



## September 2018

- 2 — Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.
- 3 — Building and Office CLOSED  
in observance of Labor Day
- 4 — AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.
- 5 — AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.
- 9 — Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.
- 11 — Church, 4 p.m.  
A Taste of Heaven, 4:30 p.m.  
AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.
- 12 — AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.
- 16 — Adult Christian Ed., 10 a.m.  
Worship, 11 a.m. w/communion  
Welcome Back Sunday  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.
- 18 — Church, 4 p.m.  
A Taste of Heaven, 4:30 p.m.  
AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.
- 19 — AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.
- 21 — Book Club, 7 p.m.
- 23 — Adult Christian Ed., 10 a.m.  
Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.
- 25 — Church, 4 p.m.  
A Taste of Heaven, 4:30 p.m.  
AA, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.
- 25 — AA, 7 & 8:15 p.m.
- 30 — Adult Christian Ed., 10 a.m.  
Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wholeness Center, 1 p.m.

## The Spirituality of Change by Reverend Jes Kast



*Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself.* — Rumi, 13th century

“The one thing you can count on about living in New York is that change is constant.” This was the advice given to me by a handful of people when I first moved here eight years ago. Sure enough, my favorite hamburger place closed not too long after I moved here (Big Nick’s lives on in our memories) and the place where I ordered my Cobb Salad shut down shortly after that (I still miss the Manhattan Diner).

Change is reliable. Change is the only consistent.

Sometimes we welcome the change. Maybe you’ve trained really hard for a long distance run and because of the changes that occurred in your body you were able to run a marathon. Maybe you’ve been practicing a violin, or another instrument, and after all the practice your playing has changed and the sounds you make are now beautiful.

Sometimes, changes happen which we can’t control that leave us feeling vulnerable. A sudden death leaves you feeling lost. A sickness slows you down. A company loses money and has to downsize.

Change — even the best of changes — brings about grief and joy. There is the loss of what was but there is the joy in the possibility of what can be. Part of being a spiritual human is to utilize our faith tools to help us navigate change with grace, courage, and hope.

This month we look at the spirituality of change in a two-part sermon series. We’ll look at how faith is an action during times of change. We will consider the most important characteristics and what integrity might look like in the midst of change. And we will celebrate the new life that God is giving us.

Join us as we prepare for a change at West End Collegiate Church by welcoming our new Senior Minister, The Reverend Will Critzman on September 30th. We will prepare our hearts and minds for the new work in which God is calling each one of us to join. We press forward in joy and in faith that God’s grace has something special planned for us and we are all invited to participate with what God is doing!

God’s lavish grace to each one of us – Pastor Jes Kast

## SERMONS

**September 2 — The Lost Years of Jesus**

**September 9 — Believe Mothers**

**September 16 — Welcome Back Sunday**

**The Spirituality of Change**

**Part 1: What Really Matters**

**September 23 — The Spirituality of Change**

**Part 2: God’s Up to Something Good!**

**September 30 — Human Beings Like Us**



Dear Friends—

This fall we have two new service opportunities:

“Second Saturdays” is a monthly late Saturday afternoon fellowship for all ages which will include helping projects, games, and refreshments. We might assemble care packages for homeless people followed by board games or volleyball in the gym.

A former parishioner who is incarcerated tells me my letters to him are a high point of his life. The “Rye Writes” program of the Rye Presbyterian Church (a former congregation of mine) has developed a supervised program that connects church members and inmates in local prisons through letter writing. Rye has invited us to team up with them in this important ministry.

More details on both programs to come.

— Pastor Howard

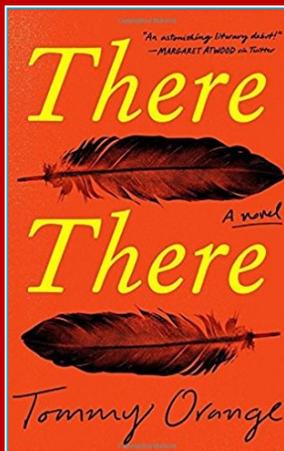


Want to keep up with what's happening with your WECC family?

Go to Facebook :  
WestEndChurchNYC

and Twitter:  
@WestEndChurchNY

It's a great way to stay connected to our community.



**On September 21 at 7 p.m.**  
**THE BOOK CLUB**  
will discuss  
*There, There*  
by Tommy Orange

**The October book will be**  
*Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid.

 **Musical Notes** by *Cynthia Powell*

We're looking ahead to a wonderful new season of music and worship!

The West End Choir will be back in the choir loft on Sunday, September 16th at our 11 a.m. service of worship.

With grateful thanks to our wonderful choir soloists for an inspiring summer of music at West End!

We are so looking forward to participating in worship with Rev. Will Critzman, our new senior pastor. Pastor Will is leading the service and preaching, starting September 30th, and will be formally installed on Sunday, October 28th. We'll be pulling out all the stops for this festive occasion!

Taizé services resume on Wednesday starting October 3rd, then every Wednesday at 7 p.m. through the end of May. These services have become a high point of the week for many folks and feature gentle chants, and music played by some of NYC's finest instrumentalists in a peaceful environment bathed in candlelight.

Melodia Women's Choir returns on Sunday, November 18th at 3 p.m. to perform a newly-commissioned work by award-winning U.K. composer Cevanne Horrocks-Hopayian. Accompanied by string quartet and piano, this unusual work derives inspiration from the Native American writer Zitkala-Ša. Her books were among the first to bring traditional Native American stories to a widespread white readership, and she has been noted as one of the most influential Native American activists of the twentieth century. Zitkala-Ša wrote the libretto and songs for *The Sun Dance Opera*, (1913), the first American Indian opera. She was a co-founder of the National Council of American Indians in 1926 to lobby for civil rights and the right to United States citizenship. Don't miss the opportunity to hear this ground-breaking work free of charge with the special postcard we'll provide to West End members and friends.

See you in church,  
Cynthia Powell  
Director of Music Ministry

**In the Midst of Change** by *Rebecca Stevens-Walter*

What an exciting time to be at WECC! The change in season, the change in our pastoral leadership, children growing so much over the summer, and many new and exciting opportunities for ministry in our neighborhood are providing an energy that is pulsing and palpable. Children and youth are often seen as representatives of change and while that is a great way to think about our own child-at-heart ways of experiencing change, I am cognizant that some of the upcoming changes may be challenging for young folks. Churches are not excluded from the fast-paced forward motion of the City. As much as we love tradition and continuity, change is inevitable and healthy change is a very good thing. Children are resilient and able to adjust and also it will be our call as Christ's body to check in with children and notice when change is becoming overwhelming and frustrating.

To ease the adjustment and forward trajectory of the changes, this Fall will present many opportunities for children and youth to participate in the life of the church. Youth will be reading scripture once a month in worship and will also be serving in other capacities in worship and congregational engagement. The Youth Group will be exploring what it is that we want Youth Group to look like at WECC and how we can achieve goals of community and spiritual exploration. We will be creating a mission and vision statement as well as collaborating with youth groups around the City in an effort to learn from other young people and their leaders.

Children will continue with Kid's Club on Friday nights and worship on Sunday mornings in Room 1 with some additional programming coming up for the Advent season - more on that soon. Children will also be invited to serve as acolytes in our Sunday morning worship.

In the midst of change we are confronted with our strengths and challenges. Our commitment to children and youth at WECC is a definite strength and I see that the upcoming changes in the life of this community will only deepen and solidify our children and youth ministry. I am so looking forward to the excitement and energy of the Fall season while being aware that this may be a jarring time for little ones in the congregation. I pray that we all continue our spiritual investment in children and youth and that WECC is a shining light of what is possible when children and youth are honored and celebrated and valued in God's house.

*Peace and blessings for this exciting time!*

*Rebecca*



## CONSISTORY CORNER *by Andrea Steinkamp*

Dear West End Family,

Can you believe September is upon us? Our past year of waiting and uncertainty about our new season is about to end, as we officially welcome Reverend Will Critzman as our new Senior Minister on September 24th. Pastor Will has spent a great deal of his personal time over the course of the summer spending one-on-one time with members of the search committee, various members of Consistory, and Pastor Jes and the staff to get a feel for the DNA of West End prior to his official start. I have been consistently impressed by his passion, thoughtfulness, energy and spiritual heart in my time in conversation with him and am filled with excitement for all of you to meet him as well. Pastor Will's first Sunday preaching will be September 30th, so please mark your calendar to join us in giving him a warm welcome to West End!

I am also looking forward to seeing everyone at Welcome Back Sunday on September 16th. The choir will be back in full force and we will celebrate Communion together. In addition, our first Sunday lunch of the program year will be served following the service. Going forward, our post-service lunches will take place once a month, on Communion Sunday. While this differs from years past, we feel it is a change that allows us to be better stewards of the church's limited financial resources, while also allowing for more meaningful reflection and extension of the theology of Communion outside our church service.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, thoughts or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or another member of Consistory.

In joyful anticipation of all that is to come,

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

## Another Way to Give to West End

We are pleased to announce that you can now make donations to West End via your mobile phone. It's very simple to do. Just text "Give" to 917-259-3001 and then follow the instructions for the one-time registration process. After you've registered your account and card, you can then make donations at any time by texting the amount, with the dollar sign, and what it's for. For example, you can text "\$100 offering" or "\$50 talent show." You will receive immediate verification and a receipt will be emailed to you. That's all there is to it! Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.



**West End Collegiate Church**

245 West 77th St. | New York, NY 10024

*a neighborhood church for all people*