and New York. He received special training to become an intentional interim minister through the Interim Ministry Network. After seven experiences as intentional interim in Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Florida, he is particularly excited to be part of the transition at West End Collegiate Church. The challenges will engage the active good will of all of us. This can be an exciting and hopeful times in the life of West End Collegiate Church. Robert's meetings with the Interim Search Committee, The five Ministers, other leaders of the Collegiate Church Corporation and West End Collegiate Church have formed an initial impression he shares here: “You have treated a stranger (albeit one with lots of paperwork and interviews!) with kindness and hopefulness. The ministry you have experienced for over forty years has imprinted among you the marks of compassion, genuine humanity, service—one member used the word ‘organic’. I could never replace Ken Gorsuch. Hopefully, during this transition you will treasure all the more his gifts of ministry as you become able to open to other incarnations of God's human presence.”

PLAYSCHOOL

The West End Collegiate Church Playschool completes the school year on June 7.

HONORING KEN:

Several people have asked if they can give a financial contribution as their service project to honor Ken's ministry at West End. The answer is yes. We now have a specific fund which will be used in the future for various service projects in which the members of the congregation participate. If you would like to help build this fund, please give to West End Collegiate Church and in the memo line write “Gorsuch Service Project”. Remember to write a short note about what you have done and drop the note in the glass bowl at the back of the sanctuary. Many, many thanks to all of you who are honoring Ken with your gifts and talents.

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 in 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 and Fort Washington and Middle Collegiate Churches. We will depart from New York City on August 18 and arrive home on August 24.

WONDER HOUR

Adult Wonder Hour meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 in Room 25. Julia Turner is currently leading the class in Bible study.

WEEKDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Vesper Prayer Services are held Tuesday evenings at 6:00 through June. The sanctuary is open for quiet meditation at 5:30.

There will be a brief Communion service every Wednesday Morning at 8:00 through June.

SERVICE PROGRAMS

The Service Programs will meet on their regular schedule

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 at 12 Noon.

CHURCH SCHOOL RECOGNITION SUNDAY

On Sunday, June 8 we will celebrate Church School Recognition during morning worship. Our Church School will lead worship and our Senior High Class will preview their latest short film. The boys and girls will sing, new Bibles will be presented to the graduates of our Primary Class (who will be ringing their bells, once again), and we will honor all who have participated in our Church School programs. This is the last day for this school year of ten o'clock Church School and eleven o'clock worship programs for our children.

CHILDCARE...

with Arlene Davey during the Worship Hour will continue throughout the summer.

SAVE THE DATE

On Sunday, June 8 we will have a **Paper Airplane flying contest** for children 1 to 18 years old, to be held after the worship hour in the Sanctuary. Airplanes are to be launched from the balcony – the plane gliding the furthest will WIN. But design and decoration are two other categories to be judged by aeronautics enthusiast, Ken Gorsuch. Examples and instructions of paper planes will be available in the back of the sanctuary on June 1.

OUR ARTISTS AT WORK

The Broadway show *Curtains*, with **Debra Monk** as co-star, is now scheduled to run until June 29.

The **T(erry) Schreiber** Studio is presenting *The Actor's Nightmare* by Christopher Durang & *The Real Inspector Hound* by Tom Stoppard through June 15. Details are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Delphi Harrington is performing in *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* at the Roundabout's American Airlines Theatre, 277 West 42nd Street. Performance schedule: through July 6, 2008 Tuesday to Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

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."

CD RECORDINGS

CD recordings have been made of our services in recent years. Anyone who wishes to have such a recording should identify it by occasion, date, meditation title or otherwise so that we can provide a copy. In addition, Dave Gerould has offered to make transcriptions of a few recorded meditations. The Church Office will take your requests.

CONSISTORY

Our Elders are Ken Chase, Chair of Elders; Madie Ivy Head; Doug Mastin; Naomi Niles, Chair of Consistory; John Russo. Our Deacons are Stephen Cambor; Clarice Graham, Chair of Deacons; Craig Russell; Patricia Whitsett; Susan Xenarios, Leader of the Envisioning Task Group.

Our Committee Chairs are:

BENEVOLENCE	Karen Blank
BUILDING & GROUNDS	John Russo
COMMUNICATIONS	Patricia Whitsett
EDUCATION	Jane Russo
SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES	Kim Yancey Moore
FINANCE	Clarice Graham
HOSPITALITY	Katherine Charapko
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	Naomi Niles
PLAYSCHOOL ADVISORY	Joseph Zeigler
SERVICE	Susan Xenarios
WORSHIP	Ken Chase