October 28th, we formally welcomed Rev. William Critzman as the 6th senior minister of West End Collegiate Church and the first openly LGBT minister of The Collegiate Churches of NY during his installation ceremony. Thank you to all who shared in this momentous event.

### November 2018

2 — Kids Space, 5 p.m.  
Youth Group, 7 p.m.  
4 — Daylight Saving Time, 2 a.m.  
Adult Christian Ed., 10 a.m.  
Worship w/Communion 11 a.m.  
Congregational Lunch, 12:15 p.m.  
Town Hall Meeting, 12:30 p.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.  
6 — Church, 4 p.m.  
A Taste of Heaven, 4:30 p.m.  
AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.  
7 — Taizé, 7 p.m.  
AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.  
9 — Kids Space, 5 p.m.  
Youth Group, 7 p.m.  
11 — Adult Christian Ed., 10 a.m.  
Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.  
12 — The Church Office is CLOSED in honor of Veteran’s Day  
13 — Church, 4 p.m.  
A Taste of Heaven, 4:30 p.m.  
AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.  
14 — Taizé, 7 p.m.  
AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.  
Pub Theology, 8 p.m.  
16 — Kids Space, 5 p.m.  
Youth Group, 7 p.m.  
Book Club, 7 p.m.  
18 — Adult Christian Ed., 10 a.m.  
Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.  
20 — Church, 4 p.m.  
A Taste of Heaven, 4:30 p.m.  
AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.  
21 — Taizé, 7 p.m.  
AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.  
22 — Happy Thanksgiving!  
Building and Programs CLOSED  
23 — In observance of Thanksgiving the Church Office and Programs are CLOSED  
25 — Adult Christian Ed., 10 a.m.  
Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.  
27 — Church, 4 p.m.  
A Taste of Heaven, 4:30 p.m.  
AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.  
28 — Taizé, 7 p.m.  
AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.  
30 — Christmas decorating party, 6 p.m.  

### SERMONS

November 4 — All Souls’ Sunday with Communion  
Pastor Will preaching  
November 11 — Pastor Howard preaching  
November 18 — Pastor Will preaching  
November 25 — Reign of Christ Sunday  
Pastor Jes preaching

### Sunday, November 4

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m.  
— Move your clocks back one hour!
A Thanksgiving Feast by Reverend Jes Kast

I can almost taste the Thanksgiving dinner now! My mother’s mashed potatoes make my stomach hungry just at the thought of that carbohydrate heaven! We all have favorite dishes that we enjoy around the table of plenty. This month you will have the chance to share the abundance and sponsor your favorite Thanksgiving meal item for our Taste of heaven holiday banquet.

On Tuesday, November 20th we expect 250-300 people experiencing homelessness and in need of a loving community to call West End Collegiate Church their Thanksgiving home. It will be a joyful feast of fresh pies, delicious mashed potatoes, turkeys, and of course – LOVE! Please help us raise our goal of $3,500 to help cover the cost of this important feast. In the back of the sanctuary for the month of November you will be able to sponsor turkey ($100), A Meal for Two People ($50), Mashed Potatoes ($40), Stuffing ($20), Pies ($20) and/or free-will offering of your choice. You are able to send in a check with the note “TOH Holiday Meal” or donate online, too.

Taste and see the Lord is good – the psalmist proclaims! Let us make a joyful noise and feast together as we commit to caring for each other and reaching out to the community God has called us to love.

Happy Thanksgiving, friends!

Grace and Peace – Pastor Jes

Help Yourself AND Help Others by Pastor Howard

Last Tuesday evening I was:

a) tired — too many pots to wash at Taste of Heaven
b) depressed --having lost my match.
   c) crabby— a + b = c.

Reluctantly, I trudged downstairs to the Yoga Class. The first half of class I regretted coming. Yet gradually, something changed in me. By end of class, to my surprise, I was relaxed, reinvigorated, and optimistic. The results of this ancient method to better physical and psychic health are amazing.

As a gift to us and the community, WECC with our experienced and inspiring teacher, Lisa Shelle, offer a free weekly class, Tuesdays, 7 - 8:00 p.m. in the downstairs lounge. The class is challenging for yoga veterans and doable for beginners, as well as older people. Tell your friends about this opportunity.

AND

Join us after church on November 11 for our first Second Sunday event. It’s a time for service, fun, and food. This month’s service project will be making sandwiches for distribution to hungry and/or homeless people. Games of all sorts will follow (but are not mandatory!). Pizza provided. 12:30- 2:30 p.m. in the parlor. Come, even just to stop by. Everyone— including all ages— are welcome.

AND

The Thanksgiving morning Pack-thon at Congregation Shearith Israel will soon be upon us! Congregants and others from upper west side houses of worship will gather to assemble Thanksgiving food packages for distribution to hungry and homeless New Yorkers. The program is partially underwritten by small donations from participants ($18 adults). This year we are looking for donors to match an anonymous gift of $10,000. Please consider making a gift yourself. Most importantly, come and help on November 22, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Congregation Shearith Israel West 70th at Central Park West. Kids welcome.

— Pastor Howard
This week, Taizé moves to Thursday, November 1, in recognition of All Saints’ Day. This observance dates back centuries; in the British Isles, it is known that churches were already celebrating All Saints’ at the beginning of the 8th century. As the early church was fond of doing, pagan festivals were supplanted by Christian feast days which kept people connected to their ancient practices, but added the additional meaning of the Christian holy days. All Saints’ coincided with and replaced the Celtic festival of Samhain, which marked the end of the harvest season.

Sunday, November 4, our All Saints’ ceremony continues as we commemorate loved ones of blessed memory by placing flowers in a vase to create a glorious bouquet. You will be given a flower to participate. Music for that Sunday includes celestial accompaniment by harpist Rita Costanzi.

On Sunday, November 18 at 3 p.m., Melodia Women’s Choir of NYC presents “Where Shadow Chases Light,” featuring the world premiere performance of “Red Bird,” a tribute to Native American musician, writer and activist Zitkála-Šá (1876-1938), by Cevanne Horrocks-Hopayian. This program will have all the elements I love — exciting original premieres as well as well-loved favorites, mind-blowing harmonies, a diversity of musical voices, and absolutely divine musicianship from Melodia’s all-female ensemble of singers, pianist and string quartet. West End members and friends tickets are free with the special postcard at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Also on Wednesday, November 21 at 7 p.m. in the chapel, our beautiful Thanksgiving Eve service with Taizé chants, candlelight, pumpkin pie and whipped cream!.

See you in church,
Cynthia
Organist/Choirmaster & Director of Music Ministry

Musical Notes by Cynthia Powell

Gathered Together by Rebecca Stevens-Walter

Advent is coming up. Can you believe it? We have geared up an exciting program year at WECC with the Halloween Party (fantastically led by the Youth Group), Sunday morning children’s worship that includes music, stories, and movement; the formation of a very enthusiastic and encouraging FCY (Families, Children, and Youth) support committee; exciting, fresh Senior Pastor energy; and new learning around what is possible at WECC for FCY ministries. Now we are getting ready to enter the holiday season which presents a unique opportunity to put some of these possibilities into action.

This Advent season, beginning Sunday, December 2nd, and continuing for the following three consecutive Sundays, I will be leading a hybrid worship/education hour that is specifically designed to engage people of all ages. From 10:00 to 10:45 a.m., we will make music, write prayers, move our bodies, create liturgical art, and learn more about the story that the Bible tells of the birth of our savior.

The program is a collaborative effort between the Adult Christian Education class and FCY ministries. People of all ages are invited, but are not required, to attend all four Sundays. This is an exciting time for WECC with lots of opportunities to explore how we can come together in celebration of our faith. I so look forward to being a part of the beauty that will no doubt manifest as we embark on a new way of collaboratively worshipping, learning, and growing as One Body in Christ.

And, with the Advent excitement, I don’t want to skip over Thanksgiving! For Christians to pause and express gratefulness is an important mark of our faith. Thus, I am reminded of the Johnny Appleseed Prayer, which the children and I sing every Friday night as we bless KidSpace and our meal together. It is a simple prayer, and yet it holds a deep theological reminder that our needs are supplied and a tiny seed can give us life. God bless these simple gifts and the love that provides them.

Oh the Lord is good to me
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need
The sun and the rain and the apple seed
Oh the Lord is good to me.

Rebecca
CONSISTORY CORNER by Andrea Steinkamp

What a joyous October we have had welcoming and getting to know Pastor Will! I feel new life and a new energy pulsing in our church community each time I walk through the doors and it makes me smile. I pray you feel the same sense of renewal and hopefulness after a long year of waiting and wondering.

Over the coming weeks and months, Consistory will continue to bring Pastor Will up to speed on all things West End. Please hold him in your hearts and lift him up in your prayers that he may feel buoyed in the face of all that is new to him.

Finally, as we contemplate the work ahead, please know that the input and support of the congregation is vital to a flourishing ministry. Your voices and perspectives are as important now as they were when we worked together in small groups and spent time in one-on-one conversation to determine what we were looking for in a new senior minister. The month of November offers a couple of ways you can contribute to our planning and decision-making:

1) Join us for our State of the Church Town Hall on Sunday, November 4th after worship
2) Participate in the Consistory nomination process

While we held Consistory nominations last May, as is typical, we have elected to re-open the nominations before finalizing our slate of new Deacons. Nomination forms will be mailed to members, as well as be available in the back of the sanctuary, during the month of November. All nominations must be received by November 30th to be considered.

Together in Christ,
Andrea Steinkamp on behalf of the Deacons and Elders of West End Collegiate Church