

MARBLE Update

MARBLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

January 2009

Worship
Sundays at 11:15am

January 4
Where Do We Go
from Here?
Dr. Kenneth Ruge

January 11
Of Course You Can
Start Again
Dr. Arthur Caliandro

January 18
Finding Freedom's Light
Dr. Kenneth Ruge

January 25
Go with Faith
Dr. Arthur Caliandro

Wednesday Worship
6:15pm

Messages from the pulpit are televised locally on WLNY-TV10/55 (Sundays, 6:30am) and MNN Time Warner Ch. 67, RCN Ch. 85 (10am) and can be heard on WOR Radio/710-AM (Sundays, 7pm)

For real-time streaming video of the worship service, visit www.marblechurch.org, Sundays at 11:15am (EST).

Index

Ten O'Clock Hour 2-3

Program Ministries 3-5

Spiritual Enrichment 5

Outreach 6

1 West 29th Street
New York, NY 10001-4596
www.marblechurch.org
212-686-2770
212-685-0706 fax

Live Forward

As we come into the New Year, I am thinking of a favorite phrase of mine, one that I have used a thousand times and always with strong conviction. The phrase is "Keep the faith." In a world in which circumstances are continually challenging us, if not testing us, we do best by believing that there is a higher power, a greater Mind, a benevolent Spirit, at work on our behalf. Keeping the faith helps us to deal with the moment and with the future, which is always unknown.

My assistant Susan Eldred handed me a quotation the other day by the nineteenth century theologian Søren Kierkegaard: "Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards." This is a brilliant insight. We may not



understand much of what is happening in the moment, but we will see it in perspective sometime ahead. Therefore, we must keep the faith.

As Marble moves through a transition – and I personally am moving through the transition of retirement – let us agree to keep the faith and do everything we can to keep this great old church strong and vital.

I have loved being your minister. You are wonderful and I cherish the time I have had with you. I have been blessed, deeply blessed.

Keep the faith, dear friends.

Celebrate the Ministry of Dr. Caliandro

Sunday, January 25, 11:15am

Dr. Caliandro's gift as a "people's minister" has shaped the character of Marble Collegiate Church. Through his ministry, Marble has acquired the reputation – locally and nationally – for offering a positive, non-judgmental setting in which all are welcome to explore their faith journey. Congregants feel safe to share their stories and express their hopes, needs, and doubts without reproach because Dr. Caliandro set the example. With a firm belief that God loves each of us and wants to be intimately involved in our lives, he has led Marble Church to become a place "in which a miracle can take place."

At the end of this month, Dr. Caliandro retires from ministry at Marble Collegiate Church after forty-two years of service. The congregation will honor him during the 11:15am service on January 25, when his sermon will be "Go with Faith." Under the direction of Kenneth Dake, the Sanctuary Choir and Festival of Voices will present special music for the occasion and Dr. Caliandro's

extended family and special guests will be in attendance. The celebration continues at a reception in Burrell Hall.

A Service of Remembrance Saturday, January 10, at 2:00pm

She was a vibrant, vital force in the spiritual and communal life of Marble for over 54 years. We gather to honor her remarkable spirit and thank God for bringing Florence into our lives.



Rev. Dr. Florence W. Pert
(1930-2008)

MarbleVision Media Exhibit: “Beyond the Pulpit”

Sundays, January 11, 18 & 25

Visit the 8th floor of the church office building to walk through an exhibit, created by church staff and Media Team volunteers, honoring Dr. Caliandro and his media presence. See the history and development of MarbleVision, read sermon booklets, watch episodes of the “Simple Faith” television program, listen to sermons, and access the Internet for Marble-related videos.

MarbleVision was founded by Dr. Caliandro to offer a unique voice in Christian media, one that provides contemporary interpretations of Christian wisdom while promoting inclusiveness and community service – all hallmarks of his ministry. Though they may never enter our Fifth Avenue door, people across the country and around the world consider Marble their church home because of MarbleVision’s outreach.

Media Team volunteers are needed to help install the exhibit beginning Sunday, January 4, and throughout the week. We are also looking for guides to host the exhibit while it is open January 11, 18 and 25. Interested volunteers may contact Siobhan Tull at 212-686-2770.

Marble Community Gospel Choir in Concert

A Wonderful Change

Wednesday, January 21, 7:00pm

*1963 – Martin Luther King tells the nation
“I have a dream...”*

Forty-five years after Dr. King’s impassioned speech, America elects its first African-American president and history is made. The Marble Community Gospel Choir, under the direction of Djouré Nance, celebrates Dr. King’s vision and the joy of new beginnings in a concert of praise and jubilation. It’s an evening of uplifting, high-energy music to stir your soul – a great event for the whole family.

Following the concert, meet the choir at a reception in Bay Hall.

Childcare is available on request.



\$15, admission (students, \$10 at the door). Advance tickets available Sundays after worship in Bay Hall; reservations with credit card may be made online at www.marblechurch.org.

ten o'clock hour on sundays

*CDs of Ten O’Clock
Hour sessions are
available for purchase
(\$8) each Sunday
on the Portico or
by contacting
MarbleVision,
212-686-2770.*

MEETING PLACE

Difficult Teachings of Jesus

January 4, 11, 18 & 25

Sister Carol Perry

Jesus never hesitated before asking hard things of his followers. Culture and customs change, but what are we to make today of “let the dead bury their dead” and “sell all you have and give it to the poor”? Sr. Carol sheds light on some of Jesus’ comments that cause many of us to scratch our heads in bewilderment. *Sr. Carol, Resident Bible Scholar, makes characters and stories in Scripture come alive.*

BAY HALL

Harness the Power of Your Soul

January 18

Paulette Thompson-Clinton, M. Div.

This is not a year for the same old resolutions. Now is the time to experience a new birth of spiritual freedom, to be co-creators with Jesus in realizing long-hoped-for dreams. We’re not wired to be helpless – Ms. Thompson-Clinton suggests ways to connect with God’s indwelling power. She offers thought-provoking yet practical ideas to ignite the Spirit-filled, rejuvenating spark in each of us. *Paulette Thompson-Clinton is Director of Church School and has a broad background in education, music, and intercultural relations.*



**Paulette
Thompson-Clinton**

Dealing with Uncertainty

January 4 & 11

Dr. Kenneth Ruge

Given events of the last year, few of us are strangers to feelings of anxiety and uncertainty. As followers of Christ we are called to a higher state of being. But what must we do to reach that existence? How can God’s promise of things eternal be our anchor in unpredictable times? Dr. Ruge talks about the role of faith as an antidote to worry and how to use Jesus’ wisdom as a firm foundation on which to stand. *Dr. Ruge is Marble’s Administrative Minister, a psychotherapist and author.*

Parables of Growth and Love:

A Celebration of Dr. Arthur Caliandro

January 25

Nina H. Frost

Jesus’ parables, his mysterious and challenging stories, are often invitations to growth and new life. In this New Year and this new chapter in Marble’s life, come for a close and surprising look at three parables: the Mustard Seed, the Leaven, and the Prodigal Son – all offered as guides to our own spiritual development and as enduring legacies of the ministry of Arthur Caliandro. *Nina Frost is a spiritual counselor and Director of Adult Education at Marble.*

PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Developing a Healthy Self-Esteem

January 18 & 25, 10:00am

Dr. Bill Lutz

We want to do the right thing for our children but do not always know what that is. We want to provide appropriate support but without being overprotective. How involved should we be when "helping" with homework, screening friends, allowing freedom? What is our response to the influence of media, cell phones, video games, and value systems of other kids or families? All who live or work with children are invited to these lively discussions led by Dr. Bill Lutz.

New on DVD:

An Interview with Dr. Bill Lutz

"Eating and Sleeping Habits of Children"

Eating and sleeping patterns are concerns of parents with young children that are frequently heard by Dr. Bill Lutz, minister, family relationship therapist, and an invaluable resource concerning child development.

Now available on DVD is an informal discussion between Dr. Lutz and a young couple

with questions about their son's eating and sleeping habits. Recognizing that mealtime can be stressful, the first topic of conversation is a child's eating patterns: the number of meals in a day, behavior at the dinner table, and when and what kids eat. Second, they look at how much sleep children need, how to put them to sleep, and how bedtime can be a golden opportunity for emotional attachment. *Appropriate for parents/guardians of infants to 5 years old.*

\$15 / DVD. Available for purchase Sundays on the Portico after worship, or by contacting MarbleVision, 212-686-2770.



Dr. Bill Lutz

EVERY SUNDAY

Prayer Circle

Poling Chapel, 10:00am

An informal get-together, led by Rev. Steve Pierce, centering on the day's Scripture reading, singing, and prayer for individual and communal concerns. Includes time for healing through prayer and the laying on of hands. Holy Communion is celebrated Sunday, January 4.

program ministries

Committed Couples

Growing in Spirit, Service and Learning

Reaffirmation of Vows

Sunday, January 11, 1:00pm

Dr. Kenneth Ruge and Rev. Steven Pierce

Whether you've shared your lives together for a few months or several years, commit to each other at a reaffirmation ceremony in the Sanctuary led by Dr. Ken Ruge, Administrative Minister, and Rev. Steve Pierce, Associate Minister. Afterwards, enjoy a special brunch by Chef Ron at \$20 per couple. Reservations required; contact Judy Tulin at the church (212-686-2770, ext. 709) or register online at www.marblechurch.org.

Marble Connection

Young Adults in their 20s & 30s

Every Sunday, 1:00-2:00pm, 4th floor

Meet over light brunch for conversation about what matters in our lives. Get to know other young adults as we share life and faith. Rev. David Lewicki facilitates. This month, our topics are:

January 4: Spiritual Practices for the New Year.

January 11: Spiritual Grab Bag.

January 18: The Joshua Generation: MLK, Obama, and the future.

January 25: God's Economy: Christian teachings about money and day-to-day living.

Children & Youth

Church School Resumes

Sunday, January 11, 10:00am

Church School classes and children's choir rehearsals resume Sunday, January 11, at regularly scheduled times. This month, we pay tribute to Dr. Arthur Caliandro as he retires from his ministry at Marble. Check our web page at www.marblechurch.org (view **Education**) to be abreast of the latest happenings in the Church School. Throughout the season, find details on spring events including "Bring your Parent/Guardian to Church School Sunday," monthly "Family Worship" services, the annual "Ice Skating Party," the "Marble Family Retreat," and more.

Please note that Confirmation Classes for youth, 7th-12th grades, begin in February. Pre-register with the Church School office.

For inquiries about Family Ministry programs, contact Church School Director Paulette Thompson-Clinton at 212-686-2770 or pthompsonclinton@marblechurch.org.



Rev. David Lewicki,
Marble Connection
pastoral advisor

Dinner Programs at Marble

TIME:

**6:00pm, dinner
7:00pm, program**

COST:

**\$15, dinner & program
\$6, program only**

Make dinner reservations in Bay Hall after worship, or by calling the church, 212-686-2770.



Vicki Avila

Entrepreneurs

Gold, Frankincense, Myrrh

Thursday, January 15, 6:30–8:30pm

In the spirit of our theme “Work as a Pilgrimage of the Soul,” 2009 begins with a program inspired by the story of three who are famous for their pilgrimage. Not only did the Three Wise Men travel by night, guided by a star, but they brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Guest speaker Vicki Avila explores a question that weaves through each of our meetings for the coming months: What are the special and unique gifts we can offer through our work? Vicki introduces us to the power of the Wise Men’s gifts and demonstrates the Holy Oils of Scripture. Suggested donation, \$8.

Vicki Avila is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and the Clinical Director of Sojourners Family Resource Center in Hasbrouck Heights, NJ. She is also a Wellness Consultant, offering individual consultation and group classes in the use of therapeutic-grade essential oils to enhance emotional, spiritual, mental, and physical well-being.

MidLIFE Minstry

Dinner Discussion Group

Thursday, January 8, 6-7:30pm

On the second Thursday of each month, a lively group of men and women meet at Marble to discuss social, spiritual, and political topics over dinner. All adults are invited to participate in this community of individuals from a range of backgrounds. Dinner, \$12; reserve at least 24-hours in advance. Register online at www.marblechurch.org or contact Siobhan Tull at the church (STull@marblechurch.org).

60+ Fellowship

LUNCH AND PROGRAM

To join the Fellowship, please contact Liz Testa or Colleen Cosgrove at the church.

Each Wednesday, lunch (\$6) is at noon followed by a program at 1:00pm.

January 7 – Drew Kindred kicks off the New Year with lively group dances and restorative chair yoga.

January 14 – Accomplished opera singers Djoré Nance and Takesha Meshé Kizart perform a classical recital highlighting American composers Floyd, Barber, and Bolcoma. Djoré recently made his Carnegie Hall debut with Opera Orchestra of NY. Takesha’s extensive repertoire includes leading roles in *Tosca*, *La Bohème*, *La Traviata*, and many others.

January 21 – “Live A Radiant Life.” This is your time to shine! Rev. Marion Gambardella helps you uncover your inner radiance to make

every day vibrant, joy-filled, and more meaningful than ever before.

January 28 – Celebrate the Lunar New Year with an Asian-themed meal. Afterwards, Horizon Concerts offers a mix of traditional Korean music and classical repertoire. (Lunch, \$8 members; \$10 guests)

SPECIAL EVENT:

New Year, New You!

Wednesday, January 7, 2:15 pm

Skin care expert June Jarvis leads a pampering session of self care. Space is limited to 12 people; register early to secure your place. Call Colleen Cosgrove at the church, 212-686-2770.

CLASSES, CLUBS & MOVIES

All who are 60+ are welcome to attend, but Fellowship membership is required. To become a member, contact Colleen Cosgrove or register Wednesdays at the church.

Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30am –

Fitness, fun, and fellowship is led by peer instructors certified by NYC’s Dept. of the Aging. No pre-registration needed.

Movie of the Week, 2:15pm – Room 601.

1/7 – “An American in Paris” (1951)

1/14 – “Top Hat” (1935)

1/21 – “Charley’s Aunt” (1941)

1/28 – “The Barkleys of Broadway” (1943)

Bridge Club, 2:15pm

Room 800. Experienced players welcome. Bridge instructor Mike Galatola returns to teach a class for intermediate players and above on January 14.

Singing & Acting, 2:15pm

Room 600. Taught by Estelle Randolph. Classes culminate with a year-end talent showcase for those ready to share their work. All are welcome; no prior experience needed.

Men’s Ministry

Managing Your Lust

Tuesday, January 13

Dr. Ken Ruge

Our sexuality is an important part of what defines us and can be a great blessing or get us into trouble. Lust is really misdirected love that doesn’t work. Dr. Ruge talks about healthy and unhealthy ways to express our sexual desire, as well as the connection between spirituality and sexuality. He offers suggestions to channel our libido that are affirming, loving, and even sacred. Dinner program; see column on page 3.



Dr. Ken Ruge



Djoré Nance



Takesha Meshé Kizart

Men's Sunday Brunch

January 18, 12:30pm

Following worship, men of the church gather for brunch and fellowship with each other. Discussion focuses on Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's thoughts about "Finding Enthusiasm in Life." You're encouraged to share experiences when you felt great passion or zeal for life, whether in your work, relationships, or pastimes. Brunch is \$10; no reservation needed. Led by Dr. Bill Lutz on the 8th floor.

Marble Women's Ministry

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Weekend Retreat

Friday-Sunday, February 20-22

Our annual retreat this year is at Seaview Resort in beautiful Absecon, NJ, with Sr. Carol Perry, Nina H. Frost, Rev. Kimberleigh Jordan and Rev. Kanyere Easton (Executive Director of The Sister Fund). For details visit our website at www.marblechurch.org, or stop by the MWM table in Bay Hall after worship.

spiritual enrichment

Bible Study, Tuesdays at 6:30pm

Biblical Standing Stones

January 6, 13, 20 & 27

Sister Carol Perry

Each Tuesday evening, we take a guided tour through the Old Testament, using selected passages to form the "standing stones," or core, of God's words to us. Sr. Carol focuses on the last days of the kingdoms of Judah and Israel when the works of the great prophets began, a fascinating era that is relevant for us today. Sr. Carol Perry is a gifted teacher who takes a practical, down-to-earth approach to exploring the Scriptures.



Sister Carol Perry

Spirituality in the Workplace

A Lunch Break that Boosts Your Spirit

Sister Carol Perry

Need a spiritual pick-me-up in the middle of your workday? Bring your lunch and take part in interactive Bible studies at three Manhattan locations with Sr. Carol Perry, Marble's resident Bible scholar.

TUESDAYS, NOON - 1PM

January 6 & 20: Marble Collegiate Church, 3 West 29th Street, Room 205.

January 13 & 27: Downtown at 2 Wall Street, Law Offices of Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, 18th floor.

THURSDAY, NOON-1PM

January 8 & 22: St. Bartholomew's Church, 109 E. 50th Street (bet. Park & Lexington Aves.), Room 32 (take elevator to 3rd floor).

Wednesday Worship @ 6:15pm

Beginning at 6:15, Gospel Choir director Djoré Nance provides musical leadership and Rev. David Lewicki offers insightful preaching. This mid-week service 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.

Following worship, there are adult education offerings at 7:30pm, from small groups to Bible study, to help you in your walk of faith. The Labyrinth is available in Burrell Hall for walking meditation the first Wednesday of every month, 5:00-8:00pm.

This month includes:

January 7 – Abby Huff, seminary intern, preaching.

January 14 – Rev. David Lewicki, preaching: "The Joshua Generation"

January 21 – Martin Luther King Concert featuring the Marble Community Gospel Choir, Djoré Nance, directing. (No worship service at 6:15pm. The concert begins at 7:00pm.)

January 28 – Rev. David Lewicki, preaching – "Reign: A 4-part sermon series on the Kingdom of God." Bible study follows at 7:30pm.

Compassionate Friends

January 13, 7:30-9:00pm

This support group offers friendship, understanding, and hope to parents and siblings who have experienced the death of a child from any cause, at any age. Meets the second Tuesday of each month. For inquiries, call the Compassionate Friends information line, (212) 217-9647

the last word...

Our care should not be to have lived long as to have lived enough.

– Seneca

Staff for this Issue:

Editor:
Don Piper

Photos:
Dave Cross
Don Piper

Graphic Design:
Beth Player-DiCicco

Stop at the Action Table on the Portico after worship any Sunday to talk with a committee member about these opportunities and others, or call Gail Kitselman, Director of Volunteer Ministries, at the church. Experience the joy of sharing your talents with others.

Action Volunteers

WAYS TO HELP OTHERS

Begin the New Year with an exciting growth experience – be a volunteer. This month we are highlighting Marble’s annual Blood Drive on Sunday, January 18. The New York Blood Center hopes for our enthusiastic support.

Below are other ways to serve in January:

Sunday, January 4 – Contribute food to HONEY (Help Our Neighbors Eat Year-round) by bringing single-serving non-perishables to the Action Table on the Portico.

Sunday, January 4 – Help serve lunch to disadvantaged (and, in some cases, homeless) seniors after worship at a local church on East 31st St.

Sunday, January 11 – Help prepare lunches, 9:30-10:30am, for our Ecclesia Ministry (a worshipping congregation for the homeless in Madison Sq. Park). Others needed to transport the lunches and host the service, starting at 1:30pm.

Sunday, January 18 – Marble Church’s annual Blood Drive. Give the gift of life; sign up in advance for an appointment to donate blood.

Sunday, January 25 – The Action Committee sorts used winter clothing for the homeless. Volunteers help with the sort and, most importantly, drivers with cars are needed to deliver the garments to shelters.

Saturday, January 31 – Common Ground needs volunteers to serve lunch 12 Noon-3:00pm at the Prince George (28th St. btn Fifth & Mad.).

MARBLE Update
MARBLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH
January 2009

Marble Collegiate Church
One West Twenty-Ninth Street, NY, NY 10001-4596
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM
ZIP CODE 10001
PERMIT NO. 269

Marble Fights Hunger

Many citywide agencies and businesses discontinue their food drives at the end of the holiday season, leaving distribution centers in serious need. Marble is continuing to collect nutritious, non-perishable food items for hungry people in our city.

Before you come to church, whether for a Sunday service or a weekday program, remember to drop a non-perishable food item in your bag, backpack or briefcase. You might bring canned goods, boxes of cereal or pasta, vacuum cartons of milk or juice, individual servings of baby food, cheese and crackers, or soup. (Think about what would make a meal

for a hungry person.) Items don’t have to be large but please check for expiration dates.

During the week, you may leave your donation at the reception desk in the 3 West 29th Street lobby, or on Sundays place it in the Marble Fights Hunger food cart in Bay Hall.

Organizations that receive Marble’s food collections include City Harvest, Sylvia’s Place, St. Augustine’s Food Pantry, H.O.N.E.Y. (Help Our Neighbors East Year-round), and Ecclesia.

Volunteers are needed to help sort and pack food for distribution. To volunteer, contact Gail Kitselman at the church.

