

MARBLE UPDATE

MARBLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH 1 WEST 29TH STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001-4596 WWW.MARBLECHURCH.ORG 212-686-2770 212-685-0706 FAX

MAY/JUNE 2011

SUNDAY WORSHIP

11AM

DR. MICHAEL BROWN
PREACHING

Schedule for Live Webcast
at www.marblechurch.org

10am – Bible Study with

Sr. Carol Perry

11am – Worship Service

12:15pm – Talkback with

Dr. Brown

12:45pm – Replay of

Bible Study

1:30pm – Adult Education

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

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

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

6:15PM

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

Marble – A Great Place to Be

How can it possibly be post-Easter? For that matter, it barely seems like any time since the Christmas trees were still up. Why does the pace of 2011 seem to be constantly in high gear?

It's been a strong winter and spring, even in spite of the monumental snowfalls we endured. The church renovations began. We're preparing for our third New Member Class of the year, and the numbers are encouraging. You were incredibly generous with the Easter Offering, enabling us to assist neighbors as nearby as Manhattan and as far away as Japan. We were the national Easter Program on the ABC Television Network. We conducted a strong Stewardship Campaign to which your responses have been generous and continue to come in.

We've had thought-provoking guests ranging from Amy-Jill Levine to Len Sweet to Renee House to Thomas Moore to the Rabbis Berkowitz. We had a Confirmation Class with eighteen teenagers making Professions of Faith and joining the church. All of our choirs provided concerts that were breath-taking and inspiring. Our Women's, Men's, 20s & 30s, and 40s & 50s groups have had spiritually enriching retreats. The Committed Couples, 60+ Fellowship, Arts Ministry and Entrepreneurs have had a variety of inspiring speakers. We've seen innovative programs and activities for children, youth, and families. The entire Marble community came together to help celebrate the history of GIFTS.

Our Stephen Ministry Leaders received formal training in Florida and are now training our new



Stephen Ministers in order that they may begin their work in July. We partnered with Madison Avenue Baptist Church for our mid-week Lenten Worship services. We opened a new Welcome Center in Peale Parlor where each Sunday we share with first-time visitors what the Marble experience can mean for them. The 1:30 Hour on Sundays has provided outstanding programs, particularly about the nature of Church. Included in that were four "town hall" type events called *Marble Matters*, enabling you to ask questions

and gather information from leaders of the Board, the Ministries Council, and the Staff. Sister Carol's Sunday morning classes have continued to fill the room and the souls of those within the room and beyond in our online community. A group of church members went on a safe and deeply meaningful spiritual enrichment tour of Italy. And that is not the half of it ... and all that occurred in merely the first four months of the year!

With the arrival of summer, I know some of you will be traveling. I pray for your safety, rest, and renewal. While you are on the road, if you are not worshipping in a church elsewhere, then turn on your laptops and worship with us via live-stream. And, take a deep breath ... because as much as this church has done during winter and spring, we're planning even more when the new program year starts up in September. This is a great and exciting place to be. For that, I thank God ... and I thank you!

Sunday Worship, 11am DR. MICHAEL B. BROWN PREACHING*

MAY 1*
The Gospel
According to
Venziatta
Luke 24:36-49

MAY 8*
Mother's Day
God and Moms
Isaiah 49:1-15

MAY 15*
The Dark Mile
Psalm 23

MAY 22
Rev. Kenneth Bradsell
Asst. Secretary, The Reformed
Church in America

MAY 29*
Memorial Day Weekend/
Fleet Week Celebration
Lasting Legacies
Psalm 112:5-7

JUNE 5
Rev. Shari K. Brink

JUNE 12*
Pentecost Sunday
Birthdays and
New Births
Matthew 16:13-19

JUNE 19*
Father's Day
When Jesus Prayed,
"Our Father"
Matthew 6:7-9

JUNE 26*
Mirror, Mirror,
on the Wall
Luke 15:11-32

- MARBLE CURRICULUM FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH
- PROGRAM MINISTRIES
- SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT
- OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE
- MARBLE MATTERS

SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL AND ARTISANS BOUTIQUE

Sunday, May 1 | 12:15-3:00pm

Come celebrate the Creative Spirit, the Arts and our local artists at this inspiring event in Bay Hall. The Artisans Boutique is back by popular demand, offering unique hand-crafted jewelry, textiles, ceramics, photography and other artwork for sale. Highlights of the afternoon include a CYF bake sale, live music and a 60+ Fellowship art exhibit. All proceeds from the bake sale, artisans' table rentals and door prize donations will be shared by the CYF Ministry and NYC Crop Walk. All are welcome!

Artisans interested in participating may contact Siobhan Tull to see if tables are still available. (ext. 412 or STull@marblechurch.org)

BRING-A-FRIEND SUNDAY

Sunday, May 15

Why not share the joy and spirit of your church home by inviting friends to join you at Marble on this special day? All guests will receive our warm welcome, special recognition in worship, and a token of our thanks in the Peale Parlor Welcome Center following worship. Other activities include Sister Carol Perry's 10:00am Bible study, CYF (children, youth and family) activities, Bay Hall coffee hour, and Chef Ron's delicious brunch.

Send your friends off with a song in their hearts by attending our Spring Choral Festival at 2:00pm. "Then Sings My Soul" features all three Marble choirs and celebrates the beautiful diversity that is Marble Church. (For concert details and discounted advance-sale ticket pricing, see page 10.)

MARBLE FAMILY PICNIC

Saturday, June 11 | 11:00am-4:00pm

All are welcome at Marble's 2nd annual church picnic – a day of fun, food, and sun at Lewis Morris Park in Morristown, New Jersey. The locale is fully accessible and picnic-perfect with hiking trails, children's play area, baseball field, large open meadow perfect for sack races, plus trees to sit under and enjoy a game of dominoes or bridge. Marble's magnificent kitchen crew grills burgers

and dogs; the rest of us will participate in a potluck of our favorite side dishes to share with all. What'll it be? Aunt Dorothy's deviled eggs...Uncle Pete's potato salad...Mama's apple pie...Fairway's cupcakes?*

Buses leave Marble at 10:00am and return at approximately 5:00pm. Or load up the car and meet us at the park. The Marble Family Picnic promises to be a fun-filled outing for all ages and a great way to kick off the summer.

COST:

Adults: \$30 event and bus transport; \$12 event only.

Children (ages 5-12): \$20 event and bus transport; \$5.00 event only (Children 4 and under are free; must sit on adult's lap on bus).

RSVP by Thursday, June 2, online at www.marblechurch.org, or contact Siobhan Tull (ext. 412 or STull@marblechurch.org).

*Please notify Siobhan Tull of the side dish, homemade or store-bought, that you would like to bring.

SUMMER NEW MEMBER CLASS

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

If you've been thinking about membership – take that step. This class will be received into membership on Sunday, June 12. Sign up required by May 29. Please stop by the Welcome Center in Peale Parlor after Sunday worship, or contact Kim Sebastian Ryan for more details, 212-686-2770, ext. 475, or KRyan@marblechurch.org. (The next class will be in October).

At Marble You Are Wanted, Welcomed, Loved.

NEW TO MARBLE?

Be sure to stop by our Welcome Center on Sundays after worship to be welcomed and get connected with our faith community. And Marble members, be sure to bring your friends by.

2010 Picnic



Bible Study with Sister Carol Perry

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

WHAT DOES THE STRUGGLE SAY?

May 1, 8, 15 & 22

From Jacob to Paul the pages of the Bible are filled with people who struggle, not unlike ourselves, to do what they had to do to put one foot ahead of the other. How can we both profit from and find courage in their examples?

WHY SPEAK OF JERUSALEM AND BABYLON?

May 29 & June 5

These two cities are pivotal biblical concepts, both geographically and in simile. A closer look at some of these texts in the historical books and in the book of Revelation can be profoundly enlightening.

SUMMER SEND-OFF WITH SR. CAROL

June 19

Join Sr. Carol for the last class of the season.

TUESDAYS AT 6:30PM

THE ONE-SIDED CONVERSATION

May 3, 10, 17 & 24

We forget that the Apostle Paul's letters are just one side of an ongoing conversation with early church communities. We continue working together to see what lies behind his later letters. Join Sr. Carol Perry for an intriguing look at first-century society and culture. *(Last class of the season is May 24.)*

WEEKDAYS, NOON-1PM

SPIRITUALITY IN THE WORKPLACE

Boost Your Spirit over Lunch

Bring your lunch and join interactive Bible study in three Manhattan locations with Sr. Carol Perry. Return to work with a new attitude. *(Last session of the season is May 24.)*

TUESDAYS

May 10 & 24: Downtown at 2 Wall Street, Law Offices of Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, 18th floor.

May 3 & 17: Marble Collegiate Church, 3 West 29th Street *(check lobby schedule for room).*

THURSDAYS

May 5 & 19: 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.

Marble Curriculum for Spiritual Growth

Please join us at 1:30pm every Sunday in the merry months of May and June as we bring the program year to a close with several rich opportunities for Spiritual Growth. We'll be exploring a diverse array of topics, from celebrating the creative arts to experiencing the feminine divine, journeying with our young people through spiritual milestones on their path, and probing Christian sexual ethics as well as our response to war. You won't want to miss any of these provocative programs.

SUNDAYS AT 1:30PM

THE PUZZLE: MARBLE'S FESTIVAL OF NEW WORK ONLINE INTERVIEWS

May 1

Brian Hampton, moderator

Join Brian Hampton as he interviews *The Puzzle's* artistic director, Marya Spring Cordes and featured artists of *The Puzzle* as they discuss the creative process of the upcoming week's Festival of New Work. *Because of the Arts Festival in Bay Hall, this entertaining hour may be viewed via live streaming in Poling Chapel.*

WOMEN, EARTH, AND THE FEMININE DIVINE

May 8

Monica Schaap Pierce

Mother's Day is a time to honor special women in our lives as well as reflect on the many gifts we have received from God, our Divine Mother. During this theological conversation, we will explore the multiplicity of metaphors used for God in Scripture, focusing our attention on biblical depictions of the Feminine Divine and reflecting on the ways in which God-talk can promote the flourishing of women and all the earth. Monica Schaap Pierce is a Ph.D. Candidate and Teaching Fellow at Fordham University Theology Department.

WORSHIP AS THREE STREAMS, ONE RIVER

May 15

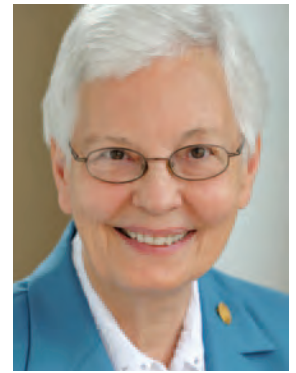
Kenneth Dake

This is part of today's concert. For those not attending the concert, the lecture may be viewed via live-streaming in Poling Chapel.

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A CONFIRMAND?

May 22

Inspired by the hit TV show, *Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?*, leaders of Marble Collegiate Church will be comically quizzed to see how much they have retained from their own childhood Sunday School Classes and Confirmation. With the help of this year's class, we'll see if they are indeed Smarter than a Confirmand.



Sr. Carol Perry



Monica Schaap Pierce

INTERSECTIONS INTERNATIONAL'S VETERAN-CIVILIAN DIALOGUES

May 29

Rev. Robert Chase and Scott Thompson

Join us for an in-depth view into the compelling work underway at Intersections International, the Collegiate Church's multi-faith initiative dedicated to promoting justice, reconciliation and peace. And to honor those who have served in our military, Rev. Robert Chase, Founding Director, and Scott Thompson, Director of Social Dialogue and Training Initiatives, will focus on Intersections' groundbreaking Veteran-Civilian Dialogues. Learn how these dialogues are making an impact in the lives of veterans and civilians alike as together we encounter the question about how war impacts us all.

CHRISTIAN SEXUAL ETHICS, RESPECT AND EQUALITY

June 5

Dr. Traci West



Dr. Traci West

This will be an opportunity to explore the following questions about sexuality and Christian faith. What's "Christian" about Christian sexual ethics? In the church, is sexual ethics only a topic for youth and single adults? As spokespersons in the broader society for increasing ethical sexual behavior can Christians do any better than mean-spirited anti-gay rights rhetoric or support for racist stereotypes of poor women? Led by Rev. Dr. Traci C. West, Professor of Ethics and African American Studies at Drew University Theological School in New Jersey. She is a clergy member of the United Methodist Church, the author of *Wounds of the Spirit: Black*

Women, Violence, and Resistance Ethics, Disruptive Christian Ethics: When Racism and Women's Lives Matter and editor of *Our Family Values: Same-sex Marriage and Religion*.

DISCOVERING HIDDEN TREASURE IN OUR HYMNS

June 12

Kenneth Dake, Marble's Director of Music

Join us as Ken Dake probes for theological and spiritual riches in our hymns, exploring both their historical context and how they express contemporary faith. You are invited to submit one of your favorite hymns for possible inclusion in this musical and inspirational program, including what the hymn means to you and how it informs your spiritual journey or your Marble story. All are welcome. Hymns should be submitted, by email only, to Miriam Chaudoir, MChaudoir@marblechurch.org. Deadline for submissions is Sunday, May 22.

CYF MOVING-UP CEREMONY AND ARTS SHOWCASE

June 19

Join the Children, Youth, and Families for a special musical, drama, and visual arts showcase of their Christian Education Curriculum from this school year. Included in the Arts Showcase will be songs from the musical, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, a visual arts show, and a Moving-Up Ceremony where students of all ages will receive Certificates of Participation.

(Final session of the season is June 19; the Spiritual Growth Hour resumes in September.)

Program Ministries



Children, Youth & Families Ministry (CYF)

FAMILY WORSHIP

Sunday, May 1 & June 5 | 10:00am

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; meets in Room 600. (June 5 is the last Family Worship until fall).

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 15

After a 10-week spiritual journey with our devoted Confirmation teachers, Sam Clover, Sandra Dickerson, and Marcie Doll, our 18 Confirmands affirm their baptism vows during the 11:00am worship service. Their milestone event will begin with a family breakfast.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

June 12

High School graduates of Marble are recognized in the worship service as they move forward in the next chapter of their lives. All graduating seniors from the current or past CYF years, please contact Brian Hampton (ext. 442 or BHampton@marblechurch.org).

TEACHER RECOGNITION SUNDAY

June 19

Join us in worship as we recognize and honor our gifted and caring teachers, nursery care workers, and staff who give their time, energy, and talents to spiritually lead our Marble children and youth on their faith journeys.

CYF MOVING-UP CEREMONY AND ARTS SHOWCASE

Sunday, June 19 | 1:30pm

See section above for details.

PARENTS' GROUP

Sundays, May 8, 15, 22 & 29, June 12 & 19
10:00am

Parents and guardians get together Sunday mornings while children attend Sunday School. Through book discussions, scripture, and sharing real-life parenting experiences, parents and guardians are equipped with the spiritual tools needed to raise their children with Christian values in a secular world.

Arts Ministry**THE PUZZLE: MARBLE'S FESTIVAL OF NEW WORK**

May 2 – 8

Marble is home to *The Puzzle: Marble's Festival of New Work*. Led by Artistic Director, Marya Spring Cordes, with the producing support of Brian Hampton and the ARTS Ministry, the week will be full of theatre, music, and visual arts that are sure to inspire, entertain, challenge, and uplift your creative spirit. For more details, visit the [Arts Ministry page at www.marblechurch.org](#), or pick up one of our schedules in the lobby.

**Committed Couples****DOUBLE DATE NIGHT**

Thursday, May 13 | 6:00-8:30pm

Join us for a double date night at a local restaurant. Couples will meet at Marble and be paired with another couple to enjoy a fun night out. Reservations at the restaurants are already made and childcare will be provided. All couples are welcome. Register in Bay Hall on Sundays, [online at www.marblechurch.org](#), or contact Siobhan Tull (ext 412 or STull@marblechurch.org).

SAVE THE DATE

3RD ANNUAL COUPLES RETREAT

October 28-30, 2011

Led by Nina H. Frost & Rev. Robert Close. At Dolce Norwalk in Norwalk, CT, just 45 minutes from New York City.

Marble Connection (20s & 30s)**ESCAPE AND INSCAPE WITH THE TREES**

Saturday, April 30 | 10:00am-6:00pm

Escape with Connection for this day retreat at beautiful Hartshorne Woods Park. We will explore our own uniqueness and connect with God and each other. \$20 covers lunch and retreat materials. To [register](#), contact Sammy Shecter (ext 477 or SShecter@marblechurch.org).

BIBLE AND BOOK STUDY

Wednesdays in May and June | 7:15-8:15pm

20s & 30s gather after Wednesday Worship for Bible study or study of a particular book. For the topics of the week, please check our [Facebook Group page](#) or the [Connection page at www.marblechurch.org](#).

SERVICE DAY

Saturday, May 14

Join us as we spruce up Sara D. Roosevelt park on the Lower East Side. We'll help to paint, plant and refurbish. Contact Sammy Shecter (ext 477 or SShecter@marblechurch.org) for more information.

Entrepreneurs**REINVENTING THE WHEEL**

Thursday, May 19 | 6:30-8:30pm

Perhaps loving something is the only starting place there is for making your life your own.
– Alice Koller

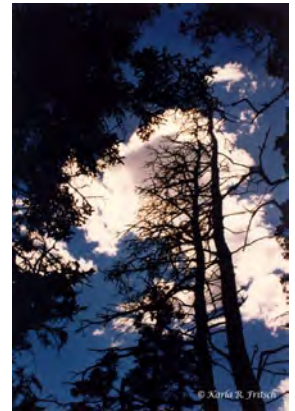
Finally there comes a time when you make your life your own. When headed in the right direction creatively, a sense of satisfaction arises. Three entrepreneurs share their shift from unease to peace as they changed course midstream. Our first speaker, William McNally from the Lion Button Company will launch our discussion with his fascinating story of finding his path by way of the curious case of a button. Suggested contribution, \$10.

A BRUISED REED DOES NOT BREAK

Thursday, June 16 | 6:30-8:30pm

Do not be afraid. – Jesus

What are the four most common fears of entrepreneurs? Join Madeleine Homan Blanchard, Founder, Coaching Services, The Ken Blanchard Companies, as she guides us through the landscape of fears and advises us on strategies for managing them. In addition, there will be an opportunity to discern what makes you special as a leader. Come and push the envelope for your own personal and business development. Suggested contribution, \$10.



Madeleine Homan Blanchard

GIFTS: An LGBT Fellowship

SPRING EVENT

Date TBA

We will gather for food and fellowship, and we'll discuss the ongoing struggle of LGBT people in Uganda and what we can do in response. Check the [GIFTS page at www.marblechurch.org](http://www.marblechurch.org), or call Sammy Shecter for details.

CHRISTIAN SEXUAL ETHICS, RESPECT AND EQUALITY

Sunday, June 5 | 1:30pm

Dr. Traci West

Kick off Pride Week with us at this special Spiritual Growth Hour. See page 3 for details.

PRIDE WEWO

Wednesday, June 15 | 6:15pm

Join us for our annual GIFTS Pride Wednesday Worship. This powerful worship experience will be led by a guest preacher and feature the Pride Chorale. A festive coffee hour will follow. Bring a friend and show them what God's inclusive love looks like! If you enjoy singing, join our Pride Chorale which will lift the congregation's spirit during worship. To sign up, contact Sammy Shecter (ext 477 or SShecter@marblechurch.org). All are welcome.

PRIDE PARADE WATER TABLES

Saturday, June 25 | 5:00pm

Sunday, June 26 | 12:00pm

All are welcome to lend a hand at GIFTS' water tables on Fifth Avenue in front of the church for two of the city's most colorful events. Come when you can; leave when you wish.



Water servers

Women's March on Saturday

We'll be joined by members of the Marble Community Gospel Choir who will sing from the steps of the church.

Pride Parade on Sunday

Serve cups of water to thousands of thirsty marchers and enjoy a front-line view of the parade.

PRE-PRIDE BREAKFAST CELEBRATION

Sunday, June 26 | 9:30am

Get together with Marble's LGBT community and enjoy a hearty breakfast (\$12 per person) before 11:00am worship. After the service, we'll tend the water table in front of the church in time for the big parade. All are welcome. Reservations required, [reserve online at www.marblechurch.org](http://www.marblechurch.org), or contact Sammy Shecter (ext 477 or SShecter@marblechurch.org).

40s & 50s Ministry

TOTAL WELLNESS – BODY, MIND, SPIRIT

Thursday, May 26 | 5:30-7:30pm

Special guest Rev. Marion Gambardella, minister and healing therapist, shares her insights on achieving wholeness through the unity of our body, mind and spirit. This will be our final monthly dinner discussion of the church year. (5:30pm appetizers, 6:00pm dinner) Cost, \$15. Reservations required by Tuesday, May 24. [Register online at www.marblechurch.org](http://www.marblechurch.org) or contact Colleen Cosgrove (ext 453 or CCosgrove@marblechurch.org).

STAY AND PRAY

Sunday, June 5 | 12:30-1:15pm

Spend time in fellowship as we celebrate a simple prayer service. Bring your summer hopes and wishes, as well as your cares, concerns, and prayer requests.

ON-THE-TOWN GET TOGETHERS

Saturdays, May 21 and June 25

Spend a casual Saturday evening in community as we enjoy dinner in a local restaurant and get to know each other better. Pay on your own. The June 25 dinner will be our Summer Kick-off. Restaurant information to follow.

Men's Ministry

FIVE WAYS OF DEEPENING FAITH

Tuesday, May 10 | 6:00-8:30pm

Father Simon Foster

Who you are today is not the same person you were ten years ago. So why should your spiritual life remain the same? Father Simon Foster, Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church of Lattingtown, New York, delves into five key ways for men to deepen their faith in God. Father Simon shares his own experiences and then talks about the challenges of applying these principles. Having served four parishes prior to St. John's, Father Simon brings incredible alacrity and spirit to his sessions while maintaining a deep love for God and people. All men welcome to join us for this meaningful session. Dinner: \$12; Program only: \$8. [Register online at www.marblechurch.org](http://www.marblechurch.org), or contact Tom Schneider (ext. 712 or TSchneider@marblechurch.org).

MONTHLY BRUNCH & DISCUSSION

Sunday, May 15 | 12:15pm

All men invited to gather for brunch at our reserved table in the Meeting Place immediately after worship. At 1:30pm, we join the congregation for our Spring Choral Festival: *Then Sings My Soul*, which begins with Kenneth Dake's talk, "Worship as Three Streams, One River." Admission price to the concert is additional; see page 10 for ticket information. Brunch, \$12; no reservation necessary.

MEN'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Sundays, June 5 – August 28 | 9:30-10:30am

During the summer, all men are invited to gather every Sunday morning for conversation, prayer and discussion based either on a Bible passage or a theological topic. No reservation is necessary. Please contact Tom Schneider for more information (ext. 712 or TSchneider@marblechurch.org).

60+ Fellowship**LUNCH AND PROGRAM**

12:00pm, Lunch

Served promptly at noon. **May 4 & June 1:** Luncheon salad, \$7. **May 11 & 18, June 8:** Regular meal (salad, soup & dessert), \$6. **May 25 & June 15:** Special luncheons, \$10, Fellowship members; \$12, guests.

1:00pm, Program

May 4 – Special presentation from *The Puzzle: Marble's Festival of New Work*. (75 minutes).

May 11 – Soprano Jane Seaman sings classic songs of George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Jerome Kern.

May 18 – Alexandra Beliakovich returns with her latest classical piano repertoire.

May 25 – Our Memorial Day BBQ is topped off by Gary Thompson doing a patriotic musical salute (\$10 Fellowship members; \$12 guests)

June 1 – The Fellowship Singers share their gift of song under the direction of Ms. Lynne Wilson.

June 8 – Classical Productions, led by Patricia Rogers, performs their annual recital entitled "A Tribute to Men."

June 15 – Our Season Finale will be a Luau theme with the Marble Staff performing a Tropical Music Revue and Mario Sprouse on the piano. (\$10 Fellowship members; \$12 guests)

CLASSES, CLUBS & MOVIES

Classes and activities listed below are free, but registered membership in the 60+ Fellowship is required. Contact Colleen Cosgrove (212-686-2770) for information on how to join.

Exercise/Dance Class | 10:30-11:00am – Led by peer instructors certified by NYC's Dept. of the Aging. No pre-registration needed. Line dancing May 4 & June 1; Exercise May 11 & 25, June 8; Ballroom dancing May 18 & June 15.

Bridge Club | 2:15pm – Experienced players welcome. On May 11 & June 8 bridge master Bob Cantara teaches a class for intermediate players and above. \$2, requested donation for Mr. Cantara's instruction.

Acting and Singing Class

Wed., May 4, 11, 18 & 25, June 1 | 2:15pm

Led by Lynne Wilson

Movie of the Week | 2:15pm – Room 601.

5/4 – "Sissi" (1955).

5/11 – "Ladies in Lavender" (2004).

5/18 – "Elsa & Fred" (2005).

5/25 – "Educating Rita" (1983).

In June, we will view inspirational messages by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale from the Peale Center for Positive Thinking Collection.

PUBLIC SPEAKING WORKSHOP

Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18 & 25 | 2:15pm

Led by Kathryn Bild. Class size is limited; register early with Colleen Cosgrove.

PAINTING THE BEAUTY OF SPRING

Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18 & 25

10:00-11:30am

Judy Tulin, Marble's resident art teacher, helps you capture the emerging hues of spring with another painting series using acrylics and watercolors. No experience necessary. Bring a photo or picture you would like to paint. Materials are provided. Class size is limited; register early with Colleen Cosgrove.

EXPRESS YOURSELF THROUGH CREATIVE WRITING

Wednesdays, May 11 & 25, June 8 & 15

2:15pm

Paula Hazlewood, Marble member and author, leads a popular workshop to help you unleash your creativity in a fun and supportive environment. Space is limited so register early.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING

Fridays, May 6, 13, 20 & 27 | 11:00am-12:30pm

Mary Duffy helps you learn to knit or to perfect your skills. All levels welcome. Please supply your own materials. Pre-registration required with Colleen Cosgrove.

STATEN ISLAND OUTING

Wednesday, June 22

Join us as we explore Snug Harbor and Historic Richmond Town. Details to follow.

Marble Women's Ministry**BABY FOOD DRIVE**

Sunday, May 8 – June 19

Help with our annual Baby Food Drive from Mother's Day through Father's Day. We will also accept new baby clothes and accessories. All items collected will be donated to new mothers at Icahn House Shelter, a few blocks from Marble, and to Hour Children, a past recipient of Marble's Easter Offering. Inquiries to Elise Hanley (ext. 475 or EHanley@marblechurch.org).



Classical Productions

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Wednesday Worship @ 6:15pm

This mid-week service blends traditional and contemporary worship styles, creating a mixture that is informal and reverent, often humorous and always Spirit-filled. If you can't be here in person, visit www.marblechurch.org for Live Webcast of Wednesday Worship.

May 4 – “An Occasional Methodist”
(Acts 2:1-17), Dr. Michael Brown.

MAY SERIES: THE WHOLE WORLD IN GOD'S HANDS – A GLOBAL FESTIVAL OF FAITH

May 11 – “Who Is My Neighbor?”
(Luke 10:25-37), Paulette Thompson-Clinton, M.Div., Holy Communion.

May 18 – “Meeting Jesus on the Road”
(Luke 24:13-35), Mark A. Miller.

May 25 – “Love - El Amor” (John 13: 34-35), Elizabeth Testa, M.Div.

JUNE SERIES: MATTERS OF THE HEART

June 1 – “The Heart or the Appendix?”
(Genesis 32: 22-32), Dr. Michael Brown.

June 8 – “Feet of Clay, Hearts of Gold”
(Genesis 17:1-8), Dr. Michael Brown.

June 15 – Worship led by GIFTS

June 22 – “At the Heart of it All”
(Matthew 7:7-12), Dr. Michael Brown.

June 29 – “The Heart of the Matter”
(Mark 12: 28-34), Dr. Michael Brown.

GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP

Tuesdays, May 10 – June 28 | 6:30pm

A new 8-week group led by grief counselor Mark Glubke begins for those who have lost loved ones and are struggling with their sorrow. Mark holds a Master's degree in Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Care from Fordham University and is a therapist at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where he leads a grief recovery group. Participants are asked to commit to the entire schedule; pre-registration is required. To register, contact Judy Tulin (ext. 709) or JTulin@marblechurch.org.

SMALL GROUPS: ENCOURAGEMENT FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.

— Matthew 18:20

This summer, why don't you consider being part of a Marble Small Group? Gather with a few traveling companions to pray, share, heal, love and be transformed.



At Marble, our goal is for every member to be actively involved in a spiritual growth opportunity in addition to worship. By joining a Small Group, you can equip yourself with the spiritual tools to put your faith in action.

For additional information, please contact Rebecca Vigil, RVigil@marblechurch.org, or Paulette Thompson-Clinton, PTompsonclinton@marblechurch.org.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT MINISTRY TEAM

A dedicated group of lay persons, led by Rev. Steve Pierce, offers you spiritual support and encouragement in a number of ways:

Prayer Requests: Cards are available in the Sanctuary pew racks for you to record your request, which is held in prayer by the Spiritual Enrichment Team for two weeks.

Prayer Circle: Sundays at 10am, worship, singing, and prayer for individual and communal concerns take place in Poling Chapel. Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of the month.

Prayer Room: Sundays after worship, an intimate space is open for quiet reflection and prayer. Located in the hallway between the Sanctuary and Bay Hall.

Opportunities to Serve

Action Volunteers

WAYS TO HELP OTHERS

BOOK DRIVE FOR YOUNG READERS

May 15 – June 19

Donate NEW books for readers aged K-12 (age 5 to 18). Bring to the Action Table on Sundays.

READING PROGRAM

We are also looking to start a reading program. Volunteers would be needed to read to young children living in shelters. A regular commitment would be required; program may begin in the fall. Please contact Elise Hanley or a member of the Action Committee if interested.

Sunday, May 1 – Walk with Marble’s Team in the New York City **CROP Walk**. Participants from churches all over the city come together to raise money for Church World Services’ efforts to end hunger both locally and abroad. Walkers of all ages are invited to walk in support of all the people throughout the world who must walk to obtain food and clean water.



Sundays, May 1 & June 5 – Contribute food to **HONEY** (*Help Our Neighbors Eat Year-round*): bring single serving, non-perishable items to the Action Table on the Portico.

Sundays, May 1 & June 5 – Help serve lunch after worship to disadvantaged (*and sometimes homeless*) seniors at the **Sunday Lounge**, held in the parish house of Madison Avenue Baptist Church on East 31st Street.

Sunday, May 8 & June 12 – Volunteers are needed to help prepare 50 lunches, 9:30-10:30am, for our **Ecclesia Ministry** (an open-air worshipping

congregation for the homeless in Madison Square Park). Others needed to transport the lunches and host the service, starting at 1:30pm.

Saturday, May 14 – Marble volunteers assist with the **Manhattan Special Olympics** Spring Track and Field games. Coaches, trainers, chaperones and huggers are needed. Help make the day a true celebration.

Saturday, May 28 & June 25 – **Common Ground** is looking for volunteers to serve lunch, 12-3pm, to guests at The Prince George (*28th Street between Fifth & Madison*).

Sunday, June 26 – Help serve water to those marching in the annual **New York City Pride March**. This is one of our greatest opportunities to publicly serve and show that ALL are welcome, wanted and loved at Marble Church!

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

Marble Matters

REFLECTIONS

Karla Fritsch, editor

Each month members of the church staff gather for a brief, informal worship, and during last September’s worship we meditated to the song “May I Suggest,” written by Susan Werner and recorded by Red Molly. We knew it was going to be a year of change (of course, every year of one’s life is filled with change), but drawing on Marble’s heritage of Positive Thinking, we focused on the message of this song. Here is the first verse:

May I suggest

May I suggest to you

May I suggest this is the best part of your life

May I suggest

This time is blessed for you

*This time is blessed and shining
almost blinding bright*

Just turn your head

And you’ll begin to see

*The thousand reasons that were just beyond
your sight*

The reasons why

Why I suggest to you

Why I suggest this is the best part of your life

Now that the church year is drawing to a close, I hope each of us will “turn our head” to see, if we

can’t already see right in front of us, ALL the amazing blessings that have been given to us as individuals and as a Marble family.

The other day I saw a sign in a window, “**change is inevitable, growth is intentional.**” And that made me think of this year of change we’ve been through. For some it seemed overwhelming at times, but in the big picture and the decades of change that Marble Collegiate Church has seen, it is but a blip on the radar. However, the intentional growth we’ve tilled from it, the coming together and strengthening as a Marble family, has been a gift that will help us grow through the next decade and beyond.

Here’s a suggestion: If you don’t already take part in **The Marble Moment** – that time of prayer every morning at 8:00, wherever you are, to lift up the needs and hopes of the Marble Church family – I’d encourage you to take that on, especially this summer. And while you’re lifting up the Church family in prayer, list several things you are grateful for at that very moment.

Each of us plays a part in making Marble a special place to journey toward God together. May we continue to turn toward the light and joy that lives and grows here. And may our prayers and gratitude help carry us through the summer and into the next church year in a spirit of togetherness and hope.





Music at Marble

THEN SINGS MY SOUL: SPRING CHORAL FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 15 | 2:00pm
Marble Sanctuary Choir and Festival of Voices,
Kenneth Dake, *director*

Marble Community Gospel Choir,
Djoré Nance, *director*

The diversity of Marble music serves as a modern metaphor for the day of Pentecost, enabling people to hear and express God's praise in their own musical language. For this joyous finale to our season, we will revel in a variety of inspiring "hits" from Handel to Hawkins with a combined choir of over 100 voices. Includes pre-concert lecture at 1:30pm, *Discovering Truth beneath the Notes* with Kenneth Dake.

ADMISSION:

In order to enable everyone to invite friends to experience Marble's dynamic music ministry we've lowered the ticket prices to this concert by \$5! \$20, at the door (\$15, students/seniors).

Save \$5 – Order tickets in advance online with credit card at www.marblechurch.org, or contact Siobhan Tull (ext. 412 or STull@marblechurch.org).

DISCOVERING TRUTH BENEATH THE NOTES: WORSHIP AS THREE STREAMS, ONE RIVER

Sunday, May 15 | 1:30pm
Kenneth Dake

This lecture is part of today's concert. Those not attending the concert are invited to view the lecture via live streaming in Poling Chapel.

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MARBLEUPDATE

MAY/JUNE 2011

VOLUNTEER FOR THE SUMMER CHOIR

Ever wonder what worship services feel like from the choir loft? Volunteers are needed to join Marble's summer choir under the direction of Kenneth Dake. Rehearse at 9:15am each Sunday before 11am worship, June 12 through September 4 (Labor Day weekend). It is not necessary to commit to every week. Prospective singers must be able to read music and have prior choral experience. To volunteer, contact music administrator, Miriam Chaudoir (ext. 711 or MChaudoir@marblechurch.org).

THE LAST WORD:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"

— Jeremiah 29:11 (New International Version)