

# news

WEST END COLLEGIATE CHURCH

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

Telephone (212) 787-1566

## **NEWSLETTER**

**for May, A.D. 2010**

### **QUOTE FOR THE MONTH**

“True joy rests on firmness and strength within, manifesting itself outwardly as yielding and gentle.” - *Confucius*

### **CONSISTORY**

The local Consistory of West End Collegiate Church will meet at West End on Monday, May 17 at 6:00 p.m.

### **MEMORIAL DAY**

The Church office, building and programs will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day.

### **ASCENSION DAY**

Ascension Day is Thursday, May 13. After forty days of resurrection appearances, the risen Christ ascended into heaven, leaving in the world his disciples and the promise of the Holy Spirit.

### **SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE THEMES**

May 2 The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35  
Message: “The Same Old Thing”

May 9 Intersections Sunday  
Guest Preacher: the Reverend Robert Chase

May 16 LAY SERVICE  
Kim Yancey, Preaching

May 23 PENTECOST SUNDAY (Wear something red!)  
Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17  
Message: “Encountering God, Part I: The Spirit in Spirituality”

May 30 Psalm 8; John 16:12-15  
Message: “Encountering God, Part II: The Spirit Plus Two”

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

If I were God, I would make sure every person gets one big God experience, complete with directions for what to do next. Life would be so much easier. I have been wondering if there is a sense in which this is already true. We've all had those stretches in life where we may have sacrificed our family for our career, let alcohol numb our feelings at the end of every day, or felt the daily pain of a broken relationship. Then something happens. We're not exactly sure why, but we find a new perspective, a new inner resolve that allows us to change. It's almost as if we had help come from an unknown source. Most of the time, we can't find the words to describe it. We only know that we have changed. These are deeply spiritual experiences even though we may not use religious language to describe them. Sometimes I think those “God moments” would be clearer if we focused less on cloaking the experiences in religious language and more on what it is we're experiencing. It's not the language we use that produces God's presence. It is cultivating the habit of attentiveness to what God's doing. - *Taken from "Random Thoughts on Sunday's Sermon"*



West End Collegiate Church  
**CHORAL EXTRAVAGANZA**

May 2 at 3:00 p.m.

Our Concert Series ends with 60 voices  
singing choral movements from  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's immortal

***Requiem***

featuring

West End Collegiate Church Choir  
and

Marble Collegiate Church Festival of Voices.

Conducted by

Ken Dake and Cynthia Powell  
Christopher Creaghan, Organist

**Admission is FREE**

**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

12 Noon to 3:00 p.m.

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Adult Christian Education meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 in Room 25. During May, Adult Education will continue with *The Future of Faith* led by Pastor Michael. There is a seismic shift occurring in the way people approach religion. This has not resulted in people being any less religious. But people are approaching religion differently. Join us as we explore these changes and how they may open new ways to understand the Christian Faith. (The Reverend Robert Chase will lead the class on May 9.)

**OUR ARTISTS AT WORK**

The **T(erry) Schreiber** Studio is presenting *Joking Apart* by Alan Ayckbourn (directed by Peter Jensen) This is a limited engagement from May 20 to June 27. Details are available at the back of the sanctuary.

**Debra Monk** will appear at the 92nd Street Y (on Lexington Ave.) as part of *Lyrics & Lyricists - Poisoning Pigeons in the Park: The Art of the Satiric Comedy Song*, Saturday, May 8, through Monday, May 10. See [92Y.org](http://92Y.org) for details, ticket prices, and availability.

**Cynthia Powell** will conduct *Songs from the Heart*, a concert by Melodia Women's Choir with pianist Taisiya Pushkar on Saturday, May 22 (8:30 p.m.) at Merkin Concert Hall, 129 West 67 Street. For more information call 212-252-4134.

The New York Saxophone Quartet presents *New Beginnings* on Monday, May 10 (8:00 p.m.) at The Player's Theater, 115 MacDougal Street – featuring premiere works by Steve Kenyon and **Dennis Anderson**. Details are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Seaport Salon presents **Kim Yancey** as *Dr. May Edward Chinn* by Laurence Holder at the Shooting Star Theater, 40 Peck Slip, through May 23. For more information visit [www.raccaseaportsalon.com](http://www.raccaseaportsalon.com) or call 917-239-6690.

**NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Congratulations to **Rachel de la Torre**, who won 3<sup>rd</sup> Place on Uneven Bars in the Level 10 Regional Gymnastics Championship in Boston, April 10th!

**Gwen Brown** will be moving to Florida this week. Her new address will be 929 Sitka Trail, Fort Myers Beach, FL 39931. Her email address and phone remain the same, and Gwen promises to visit us whenever she comes back to New York.

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

...will meet at The Gorsuch House (306 West 77<sup>th</sup> Street) on Friday, May 14, at 7:00 p.m. This month's book will be *Old Filth* by Jane Gardam. For more information email Kay Uysterlinde at [Uysterlinde@hotmail.com](mailto:Uysterlinde@hotmail.com) or call 212-787-1285.

## **THIRD ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TALENT SHOW**

The children and young people of our congregation are raising money for a Work Trip to serve various inner city communities in Memphis, Tennessee this August. They hope you will come to their Third Annual Talent Show on Friday, June 4 beginning with dinner at 6:00 – then they will perform for you starting at 7:00 p.m. Questions? Call Timothy Mathis at 646-537-5442.

## **WEBSITE NEWS**

Podcasts of Sunday's sermon are now available, along with the daily devotional "Random Thoughts on Sunday's Sermon" (Pastor Michael's Blog) on our website at [www.westendchurch.org](http://www.westendchurch.org).

## **2010 WARWICK RETREAT**

West End Collegiate Church's annual Retreat will take place the weekend of June 18, 19 and 20. We will return to the Warwick Conference Center in Warwick New York.

This is a wonderful event where our church family takes some time away from the city for relaxation, reflection and a whole lot of FUN. We have programs for adults and children, so come if you are single, come if you are a couple, or come with the whole family!

The facilities are modern (private bath, air conditioning, etc.) and in a beautiful setting with lovely woods for hikes and nature walks. There is a pool for fun and playground equipment for the kids. There are plenty of peaceful corners for reading, prayer or quiet conversations.

The fees this year will be \$225 per adult (18 and up) and \$25 per child 4 to 17 years old. Children 4 years and under attend free. This fee includes two nights' lodging and five meals. There are scholarships for those who need them, and transportation is available.

If you are a regular – come on back. If you have never come – please consider joining us!

## **CONSISTORY**

Our Elders are Katherine Charapko, Chair of Consistory; Clarice Graham, Chair of Elders; Patricia Whitsett; Susan Xenarios. Our Deacons are Stephen Cambor; David Coulson; Barbara Hipkins; Margaret Tobin; Julia Turner, Chair of Deacons.

Our Committee Chairs are:

BENEVOLENCE	Karen Blank
BUILDING & GROUNDS	Margaret Tobin
COMMUNICATIONS	Patricia Whitsett
EDUCATION	Jane Buyers Russo
SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES	Kim Yancey Moore
FINANCE	Clarice Graham
HOSPITALITY	Katherine Charapko
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	Andrea Niedziela Daniel Niedziela
PLAYSCHOOL ADVISORY	Joseph Zeigler
SERVICE	Susan Xenarios
WORSHIP	Ken Chase.