



ONE WEST 29TH STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001-4596 www.marblechurch.org 212-686-2770 212-685-0706 FAX

FEBRUARY 2012

SUNDAY WORSHIP 11AM

DR. MICHAEL B. BROWN
SENIOR MINISTER
PREACHING*

FEBRUARY 5*

Believing Without Understanding
Hebrews 11:1-6

FEBRUARY 12

Rev. Kirsty DePree
Marble's New Minister
for Discipleship

FEBRUARY 19*

Not Perfect, But Useful
I Timothy 1:12-17

FEBRUARY 26*

1st Sunday in Lent
Going Where You Want To Go
Joshua 24:14-18; Luke 9:51

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

6:15PM
February 22, Ash Wednesday

Honey Bees, Home & Lent

Recently at WeWo I preached a sermon entitled "Honey Bees and Holy Homes." I read an article by a minister from Texas named Ron Newhouse who said that if you create the perfect environment for a honey bee but separate it from the hive, it can only survive two-three days max. As Ron put it, "You can keep bees, but you cannot keep a bee. They need community to survive." In the sermon I drew a comparison between that story and first century Christians' understanding of the nature of Church. They believed that church is a "home" (in fact, for Worship, they met in homes - and Paul often sent greetings to the congregations that met in the homes of people like Aquila and Priscilla, Nympha, Philemon, Lydia, and others). First century believers considered the church to be a "home" occupied by the "family of Faith." I think that's what we are at Marble. I hear that from so many people. "This place is my family." "Coming here is like coming home." I like hearing statements such as those. It means you folks are doing church right, especially according to the New Testament model.

Part of what a family does is to celebrate the various seasons of the year together. I have great

memories of Easter, the Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas with my family growing up. This month our Faith family will enter together the season of Lent. We will consider a wide range of topics from *Penitence to Aging to Death to Life Beyond Death* to the whole range of inevitable emotions that are part of Life's Journey. We will spend Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings thinking together about biblical stories and personal issues that set the human condition within the framework of God's prevenient Grace.

I invite you to prepare for Lent in prayer and introspection. Then join with all of us at Marble as week by week in worship, study classes, and small groups, we make together a journey through shadowy paths that at last leads to the bright hope-filled light of Easter.



Dr. Michael Brown

Making Our House a Home

What a joyous time to be a part of the Marble family! Soon the new Concourse level will be complete and all of our sacred spaces will be under one roof, protected in our landmarked building. At the heart of these new spaces will be the Labyrinth Room, with the only inlaid, walkable labyrinth in the city. This new space will also serve as the place where Marble Ministries will come together and live out their faith.

Our first task in making this house a home is purchasing new chairs for the Labyrinth Room to provide the welcoming atmosphere which is so much a part of our mission here at Marble. As Wingate Jackson, Jr., Deacon & GIFTS Leadership Team member, explains "We have received a substantial 'gift' from the Collegiate Church Corporation, embodied in our beautiful new Concourse, which we will be unwrapping very soon. There were, however, 'no batteries included.' These chairs are our first opportunity to contribute personally to the 'power' required for the beautiful Concourse we have received."



The chairs are \$250 each, which includes the cost of maintenance, a stacking storage system and replacements as needed. These are commercial grade chairs, being chosen specifically for durability, quality and harmony with our Labyrinth Room. Our current chairs, over a decade old, are in disrepair and badly in need of replacement (see photo on page 2). You are welcome to contribute as an individual or as part of a group. You may purchase one chair, many chairs, or contribute to the overall campaign.

Many of our Ministries have already begun to get involved, including the children of CYF who are joining together to purchase a chair. We ask you to ask yourself what Marble means, and has meant, to you. "In the season of learning to unwrap our gifts, we're also finally able to deliver some gifts to the place where we worship and give thanks. I can't wait to witness the many uses of this great newly adorned space!" says Richard Harper, Deacon.

Marble is a second home to many and it is up to us, who inhabit this CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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LIVE WEBCAST SCHEDULE

If you can't be here in person, visit www.marblechurch.org for Live Webcast

SUNDAYS

10am – Bible Study with Sr. Carol Perry

11am – Worship Service

12:15pm – Talkback with Dr. Brown

12:45pm – Replay of Bible Study

1:30pm – Spiritual Growth Hour

WEDNESDAYS

6:15pm – Wednesday Worship

TV – Fridays @ 4:30pm, MNN Time Warner Ch. 67 and RCN Ch. 85

Radio – Sundays @ 7pm, WOR Radio/710-AM

MAKING OUR HOUSE... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
home and use these spaces, to furnish and make this new house a home. It is also our opportunity to ensure the continuation of the Marble legacy for future generations and to leave our mark, as others before us have done. As we speak of the generations before us and how they affected the history of Marble, so too will future generations speak of this point in our timeline and history.

Marble Collegiate Church, included in the National Register of Historic Places, was founded in 1628 and has been here, in this building, since 1854. It has stood tall through World Wars, depressions and recessions, terrorist attacks and dark times. It has provided welcome and comfort, and served as a beacon of hope, spirituality and inspiration to so many, including each of us. "What a wonderful opportunity we have before us to give back, leave a

legacy and in so doing, join the company of all of our Marble family ancestors, whose gifts we are able to see and enjoy today," says Kathryn Boyce-Piper, Marble Women's Ministry, Leadership Team member.

Please consider a generous gift that will support the Marble mission now, continue our legacy for future generations, and allow you to leave your mark in Marble's history. Please visit www.marblechurch.org for more details.



Stephanie M. Bailey, Marble Board President, illustrating the need for new chairs



Travis Winckler and Emily Dumler

Welcome Rev. Travis B. Winckler

Picture a tree as tall as the Marble steeple with hundreds of branches reaching in every direction, a symbol of strength, stability and endurance. This is the image Rev. Travis Winckler has for Ministry. His call as a minister is do his part to keep nourishing the roots of that tree.

Rev. Winckler began in late December as Marble's new Minister for Congregational Care and Engagement. "I hope in my participation with Men's Ministry, Connection, Congregational Care and beyond, that I would be providing a meaningful experience for people who want to grow in their faith, but also be active in sharing what Marble is doing with those who might be intimidated by spirituality or religion."

From an early age Travis knew that church could be a powerful place for people. His UCC church in South Dakota provided support and a place of transformation for him and his mother as she raised him on her own. He was blessed to have several caring men as mentors who provided a safe place to explore, to ask questions and to learn how to serve the world. This is the model he will use especially for the Men's Ministry.

Although he was always interested in church, Travis thought his own ministry to others would be through medicine or law. By his junior year in college he knew congregational ministry was in him. He received his Masters of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and that's where he also met his wife Emily Dumler. Originally from Boulder, Colorado, she was also studying for her M.Div. and is now working toward her Ph.D.

Rev. Winckler loves being part of a place where people can belong and grow. He served a small church on the Upper West Side for a couple years and "In Marble I saw all this expanse of opportunities for ways for people to be involved. A place

where folks at many different stages of life can come and find a place to belong, to be loved, a place to grow."

For fun Travis loves playing basketball. He is an introvert at heart and a proud bookworm who loves contemplative reading and studying. He also enjoys working out, cooking, and singing. His musical tastes range from the sacred choral music of The Cambridge Singers to Jay-Z.

This year we as a Marble community are exploring "One Spirit. Many Gifts." and Travis knows that his gifts include Healer and Teacher. "I believe in healing. I want to see people whole and flourishing. Whatever I can do to come alongside people and do the best I can to establish safety and promote who people are in God's love is central to my vocation. I love teaching, coaching and equipping people." Being bi-racial he feels a deep sensitivity in his ministry to those who are somehow marginalized or feel they are different. "I resonate with the need for inclusive community."

We are blessed to have Travis on staff and look forward to the unique ways he will affect our Marble family.

SAVE THE DATE

BRING-A-FRIEND: A BLESSING OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Sunday, March 4

Dr. Bernie Siegel

Few people impact our lives more deeply than those who heal us: doctors, nurses, counselors, EMTs, lab workers, chaplains, dentists, and all who care for us when we need help the most. BRING-A-FRIEND who is involved in this noble profession to 11am Worship where they will receive a special blessing from Dr. Brown. Then stay for the 1:30 Spiritual Growth Hour with Dr. Bernie Siegel, the

We'll get to know Rev. Kirsty DePree, Marble's new Minister for Discipleship, in the March issue.

internationally renowned pioneer of holistic healing. "Bernie" (as he is affectionately called) will draw on his five decades of experience to shed light on how spirituality, love, humor and intention all work together in promoting health and well-being. (This is the long-awaited program preempted due to the surprise October 2011 snowstorm.) Not to be missed!

Lent 2012

Lent is about taking a real look at the real world in a real (honest) way from the context of our real lives. Join us each Wednesday at WeWo as we spend time with the stark realities of fear and pain and guilt and crosses to bear, all somehow at last overcome by the indescribable reality of an empty tomb.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP, FEBRUARY 22

1:00pm – "His Face was Set to Jerusalem" (*Luke 9:51-62*), Dr. William R. Lutz, preaching. Rev. Travis Winckler and Elizabeth Testa, M.Div., participating. Kenneth Dake, music.

6:15pm – "Beyond Guilt to Penitence" (*Matthew 4:1-11, 17*), Dr. Michael B. Brown, preaching. Holy Communion.

We offer ashes at the conclusion of both services and from 5:30-6:00pm in Poling Chapel.

Each Wednesday in Lent we will celebrate Holy Communion during worship. This year's Lenten journey will also include a moving Choral Concert, "Caritas et Amor: Expressions of Love, Human and Divine," on March 7. Please see page 8.

New Member Classes

We'd love to have you join us! You have two different classes to choose from, either two Sundays or two Wednesday nights. Please stop by the Welcome Center after Sunday Worship, the Hospitality Table after Wednesday Worship, or contact Kim Sebastian-Ryan for more details, (ext. 475 or KRyan@marblechurch.org). *The next classes will be in April and May.*

Sunday, February 5 | 10:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, February 19 | 9:30am-12:30pm

This class will be received into membership on Sunday, February 19. **Deadline for registration is Sunday, January 29.**

Wednesday, March 14 | 7:15-9:00pm

Wednesday, March 21 | 6:00-8:15pm

This class will be received into membership on Wednesday, March 21. **Deadline for registration is Wednesday, March 7.**

Marble's 2012 Easter Offering

BEGINS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Kick-off during Worship and at the 1:30 Spiritual Growth Hour

For those who might not know, Marble has collected a special Easter Offering for decades to extend a helping hand to our neighbors around the world. Every dollar you give goes to local and global not-for-profit charitable organizations making a difference. Please join us for our kick-off, and please join us in giving.



Dr. Bernie Siegel



Spiritual Growth and Education

Bible Study with Sister Carol Perry

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

GOD'S NEW PEOPLE

February 5, 12, 19 & 26

Jesus invited those who heard him to explore what it might mean to build something new on the foundations they had inherited. What gifts do we need to bring the old and the new together today?

TUESDAYS AT 6:30PM

OUT OF THE BACKSEAT!

February 7, 14, 21 & 28

Let's bring the women of the Bible into the center of things as we study Eve and Hagar, Jacob's four spouses and Ezekiel's "delight" of his eyes, and a host of others. Named or unnamed, they promise to challenge us.

WEEKDAYS, NOON-1:00PM

SPIRITUALITY IN THE WORKPLACE

Boost Your Spirit over Lunch

Bring your lunch and join interactive Bible study in two Manhattan locations with Sr. Carol Perry. Return to work with a new attitude.

TUESDAYS

February 14 & 28: Marble Collegiate Church, 3 West 29th Street (check lobby sign for room).

THURSDAYS

February 16: St. Bartholomew's Church, 325 Park Avenue (at 51st Street). Enter through Park Avenue doors and proceed to the Vestry Room, directly behind the chancel to the right.

Prayer Circle

Each Sunday | 10:00am

This informal gathering in Poling Chapel, led by Rev. Gregory Johnson, centers on singing and prayer for individual and communal concerns. (Holy Communion on February 5).



Sr. Carol Perry

Spiritual Growth Hour

SUNDAYS AT 1:30PM

THE SPIRITUALITY OF SINGLEHOOD

February 5

Members of the Marble community explore the spiritual treasures of being single in a world where couple-hood is still often seen as the norm.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

February 12

The Committed Couples sponsors this conversation on love and marriage in today's complex world. We will discuss how faith and commitment are cornerstones of the sacred vows two people make when they decide to join their lives as one.

SEASONS OF FRIENDSHIP

February 19

Join Paulette Thompson-Clinton and Elizabeth Testa as they talk about the seasons of friendship through the lens of their own friendship of over three decades. Friends in all seasons are welcome!

EASTER OFFERING 2012 KICK-OFF:

DO JUSTICE, LOVE, KINDNESS

February 26

Elise Hanley, Director of Mission and Outreach, and the Benevolence Committee

Come learn how the Annual Easter Offering has made, and is making, a difference in the world, and learn how you can be a part of it.

SAVE THE DATE

March 4

Dr. Bernie Siegel: The Gift of Wellness

Program Ministries



Children, Youth & Families Ministry (CYF)

FAMILY WORSHIP

Sunday, February 5 | 10:00-10:45am

CYF's Family Worship is a creative and spiritually-moving service in which the children and youth participate. You don't have to be a parent or child to benefit from this inspirational celebration of prayer and music. All are invited. Room 600.

PRAYER AND PARENTING

SMALL GROUP

Sundays, February 12, 19 & 26 | 10:00-10:45am

Parents and guardians come together to pray and to discuss the book *Grace-Based Parenting* by Tim Kimmel. Books are available during the group for \$8 each. Led by Pat Ohikuare.

ARTS Ministry

THE PUZZLE: MARBLE'S FESTIVAL OF NEW WORK

Submissions Continue through March 1

If you'd like to submit a piece of work for this week of staged readings, showcases, and special events, (June 25-30) the application for submission may be found at www.marblechurch.org under "Arts Ministry." *The Puzzle: Marble's Festival of New Work* provides artists the opportunity to develop or showcase new work in keeping with Marble's positive and inclusive message. Open to all artists in the country. Produced by Brian Hampton and the ARTS Ministry; Marya Spring Cordes, Artistic Director.



Committed Couples

"BRING-A-DATE" VALENTINE'S DINNER AND CONCERT

Friday, February 10 | 6:00pm

A church date? Why not?!? What better way to express your sentiments than by sharing a place you love. Invite someone special to Marble's Valentine's Day event to enjoy a romantic dinner and a beautiful concert. Hosted by the Committed Couples Ministry, this event is open to all, from those newly-met to long-term relationships. Guaranteed to warm your heart and soul! See page 8 for concert details. Cost per couple: Dinner and concert, \$50; Concert only, \$30. Dinner reservations required; register online at www.marblechurch.org, or contact Siobhan Tull (ext. 412 or STull@marblechurch.org). Free childcare available.

Marble Connection (20s & 30s)

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

7:15-8:15pm

At the beginning of the month join us after WeWo as we finish our study of Exodus. On Ash Wednesday, February 22, we begin our Lenten study. No registration or advanced preparation necessary.

CONNECTION CONVERSATIONS

Sundays, February 5, 12, 19 & 26

12:15-1:15pm

Join us after worship for fellowship and to discuss the day's sermon.

FIRST FRIDAYS

February 3 | 6:30pm

Join other 20 & 30-somethings after work for our monthly social gathering. For details, stay tuned to the Connection e-blast.

GIFTS: An LGBT Fellowship

COFFEE HOUR AND MOVIE SCREENING Sunday, February 12 | Following Worship

Join us for this special coffee hour followed by a screening of the film festival hit *Private Romeo*, an all-male film adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*. The screening will take place at Cinema Village (22 East 12th Street, bet. 5th and University). Following the film, we'll engage in a talk-back with director Alan Brown and cast members. Exact film time and price forthcoming, stay tuned to the weekly GIFTS e-blast for further details.

BOWLING

Tuesday, February 21

Mark your calendar for a fun evening. More details to come in our e-blast.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT "THE CHURCH" AN LGBT YOUTH DROP-IN CENTER IN THE VILLAGE

To participate, contact Sammy Shecter (ext. 477 or SShecter@marblechurch.org).

For more information on GIFTS and to sign up to receive the GIFTS e-blast, contact Sammy Shecter.

Men's Ministry

MONTHLY BRUNCH & DISCUSSION

Sunday, February 5 | 12:15pm

Gather for brunch at our reserved table in the Meeting Place immediately after worship. At 1:00pm, we convene in a separate room to watch and discuss a sermon by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. Brunch, \$12; no reservation necessary. Join us for the conversation even if you don't want brunch.

MAKING POSITIVE DECISIONS

Tuesday, February 21 | Dinner,
6:00pm; Program, 7:00pm

Every day we make decisions; big decisions, small decisions, and each shapes the quality of our lives. We decide to move, to change jobs, to marry, to divorce... we decide how to respond, what attitude to choose, to get angry. Some decisions we regret, others we are pleased with. Dr. Bill Lutz helps us look at the lessons of the brothers in Luke 15:11-32 – the story of the Prodigal Son. Two brothers who were very different and both failed. We will then discuss the principles of positive decision making – trying to be mindful of God's Will at this point in our lives, and making decisions that move life forward and create an inner sense of peace.



Dr. Bill Lutz

All men are invited.

Dinner & Program: \$18; Program only: \$8. Register online at www.marblechurch.org or contact Tom Schneider (ext. 712 or TSchneider@marblechurch.org).

Marble Women's Ministry

ANNUAL RETREAT: EMBRACING THE GIFT OF FORGIVENESS Friday-Sunday, February 24-26

We return to the Dolce Norwalk, with facilitators Nina Frost, Sr. Carol Perry, Paulette Thompson -Clinton, Rev. Kirsty DePree and Elise Hanley. We will explore the theology of – and experience of – forgiveness from many perspectives: how can we live into this basic Christian practice that Jesus call us to, over and over? How do we wrestle with forgiving others, including God, and ourselves, and face the challenge of actually receiving forgiveness in our lives? A rich offering of centering worship, in-depth discussions, engaging workshops and time for fellowship and contemplation, will allow each woman to begin Lent with new practices and insights into the lifelong invitation to forgiveness.

Single room - \$425; Double room - \$305. Register Sundays in Bay Hall after worship, online at www.marblechurch.org, or contact Siobhan Tull (ext. 412 or STull@marblechurch.org).

SAVE THE DATE

LAUREN MANNING: AN INSPIRATIONAL STORY OF UNMEASURED STRENGTH

Thursday, March 8 | Dinner, 6:00pm;
Program, 7:00pm

On 9/11, Lauren Manning suffered devastating injuries as she headed to work in the World Trade Center, and her life was changed forever. Over the past decade she has shown incredible strength, determination and resilience as she persevered to overcome the tragedy – against all odds – and transform her life. Her story, covered in her recent book *Unmeasured Strength*, is one of survival and great faith.

In 2004, Lauren was honored with the Norman Vincent Peale Award for Positive Thinking by the Blanton-Peale Institute. In her book she says she took particular pleasure in this award because many years before she had discovered, and took to heart, the messages in her parents' copy of *The Power of Positive Thinking*. The first chapter, "Believe in Yourself," is the choice she made after 9/11, to believe that she would overcome her injuries. And she has been true to those words.

A book signing follows the program. Books will be available for purchase that evening. Presented by the Marble Women's Ministry and the 40s & 50s Ministry.

Dinner & Program: \$18; Program only: \$8. Register Sundays in Bay Hall after worship, online at www.marblechurch.org, or contact Siobhan Tull (ext. 412 or STull@marblechurch.org).

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT Friday-Sunday, March 23-25

We return to St. Joseph's Villa, Saugerties, NY, and by popular request, Rev. Doug Wysocky-Johnson will again be our retreat leader.



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60+ Fellowship

Please see our 60+ newsletter for more details on all our events. If you are not yet a member, contact Colleen Cosgrove (212-686-2770, ext. 453) for information on how to join (\$15 registration fee).

LUNCH AND PROGRAM

12:00PM, LUNCH

Served promptly at Noon. **February 1:** Pasta and birthday cake (\$7); **February 8:** New Orleans-style buffet (\$10 Fellowship members; \$12 guests); **February 15, 22 & 29:** Soup/salad (\$6).

1:00PM, PROGRAM

February 1 – Djoré Nance, Marble's Gospel Choir director, Opera singer and Julliard graduate, returns to inspire us with classical and contemporary selections.

February 8 – Mardi Gras Celebration with Linda Ipanema and The Dixie Cats preceded by Chef Ron's New Orleans-style buffet. (\$10, Fellowship members; \$12, guests)

February 15 – Manhattan School of Music presents their annual Valentine Cabaret.

February 22 – Ash Wednesday Worship led by Dr. Bill Lutz, Rev. Travis Winckler, Elizabeth Testa, M.Div., with music by Kenneth Dake. (Ashes available after worship.)

February 29 – Aronda Way sings jazz, soul and rhythm & blues in her tribute to the Queens of Music, past and present.

CLASSES, CLUBS & MOVIES

Classes and activities listed are free, but registered membership in the 60+ Fellowship is required.

Exercise/Dance Class / 10:30-11:00am – Led by peer instructors. For all fitness levels. No pre-registration needed.

Singing with Lynne / 2:15pm – Led by Lynne Wilson.

Bridge Club / 2:15pm – Experienced players welcome. On February 15 and 29, bridge master Bob Cantara teaches a class for intermediate players and above. \$2, requested donation for Mr. Cantara's instruction.

60+ Movie Club / 2:15pm – Classic selections from our collection. Please check the 60+ newsletter for titles.

AARP TAX AID

Begins Wednesday, February 1
9:30am–2:00pm / Room 205

Volunteers from the AARP Tax Aid Program help complete your IRS tax forms. This free service, for adults 50 years and older, continues every **Wednesday through April 11**. First come, first served. 2011 Federal and State tax forms provided. *Please bring copies of completed 2010 tax forms and all 2011 income and interest statements.*



Djoré Nance



Aronda Way

KNITTING AND CROCHETING

Fridays, February 3, 10, 17 & 24
11:00am-12:30pm

Mary Duffy helps you learn to knit or to perfect your skills. All levels welcome to join this friendly and supportive class. Please supply your own materials. Registration required.

Entrepreneurs

A ROLLING STONE GATHERS NO MOSS

Thursday, February 16 / 6:30-8:30pm

Guest speaker **Henry Papale**, lead guitarist, singer and songwriter for a band entitled *Lord Awesome*, will map out how tripping over the stumbling stone is part of the process of making music and crafting a life. What did Mozart and Stravinsky run into while creating order from chaos and what can entrepreneurs gain from knowing about their processes? Suggested contribution, \$10.

40s & 50s Ministry

STAY AND PRAY

Sunday, February 12 / 12:30-1:15pm

Mid-winter is a wonderful time to ruminate on the prayers and blessings you wish to lay in the healing palm of God's hand. Join us for a meditative, communal prayer session immediately after Sunday worship.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

February 22 / 6:15pm

Begin the holy Lenten season with Marble's evening worship. If you would like to serve as an usher or greeter, please contact Colleen Cosgrove (ext. 453 or CCosgrove@marblechurch.org).

SAVE THE DATE

LAUREN MANNING: AN INSPIRATIONAL STORY OF UNMEASURED STRENGTH

Thursday, March 8 / 6:00pm

The 40s&50s joins the Women's Ministry for this program and book signing. Please see details on page 5.

WeWo: Wednesday Worship @ 6:15pm

"WeWo" blends traditional and contemporary worship styles, taking the best of both, creating a mixture that is informal and reverent, often humorous and always Spirit-filled. Music led by Gospel Choir director Djouré Nance. Meets in Bay Hall.

February 1 – Paulette Thompson-Clinton, M.Div.; **February 8** – Rev. Travis Winckler; **February 15** – Elizabeth Testa, M.Div.; **Ash Wednesday, February 22** – Dr. Michael Brown; **February 29** – Rev. Shari K. Brink.

Our next New Member Wednesday Class begins, March 14; Please see page 3 for details.

During Your Lenten Journey...

JOIN A SMALL GROUP DEVOTED TO SPIRITUAL GIFTS EXPLORATION

Registration begins February 1

Join one of three 8-week Small Groups from the Laity Empowerment Project which begin the first week in March: **Unwrapping Our Gifts, Hearing God's Call, Unleashing Our Weekday Ministries**. Contact Rebecca Vigil, (ext. 470 or RVigil@marblechurch.org).

Opportunities to Serve

Action Volunteers: What Will You Do?

WAYS TO HELP OTHERS

You're keeping your resolution to serve others, right? If you don't see what's right for you below, contact Elise Hanley for more ideas and referrals to organizations that are in need of volunteers.

Opportunities for February:

Saturday, February 4 – 5 volunteers are needed for a **Habitat for Humanity** rehabilitation project in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn. This project is part of Habitat-NYC's 100 Homes in Brooklyn initiative to improve this iconic neighborhood through both new construction and rehabilitation of affordable homes. 9:15am-4:30pm, tools and instructions provided.

Sunday, February 5 – Contribute food to **HONEY** (Help Our Neighbors Eat Year-round) by bringing single-serving non-perishables to the Action Table in Bay Hall.

Sunday, February 5 – Help serve lunch to senior adults in need at Madison Avenue Baptist Church's **Sunday Lounge**, Madison Avenue and 31st Street.

Sunday, February 12 – Volunteers are needed to help prepare 30 lunches, 9:30-10:30am, for our **Ecclesia Ministry** (an open-air worshipping congregation for the community in Madison Square Park). We also need others to transport the lunches and host the service which begins at 2:00pm; meet in the 29th St. lobby at 1:30pm. *Donations of individual-sized juice boxes, small snack foods, and jars of peanut butter and jelly for Ecclesia may be left any Sunday at the Action Table in Bay Hall.*

Sunday, February 19 – We kick-off our annual **Drive for Dignity**, which provides new undergarments to homeless adults living in shelters. Donations of new boxers, briefs, bras, t-shirts, tank tops and socks **will be accepted through April 1.**



Marble Fights Hunger – Please support our continuous food drive. Bring non-perishable items with you to church and leave in baskets in the narthex or lobby. This food is then distributed to church pantries helping those who need emergency food.

Marble Coffee Pourers Ministry – Volunteer one Sunday a month to serve during Coffee Hour after worship. Please contact Rebecca Vigil (RVigil@marblechurch.org).

WeWo Visuals Ministry – If you'd like to volunteer to help with the projected visuals during Worship, approximately one Wednesday a month, contact Siobhan Tull (STull@marblechurch.org).

Donate Blood! While Marble was unable to hold a blood drive this year, we still encourage all in our community who are healthy and able to donate blood on a regular basis. The blood supply is often particularly low in winter months. Help save a life by donating blood or platelets - go to www.nyblood-center.org for more information or to make an appointment. Thank you!

Stop at the Action Table in Bay Hall after Sunday worship to talk with a committee member about these opportunities and others. To receive notice of serving opportunities, "Action Alerts," by email, contact Elise Hanley, Director of Mission and Outreach, EHanley@marblechurch.org.



Music at Marble

CONCERT A LA CARTE: ROMANCING THE TONE

Friday, February 10 | 7:30pm

Extraordinary Marble singers step out from the choir to enchant us with songs of courtship and romance, with Kenneth Dake accompanying at the keyboard. This cabaret-style performance will offer something to delight every musical desire!

Tickets: \$15 at the door.

Preceding the concert, bring a date to a romantic dinner hosted by The Committed Couples. See page 4 for pricing and reservation details.

SAVE THE DATE

CARITAS ET AMOR

Expressions of Love, Human and Divine

Wednesday, March 7 | 7:30pm

Marble Sanctuary Choir, Kenneth Dake, director

With eclectic music that is sure to penetrate the heart, the Sanctuary Choir sings a Wednesday evening Lenten concert centering on the theme of God's sacrificial love. (*Lenten Worship, 6:15pm in Bay Hall, precedes the concert*).

Tickets: \$20 at the door; \$15 when ordered in advance online with credit card at www.marble-church.org, or contact Siobhan Tull (ext. 412 or STull@marblechurch.org).

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Pick up a brochure or visit us at www.marblechurch.org to learn more.

"One Spirit. Many Gifts" Marble Collegiate Church Spiritual Gifts Itinerary

"Kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you."

— 2 Timothy 1:6

Marble's year-long journey continues. If you haven't started down your own path to discover the gifts you are called to use (or are already using and don't even know it), it's NOT too late. And if you've already taken some steps, we hope you'll keep going. Visit our Spiritual Gifts page at www.marblechurch.org where you'll find the Spiritual Gifts Inventory, Sr. Carol's biblical overview, and weekly supplements to keep you engaged and

committed as you get up close and even more personal with your spiritual gifts. Guidebooks are also available in Bay Hall during Coffee Hour and stay-tuned for our upcoming events in March and April.

THE LAST WORD

Love is patient; love is kind...

— 1 Corinthians 13:4