



CYF

Children, Youth & Families Ministry

November 2009 Newsletter

MARBLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

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Dear Children, Youth and Families of Marble,

It's harvest time in the land! What better time to gather the rich array of talents, skills, and energies that are plentiful among our Marble families? We are in the midst of a new season, one which has brought many changes – not unlike the beautiful changing colors of the leaves we see in our backyards, in the park, or on the roads we travel on our way to and from Marble.

We know that although necessary, change is not always easy to adapt to. Therefore, we are calling on YOU to help us! Your active involvement is crucial to ensuring that in this new season, the Children's, Youth and Families ministry is stronger and more vibrant than ever.

Several committees are being formed to work on areas critical to the growth and development of the CYF ministry. These committees include *Hospitality, Recruitment and Retention, Special Projects, Seasonal Celebrations, and Stewardship*. If you feel called to contribute to the spiritual journeys of the children, youth and families of Marble, then we encourage you to get involved TODAY! Please contact us so we can discuss how you can best share your gifts.

Please take a moment to review our foundation scripture and mission statement below. If you are part of a family with children 18 and under, then you are automatically a part of our ministry! Please make sure we have your current contact information so that you are abreast of the schedule of Sunday School classes, our three Children's Choirs, Family Worship, and the various other programs we hold throughout the year.

Bountiful blessings to you and yours,

Paulette Thompson-Clinton, M. Div.

CYF Foundation Scripture ~ Matthew 22:37-39

37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." 38 This is the first and greatest commandment.

39 And the second is like it:
'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

CYF Mission Statement

The Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Ministry inspires children and youth to develop a loving relationship with God, Jesus Christ and their neighbors through creative and age-appropriate activities that include learning about the Bible, studying our shared Christian history, service to others and fellowship.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, Nov. 1st

Family Worship

Bay Hall ~ 9:45am

CYF Meeting & Brunch

Room 806 ~ 12:45pm

Sunday, Nov. 8th-Dec. 13th

CYF Families Hour

10:00am—10:45am

Room 600

Thursday, Nov. 12th

All-Church Thanksgiving
And Concert à la Carte series
6:00pm

Sunday, Nov. 15th

Stewardship Sunday

Bring your commitment cards
to Sunday School!

Teacher's Meeting

12:30pm-2:00pm

Sunday, Nov. 29th

First Sunday in Advent

Upcoming...

Friday, December 18th

Marble Celebrates Christmas
with the CYF
6:00pm ~ Bay Hall

CYF MEETING

Sunday, November 1 ~ 12:45pm

Join us after worship in Room 806 where we'll go over our new CYF ministry together, including our key scripture, mission, and introduction of teachers, parents and friends. We'll also create five working committees, each with a chair, that will aid in leading and organizing our CYF ministries and activities. Brunch is \$5 per person, and Child care and food will be provided for your children on the second and sixth floors. This meeting is for parents, guardians, teachers, and anyone who feels called to support the ongoing mission of the CYF ministry. Please RSVP to Brian Hampton at 212-686-2770 ext. 442. Can't make the meeting, but you still want to be involved? Contact Paulette or Brian at the church.

All Church Thanksgiving

Thursday, Nov. 12th ~ 6pm

Chef Ron Svenningsen and Director of Music Kenneth Dake join forces to serve up a memorable evening of delicious food and outstanding music. Dr. Michael Brown and his wife Page join members of Marble's staff in welcoming all to a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. After dinner, come to the Sanctuary for the second in the Concert à la Carte series, "Comes Autumn Time." Childcare is available throughout the evening. \$25 Dinner and Concert. \$15 (Children \$7) Dinner Only. Advance reservation is required. Contact Siobhan Tull at the church or register online.

Congratulations to our new Godly Play Teachers!

Congratulations to Sandy Diaz, Dorothy Krauss-Eisenpress, Joyce Paton, and Angela Senyut who journeyed up to Exeter, New Hampshire last month for a 3-day Godly Play Core Training. In a prayerful atmosphere, they improved their teaching skills, achieved greater clarity about the foundations of Godly Play, were spiritually refreshed, and received their official Godly Play Teacher Certificates! We encourage all families of Pre-K through 3rd graders to make Godly Play a regular part of your children's spiritual journey. Come to Godly Play Sunday School Class on Sunday mornings from 10:00am-10:45am.

CYF FAMILIES HOUR

Sundays: Nov.8-Dec.13 ~ 10am

Join **Paulette Thompson-Clinton** as well as **Rev. David Lewicki** and **Dr. Kimberleigh Jordan** for CYF Families Hour. This new 6-week pilot program is designed to increase community among CYF families while their children in are Sunday School or child care. Come and enjoy simply getting together and sharing the joys and challenges of parenting.

Join our Choirs! Bring a friend!

The CYF Choirs are looking for new members! Each week, Children's Choir members make a joyful noise to God while improving their singing skills and deepening their musicianship. Children are introduced to worship through the use of timeless traditional Christian songs as well as songs written especially for them. They discover God's creative spirit within as they prepare for full participation in Marble's rich musical life. With a diverse repertoire, they have the opportunity to explore their faith, to share their voices in worship, and to encounter the loving, creative nature of God.

Toddler Music ~ 1-3 years old ~ **Karie Brown, Director**

10:00am-10:30am ~ Room 205

Cherub Choir ~ Pre-K & Kindergarten ~ **Karie Brown, Director**

10:45am-11:25am ~ Room 224

Amazing Grace Choir ~ Grades 1-3 ~ **Karie Brown, Director**

11:30am-12:30pm ~ Room 224

In Harmony Choir ~ Grades 4-6 ~ **Fred Meads, Director**

11:30am-12:30pm ~ Room 600

Marble Celebrates Christmas with the CYF!

Friday, Dec. 18th 6pm ~ Bay Hall

Save the date for this wonderful night of music, theatre, and fellowship celebrating the Christmas season at Marble. The theme is "Christ, the Light of the World."

Join us for this festive family-centered celebration with the help of Marble Connection. Stay tuned for details!



Upcoming Teachers' Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 15th ~ 12:30pm-2:00pm

Stewardship Sunday ~ Sunday, November 15th

Stewardship...what does it mean? From Pam Foster (Parent/Marble Member/Stewardship Committee)

Each year at Marble we have a Stewardship Campaign. The reason that we do this is to share with everyone who comes to our church what our goals are as a congregation and what each person can do to help meet those goals. Representatives of every part of our church help set these goals. We share these goals and the themes for the following year during the fall. This gives people time to think about what they want to do to help and then make a commitment to provide that support throughout the next year - 2010.

Basically, *stewardship means managing well or using effectively what we have*

Jesus called his apostles saying..."follow me" and they did. They dropped everything to follow Him.

~Jesus made use of all that each man had in terms of their talents and their assets. He and his disciples managed what they had very well to be able to share his message with as many people as possible. They found joy and fulfillment in their stewardship.

The same call is made to us today.

~We are called to be stewards (good managers) of what we have and what we can do to support our church.

~*Stewardship is also discipleship...it is following the example of Jesus*

It is the joyful care and use of all that we have been given by God

It is looking around us and finding what we can do that will make a difference through our involvement at Marble.

It is finding ways to share what we have and what we can do

First to build a strong, exciting church that can live out the message of God's love for us

Second to support activities that share the wonder and abundance of God's love through Marble with others who come to our church and those who have needs or problems that we can help solve. Part of this is everything that happens on Sunday - morning worship, Sunday School, other activities and part is what we call outreach or missions.

How does stewardship work for us as part of Marble today?

This year, right now, we are asking everyone who comes to Marble, whether they are a member or not, to make a commitment in each of four areas to help our church to be strong and to grow through 2010. Take a look at the ideas below.

PRAYERS: Pray for Marble Church and Dr. Brown, Pray for your Sunday School Class members and teachers, Pray everyday for those in need—both at home and around the world.

PRESENCE: Show up every Sunday if possible! Attend special Marble CYF activities during the year.

GIFTS: Think about what you can give regularly (money, food, or other gifts). God loves a cheerful giver!

SERVICE: In your local community find something to do to help those in need. Tell your friends about the wonderful community at Marble and how they can be a part of it!



How will you build your faith this year?

Your commitments are important. They are powerful and will make a difference in your relationship with others. Make your commitment TODAY. Fill out both your Stewardship form (as illustrated on the back) and your Commitment Card (found on the 2nd or 6th Floors). On November 15th, Commitment Sunday, bring your 2010 commitment card to Sunday School!