The Boundary Expanding Nature of Faith

By Dr. Michael Bos

For faith to be a positive force in our lives it must be both boundary setting and boundary expanding. Faith is boundary setting in that it informs us about what it means to be a Christian, what beliefs are foundational in our understanding of God, what practices draw us closer to God, and what morals we need to live a good and godly life. These are good and beneficial things, but if we forget that faith also is boundary expanding, our faith becomes imbalanced. Religion becomes something exclusive, and the focus is on who is “in” or “out” and who is “right” or “wrong.” The end result is conflict, not cooperation, between religions.

Jesus, however, shows us that faith is also a boundary expanding journey. This can be seen in his relationship with Samaritans. These were people who were half-Jew and half-Gentile, and over time they developed their own beliefs, practices, and religious centers. The animosity grew between Jews and Samaritans to the point that they did not have contact with one another. Instead, they looked upon one another with disdain.

This explains the interaction between Jesus and his disciples about Samaritans in the Gospel of Luke. While Jesus was traveling, he asked his disciples to go to a Samaritan village to prepare the way for him, but the villagers told the disciples that they refused to receive Jesus. The disciples were angered and asked Jesus, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” (Luke 9:54). The disciples are not pulling any punches here about their feelings about Samaritans! Jesus, however, rebuked them for even suggesting this.

Jesus then takes it one step further. In the very next chapter of Luke, Jesus teaches people to love your neighbors as yourself, but someone asks him, “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus responds with the parable of the Good Samaritan. He tells them a story about a man who was stripped, beaten, robbed and left for dead. A priest then passes by and does nothing, and so too a Levite passes by and does nothing. These are two figures who represent the religiously upright in their community. Finally, a Samaritan passes by (a person who earlier the disciples wanted to wipe from the face of the earth), and he stops to care for the man in need. Jesus then asks, “Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” (Luke 10:36). The answer was obvious but not what they wanted to hear.

In that moment, Jesus was asking people to stop viewing Samaritans as religious outcasts, but he goes even further. He was helping them see that a Samaritan, the very people they have despised, can actually be an example to them by showing them what it means to live out the heart of faith. Jesus was helping them expand their boundaries, not close them, because of their faith.

While boundaries are important, may our faith expand the ways we can experience and express God’s love. We need more boundary expanding faith in this world, and may God use Marble to expand what is possible between and for all people.

“...may God use Marble to expand what is possible between and for all people.”

MEMBERSHIP AT MARBLE

If you are looking for a church home, and a church family that will meet you where you are, who will accept you for who you are, and who will walk with you wherever you are on your faith journey – make it official. Join the Marble Family. You’ll be glad you did. For more information, please look for one of our Membership Team (someone wearing a red carnation), after Worship in the Sanctuary to right of Chancel, next door in the Marble Loft during Coffee Hour, or contact Kim Sebastian-Ryan (KRyan@MarbleChurch.org).

Online Membership also available.

Next Orientation: Sundays, April 19 & 26.
New Members received during Worship: Sunday, May 3.
A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE MINISTER
LENT — ANOTHER NEW YEAR
By Rev. J. Elise Brown, Ph.D.

“Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.” — Soren Kirkegaard

I have always found the months of February and March to be a sort of “in-between” time. The new year has passed, and perhaps well-intended New Year’s Resolutions with it. It’s still winter. The possibility of cold days and ice and snow still exists. The short days of little sunshine continue when night comes early and going to bed at 8:00pm seems completely appropriate!

We move fast through the season of Epiphany and all of a sudden, it’s Lent, a season that for many means more “gloom and doom.” But, truly, it doesn’t have to be that way.

I think of the season of Lent similarly to how I embark upon a new year. It’s a season of reflection and contemplation. It’s a season of new commitments and fresh starts. It’s a season of turning back to God. It’s a season of change and transformation. Have you fallen away from those New Year’s Resolutions? It’s not too late to begin again.

It’s another new year! The season of Lent is a new year and we have yet another chance to do things better and differently this time.

Soren Kirkegaard’s quote is instructive at this time of the year and in this season. “Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.”

Jesus moved forward. He said to the women gathered at the empty tomb, “Tell my disciples I have gone ahead of them to Galilee.” Certainly Jesus and the disciples could only understand the events of what had happened in those days by looking backwards with contemplation and reflection. But Jesus called them out of the past and into the future. Into a future God was setting forth ahead of them.

As we enter the season of Lent on February 26 (Ash Wednesday), let us ask God to help us better understand our lives as we reflect on the past, what we have done, what we haven’t done, what we need to do differently. But let us see on the horizon all God is placing before us as we move into the future, as we “live forward.”

The days are getting longer now. Each day the sun stays on the horizon a little longer. New days are dawning. We live our lives forward.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER
Tuesday, February 25 | 5:00-8:00pm

Grab your friends and family and head to the Marble Loft (next door, 274 5th Ave) for the Fifth Annual Pancake Supper! Enjoy pancakes flipped on the griddle by the Ministers, Staff, Elders and Deacons. Celebrate Mardi Gras with a stack of pancakes, a little Jazz, and a lot of fun! Please join us any time between 5:00 and 8:00pm. $7 per person, children under 12 are free. Gluten-free options available. No reservation needed.
**ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**
*February 26 / 1:00 & 6:15pm*

Rev. Anthony Livolsi preaching. Ash Wednesday services are in the Sanctuary and we offer ashes at the conclusion of both.

The evening service has traditional worship music led by Kenneth Dake and The Marble Choir.

**#WEWO: WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**
*March 4 – April 1*

During Lent, Holy Communion will be celebrated at WeWo each week. In the Marble Loft *(next door, 274 5th Ave)*. Note, Jazz Vespers on March 11.

**JAZZ VESPERS**
*Wednesday, March 11 / 6:15pm*


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**In the Marble Spotlight**

**ANNUAL TRI-FAITH SUNDAY**
*February 2 / 11:00am*

Marble has been a pioneer in interfaith cooperation in New York City. One of the ways we lift up the importance of interfaith relationships is through our annual “Triologue.” This year during our service Dr. Bos will have a conversation with Mohammed Al Samawi, author of *The Fox Hunt,* and Daniel Pincus, about how a victimized Muslim interfaith advocate in Yemen was saved by a Jew from New York.

Jazz pianist Joey Alexander makes a video appearance to perform his small, yet poignant part in Mohammed’s story. Worship followed by Talk Back in the Sanctuary and a Book Signing in the Marble Loft.

We celebrate our Tri-Faith Sunday as part of the United Nations’ World Interfaith Harmony Week. Invite friends to join you for this special experience.

**THE MARBLE EASTER OFFERING**

**HELP MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT**

Our annual Easter Offering is around the corner! Soon it will be time once again to unite as a community and support nonprofits in our neighborhood and beyond that seek to alleviate human suffering and promote growth, empowerment and sustainability for the vulnerable. This Lenten season, we look forward to our journey together as we continue to be the hands, feet, eyes and ears of Jesus in the world.

For more information, visit MarbleChurch.org/give/easter-offering or contact Rev. Susannah Wade (SWade@MarbleChurch.org).

**EASTER LILIES**

Lilies are placed in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of loved ones whose names will appear in the Easter Sunday, April 12, bulletin. To pay tribute to someone in your life in this special way, please return an Easter Lily envelope (in pews and at Reception in March) with your contribution by Sunday, March 29. You may also contact Clay Hale (CHale@MarbleChurch.org).

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**GROWING WITH: A PARENT’S GUIDE**
*Sunday, February 23 / 12:30-1:30pm*

Please see page 6.

**ALL-CHURCH SKI TRIP**
*Saturday, March 14 / 6:00am-7:00pm*

All are invited to join Dr. Bos and the Marble Family at Windham Mountain Resort for a day of fellowship and fun as we deepen our relationships with each other. Whether you’re a novice skier or if you’re semi-pro, we have an activity to suit your needs. Visit MarbleChurch.org for pricing details. Register on Sundays during Coffee Hour through February 23. Questions? Contact Rev. Brittany Juliette Hanlin (BHanlin@MarbleChurch.org).
MEET RASHAD MCPHERSON!
Growing up in Nebraska, the first opportunity to serve as a musician in church presented itself when I was 10 years old and became the drummer for Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Lincoln, NE. One of the congregation’s favorite songs was a song that was originally recorded by Shirley Caesar. The lyrics of the chorus were: “I wouldn’t take nothing for my journey now, I wouldn’t take nothing for my journey now, [I’ve] come too far to turn around.” At the time, I loved the “beat” of the song; and its syncopation. But the lyrics didn’t evoke any particular emotional response because I wasn’t mature enough to really understand (either in mind or in heart) the song’s meaning.

The beginning of a new decade triggers retrospection. I am a professional musician and aspiring recording artist turned minister and advocate. And the journey has rarely seemed linear. Over the course of my journey, especially the slightly more than 10 years since I completed undergrad studies, I have had a myriad of both professional and personal experiences that hardly seemed to be connected.

The time that I spent in two masters programs was interspersed with some success (though many more failures) in the Gospel music industry. My work as a professional musician opened doors to partner with local organizations which were doing needful work around drawing awareness to human trafficking, ending mass incarceration, and more. And because my passions were so disparate, I spent several years of my life not sure how it would all come together. But as the song says, “I wouldn’t take nothing for my journey now!”

As the big picture slowly comes into focus, and as I watch God connect and arrange all of my life’s seemingly unrelated experiences, it becomes clear to me that (in the words of a popular preacher) “nothing that I’ve been through will be wasted.” Because as we’ve seen in the lives of Joseph and countless other biblical characters, God is a masterful orchestrator!

So, I begin the decade as the Director of the Marble Community Gospel Choir as grateful as I am hopeful: grateful for the opportunity and for the loving welcome; and hopeful to see the ways that the Gospel Choir will enhance Marble’s already vibrant music ministry. Moreover, I am excited! I expect to hear testimonies from members of our congregation and the greater New York Community who will encounter God’s grace through our ministry. Again, “I wouldn’t take nothing for my journey now!”

A VIEW FROM THE CHOIR LOFT
CALLING ALL VOICES!
Put more music ministry in your life in 2020! Festival of Voices is looking for new members who are interested in joining a community of dedicated volunteer singers who truly make a difference in the Marble worship experience. Under the inspired direction of Ken Dake, Wednesday evening rehearsals include group vocal training, exploration of a wide range of repertoire, spiritual nourishment and prayer, and fun-filled fellowship over cookies and coffee. On any given week, you can learn repertoire from such diverse styles as an American folk hymn, a Renaissance motet, a movement from an oratorio masterpiece, an African American spiritual, or a profoundly beautiful choral gem that pulls at the heartstrings. And Festival of Voices will be featured on Good Friday, April 10, in combination with The Marble Choir and full orchestra.

This year we invite you to become a visible leader of Worship as you minister to both our onsite and online congregations as a member of Festival of Voices. You will gain a deeper perspective of how our worship services are knit together, and what an important role music plays each week in helping to set the stage for transformative encounters with God. Music is a centerpiece of the Marble experience and we need your participation to ensure it continues to move hearts and inspire Spirit-filled worship!

Become part of this caring community. Be challenged to enlarge your talents and hone your musical craft. Sing profound messages of spiritual truth. Bring God’s love and light into the world that so desperately needs it – these are but a few of the joys that keep us coming back to rehearsals each Wednesday evening, committed to pursuing musical excellence, serving the congregation, and creating beautiful harmony along life’s journey!

Add YOUR Voice to the Festival of Voices!
Prospective volunteers should have some prior choral experience and be able to read music. To discuss membership please contact the Music Department Manager Jen Clover (JClover@MarbleChurch.org), or Ken Dake (KDake@MarbleChurch.org).
**CYF CORNER**

**GROWING WITH: A PARENT’S GUIDE**  
*Sunday, February 23 / 12:30-1:30pm*  
Dr. Steve Argue will be discussing his book, *Growing With: Every Parent’s Guide to Helping Teenagers and Young Adults Thrive in Their Faith, Family, and Future*. Dr. Argue is one of the leading authorities on emerging adults in the country, and Associate Professor of Youth, Family and Culture at Fuller Seminary. He helps people understand the changing nature of parenting because of the changing nature of younger generations. Dr. Argue will also be preaching at 11:00am Worship.

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**I WANT TO GIVE**

> My Christmas Wish  
> I didn’t want anything  
> For Christmas, so I decided  
> to donate. I donated lots of  
> toys to church. A few  
> days later I got a note  
> from church and it says  
> that they were grateful.  
> I didn’t want anything  
> because I couldn’t think  
> of anything I wanted  
> so I just donated. I donated  
> because Christmas is not just  
> about getting things; it is about  
> giving things - Jake

When I asked Jake what he wanted for Christmas, I was taken back by his reply of, “I don’t want anything, I want to donate.” To me, it was a true reflection of the spirit of giving and I am very proud of Jake for his sense of selflessness. I continued to ask him if he wanted anything later on, and his reply was always, “No, I want to give.” — Manuel Chang

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**FAMILY-FRIENDLY WORSHIP**  
*Sunday, February 9*  
All families are invited to join us for 11:00am Worship. (Child Care still available.) During the service we will commission the youth going on their Service Trip to St. Thomas.

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**PRAY FOR THE YOUTH ON THEIR SERVICE TRIP**  
*February 15 - 22*  
Please keep the following youth and chaperones in your prayers as they travel to St. Thomas and put their faith in action: Amanda Crewey, Juan Figueroa, Felicia Jennings-Brown, Harry McSween, Walker McSween, Benjamin Niewood, Ella Niewood, Analicia Wright, Rev. Brittany Hanlin, Jessica Scovel and Chris Vega. Thank you for your prayers and your financial support that helped make this trip possible.

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**PARENTING CONNECTION**  
*Sundays, February 16 & March 29*  
10:00-10:45am  
All parents/guardians welcome to participate in this group led by Marble parent, Geoff Goodman, Ph.D. Meets monthly. 276 5th Ave, Loft Conference Room (Feb 16); 1 W. 29th St, Board Room (Mar 29). Child care provided. Please note change in time and location.

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**ALL-CHURCH SKI TRIP**  
*Saturday, March 14 | 6:00am-7:00pm*  
Please see page 4.

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**MARBLE STORYTIME**  
Visit MarbleChurch.org each month to watch Rev. Brittany as she reads a new book, ending with some questions for your family to ponder. Adults, it’s also a treat for your inner child!  
February:  
*All Are Welcome*  
March:  
*I Am Enough*
Reflections from the Editor

By Karla Fritsch

“We all live such curated lives online,” said the man walking behind me to his friend. I hadn’t heard it expressed that way before. It got me thinking about authenticity.

In spite of all the personal work I’d done, when I first got on Facebook I was caught off guard by the stings of pain and doubt that I felt. I’d forgotten the expression I had heard years before – “don’t compare your inside to someone else’s outside.” Of course there’s nothing wrong with posting and celebrating our successes, yet we must remember it’s only a partial picture of each life represented.

Decades ago when I was in an acting class at HB Studio, I kept comparing myself to this gorgeous, confident woman – thinking she was everything I wasn’t. I had wished I was her instead of me. One time she shared her preparation for the scene she performed and revealed some of the awful things that had happened in her life. I was immediately pulled away from my self-loathing and was grateful that I hadn’t gone through what she had. We don’t know what people are dealing with on the inside, unless they tell us.

God gives us the gifts of family, friends and community. All it takes is one person with whom you can share your fears, your weaknesses, your hopes. It’s not the number of friends you have, it’s the depth of the relationships.

Despite my distaste for golf, I have to admit it is a lot like real life. Life is complicated and hard at times. Life, like golf, takes a lot of practice and time to master. We have to repeatedly work to be kinder or more patient or more forgiving, not to mention more creative and generous. Thank goodness life, unlike golf, allows Mulligans – a chance for a do over. Perhaps you need one. I know I do.

The first part of the year seems like an auspicious time for a do over, a second chance to be a better and bigger hearted person. Connecting to Marble Church in ways that work for you is a great way to tee off. See you in church!

MINISTERIAL MUSINGS

A MULLIGAN

By Kenneth Ruge

I find golf to be a daunting sport. First, there’s all that equipment – the irons and woods. Then there’s the outfit – the golf shirts and proper shoes. Then there’s the club rules and the etiquette. Finally, there is the sheer quantity of time spent playing the game – the 18 holes take hours. Who decided on 18 holes, how about 7 or 9?

Beyond all these obstacles is the game itself. It is unforgiving and at times humiliating. Players tend to think they are as good as their last best drive, only to be humbled by a terrible shot. That’s why I love the golf term “taking a Mulligan.” I’m not sure who Mulligan was, but he or she had a great (but illegal) idea that a player can get a “do over,” a second chance to make things right or at least better.

That depth comes partly from time, but mostly by being REAL. It’s a true gift to others – and to ourselves – to be authentic. When you can share what’s really going on inside of you, it’s a form of love. You’re saying I trust you enough to share ALL of me. It’s a gift to ourselves to bring things into the light. When we keep our struggles in the dark, we can focus too much on the shadows of shame and the boogeyman’s taunts can drown out positive voices.

In the light, wonderful things can grow. I can grow. I’ve been amazed by how good it feels when I don’t hide my struggles. Of course, I pick and choose with whom I share, and I never know what responses I might get, but no matter what, it helps me own all the parts of me. It helps me not judge myself so harshly – or at least continue to build up the muscles that will help me stop thinking that my faults not only outweigh, but even deplete my strengths.

Instead of sifting out our doubts and weaknesses, one of my hopes is that we all work on sharing our whole selves. With that gift of love and trust, we can create a world of authenticity and deep connection.
Marble’s Ten O’Clock Hour is a casual, come-as-you-can forum that is open to all, and especially newcomers. Join us for stimulating conversation and for the free, light breakfast. Meets in the Labyrinth Room (1 W. 29th St, downstairs). Remember to visit MarbleChurch.org to live stream if you can’t attend in person or to catch up if you miss a session.

Ten O’Clock Hour
SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Christianity and Social Change
February 9, 16 & 23

How can we, as Christians, rise to the calling of this moment in the life of our country? Are there learnings from the past that can challenge or inspire us as we live into God’s future? Join Dr. Heath Carter, Associate Professor of American Christianity at Princeton Theological Seminary, and Rev. Anthony Livolsi in exploring some forgotten history that might help us in making it to be “on earth as it is in heaven.”

Living a Spiritual Life –
Faith Practices for the Journey
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 & April 5

This Lenten season, learn about — and even try out — some new spiritual practices that can help ground you in your life and grow deeper in your faith. Join the Marble clergy in a fun, practical exploration of disciplines such as prayer, fasting, and discernment.

A reminder for online students, ask your questions! Click on the blue “Send a Question” button on the live streaming page.

Deep Dive Bible Study
TUESDAYS AT 6:30PM

Join Rev. Anthony Livolsi for a deep, searching read-through of 1 Kings. Newcomers and visitors are always welcome! Please contact Rev. Livolsi ahead of time for the week’s reading, (ALivolsi@MarbleChurch.org). In the Labyrinth Room.

Prayer Circle
SUNDAYS AT 10AM

This informal gathering centers on prayer for individual and communal concerns, Scripture reading, hymn singing and Holy Communion. In the Chapel (1 W. 29th St, downstairs). The Circle is always open — all are welcome!

On the last Sunday of the month, connect with Prayer Circle from around the world via https://meeting.broadviewnet.com/j/1126517182 to access video conference. Questions? Contact Siobhan Tull (STull@MarbleChurch.org).

Small Groups

Being part of a Small Group is a way to grow spiritually and connect in a deeper way with others at Marble.


To learn more and sign-up, stop by the Small Group Table during Coffee Hour on Sundays after Worship, contact Baleta McKenzie (BMckenzie@MarbleChurch.org), or visit MarbleChurch.org.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

BEREAVEMENT GROUP
Mondays | 11:00am-12:15pm

Are you experiencing the loss of a loved one? Grief has no expiration date. Any significant loss changes life forever. All are welcome to participate in an understanding and supportive community to share your personal story in a confidential atmosphere of love and faith. Meets in Peale Parlor (enter at 1 W. 29th St).

If you’re interested in attending, please sign up with Judy Tulin (JTulin@MarbleChurch.org; 212-686-2770, ext. 207). Please note, does not meet on Presidents Day, February 17.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP
First Saturday of Month | 1:00-3:00pm

Learn how to provide better care to loved ones while protecting your own health and well-being. Please contact group leader Rev. Marion Gambardella (magambardella@yahoo.com) or Judy Tulin (JTulin@MarbleChurch.org).

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

It’s not too late to join us in journeying together through the scriptures as we read the Bible from beginning to end. To encourage you when the going gets tough (genealogies! Leviticus!), clergy host special monthly gatherings where you can come with questions. To receive a schedule of the brief daily readings and let us know you are along for the adventure, email Baleta McKenzie (BMckenzie@MarbleChurch.org).
In the Action Spotlight

**WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE**  
*Through February 5*

Please bring new and gently used winter coats, sweaters, gloves, hats or scarves for homeless mothers and children living at Icahn House. Leave items at Action Table after Worship or at Reception.

**CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH**  
*Children’s Book Drive – African American Authors*  
*Sunday, February 16 / 12:15pm*

In honor of Black History Month, Marble is initiating a Book Drive for children’s books by African American authors to be given to students at P.S. 30 and the Osborne Association (K-6th Grade). Please write a note of encouragement and inspiration on the inside for the child who will receive your book. Bring your donations to the Marble Loft after Worship.

**National African American Read-In**  
*Wednesday, February 26 / 9:00am-12:00pm*

Marble volunteers are needed to read to students at P.S. 30. The National African American Read-In seeks to promote literacy and diversity in literature through reading books by African American authors to elementary students. For more information and to sign up, please visit the Action Table Sundays during Coffee Hour or contact Rev. Susananah Wade (SWade@MarbleChurch.org) or Tom Schneider (TSchneider@MarbleChurch.org).

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**

Would you like to train to become a Stephen Minister? Stephen Ministry is a confidential, Christian, caregiving ministry where we walk alongside those in need, to a place of hope and healing. Training begins in March (50 hours of training required), on Tuesday evenings, 6:30-8:30pm, with some Saturdays and Sundays. Please go to MarbleChurch.org to fill out an application. For more information, contact Judy Tulin (JTulin@MarbleChurch.org), or Rev. Susanah Wade (SWade@MarbleChurch.org).

**ANNUAL DRIVE FOR DIGNITY**  
*March 1 - April 5*

Please donate new boxers, briefs, bras, t-shirts, tank tops, socks and feminine hygiene products for homeless adults living in shelters. Bring to the Action Volunteer Table after Sunday Worship.

Monetary donations also welcome; make checks payable to Marble Collegiate Church, write “Drive for Dignity” in memo section, mail to the attention of Tom Schneider or place in the offering plate. For more information, please contact Tom (TSchneider@MarbleChurch.org).

**“BUILD A” SERIES**  
*Sunday, March 22 / 12:00pm*

All ages are invited to come together in the Marble Loft after Worship to help build care packages which will include the donated undergarments along with basic toiletries like soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrush.

**Action Volunteers - Ways You Can Serve**

If you don’t see what’s right for you listed here, stop at the Action Volunteer Table on Sundays during Coffee Hour to talk with a committee member or contact Tom Schneider (TSchneider@MarbleChurch.org), for more ideas and referrals to organizations that are in need of volunteers. To receive notice of serving opportunities by email, “Action Alerts,” contact Tom.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
*Mondays, February 2 & 24; March 2 & 16 / 4:00-5:00pm*

Knit or crochet prayer shawls for members who are ill or homebound. Gather in Peale Parlor for prayer and creating together. All levels welcome. Materials provided. Contact Judy Tulin (JTulin@MarbleChurch.org). Starting on March 16 we will meet 4:30-5:30pm.

**Ecclesia Ministry**  
*Sundays, February 9 & March 8*

Volunteers are needed to help with this worshipping congregation for the homeless in Madison Square Park. Prepare lunches, 10:00-10:30am; and/or transport lunches at 1:30pm and host the service which begins at 2:00pm.

**Marble Fights Hunger** — Please support our continuous food drive by donating CANNED FOODS for Icahn House East (a temporary shelter for homeless mothers.) Leave food at the 29th Street Reception area, the Fifth Ave Narthex or the Marble Loft. Nutritious, canned/bottled items only.
**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**11AM**

February/March 2020

Dr. Michael Bos
Senior Minister preaching

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**FEBRUARY 2**

Tri-Faith Sunday

Generational Beholding

**FEBRUARY 23**

Dr. Steve Argue

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**#WEWO: WEDNESDAY**

WORSHIP, 6:15PM

Every Week, except February 26 & March 11

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ASH WEDNESDAY

1:00 & 6:15PM

February 26

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JAZZ VESPERS, 6:15PM

Wednesday, March 11

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**Program Ministries**

**Arts Ministry**

We have two special events: *Pushing Past Procrastination* on Thursday, February 20, and a screening of *Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart* on Monday, March 16. See page 11 or MarbleChurch.org for information. Contact Mario Sprouse (MSprouse@MarbleChurch.org).

**GIFTS: LGBTQ Fellowship**

All Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Allies invited to our monthly Coffee Hours on Sundays, February 16 & March 15. Contact Don Piper (DPiper@MarbleChurch.org) or Rev. Anthony Livolsi (ALivolsi@MarbleChurch.org).

**PrimeTime (55+) Fellowship**

Our lunches are on Wednesdays, February 12 & 26 (before Ash Wednesday Worship), March 11 & 25. For details, see page 11, MarbleChurch.org or contact Baleta McKenzie (BMckenzie@MarbleChurch.org).

**Learning from the Lives of Others:**

**Jethro**

FEBRUARY 9

**Shiphrah & Puah**

FEBRUARY 16

**I Have My Doubts**

The March Sermon Series will be based on a survey of people on the things they struggle to believe or about which they have their doubts. Stay tuned for how you can participate in the survey.

Rev. J. Elise Brown, Ph.D., preaching

**MARCH 1**

Dr. Michael Bos, preaching

**MARCH 8**

**MARCH 22**

**MARCH 15**

**MARCH 29**

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**Worship**

**11AM**

February/March 2020

Dr. Michael Bos
Senior Minister preaching

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Calendar of Events

For more details, to register, or for the full listing of all our programming, please visit MarbleChurch.org or stop by the Welcome Center after Worship.

EACH WEDNESDAY
Walk the Labyrinth / 5:00-6:00pm
Take time for a walking meditation before WeWo.

#WeWo: Wednesday Worship / 6:15pm
This blend of traditional and contemporary worship styles can be a helpful mid-week spiritual boost. In the Marble Loft. Please note, Ash Wednesday is February 26, in the Sanctuary. Jazz Vespers will be on March 11.

FIRST SUNDAYS
Walk the Labyrinth / 1:00-3:00pm
Feed your spirit with this walking meditation. A facilitator will be available to help guide you and answer questions, while allowing you the space to walk in your own way, at your own pace. Please confirm schedule.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Women’s Spa Day for the Soul / 9:00am-2:00pm
Nourishing Our Souls. Rejuvenate your soul through dance, song, mindful meditation and more. Led by Martha Miller, psychotherapist/healing practitioner, and Ruth Cunningham, musician. In the Marble Loft. $30; $25 seniors/students, includes light breakfast, lunch, materials. Childcare upon request. Register by January 29, online or at Women’s Ministry Table during Coffee Hour.

MONDAYS, FEBRUARY 10 & MARCH 9
Young Adults Pub Theology / 7:00pm
Gather at a local bar to discuss ideas and issues with other young adults – a great way to meet people and grow in faith. Meets second Monday of each month. For details, contact Rev. Anthony Livolsi.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
PrimeTime (55+) Fellowship Lunch and Program / 12:00-2:00pm
Valentine’s Day Celebration with performance by Manhattan School of Music students at 1:00pm, preceded by lunch, $10. All welcome! In the Marble Loft.

SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 23 & MARCH 29
Monthly Brunch / 12:15pm
Join us for this time of fellowship and good food, with live music. $12. No reservation needed. In the Marble Loft.

SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 23 & MARCH 29
Young Adults Breakfast / 12:30pm
Get to know other young adults and enjoy a tasty breakfast. Monthly. Free. In Peale Parlor (1 W. 29th St - enter through Chancel doors).

WEEKEND, MARCH 6-8
Annual Women’s Retreat
Faith Igniting Service. Rev. Damaris D. Whittaker, Rev. Susanah Wade, Rev. Brittany Hanlin, Rev. J. Elise Brown, Ph.D., and Nina Frost lead our weekend of prayer, worship, workshops and more. At America’s Keswick Retreat Center in Whiting, NJ.

For more details, visit MarbleChurch.org, the Women’s Table Sundays during Coffee Hour, or contact Don Piper (DPiper@MarbleChurch.org). Register by February 20. (Popular event, don’t wait)

SUNDAY, MARCH 8
Daylight Saving Time Begins
Please remember to set clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
PrimeTime (55+) Fellowship Lunch and Program / 12:00-2:00pm
Learn more about nutrition with Health Care Advocate Victoria Schruak at 1:00pm, preceded by lunch, $10. All welcome! In the Marble Loft.

MONDAY, MARCH 16
The Theatre Upstairs – downstairs@marble
Film Screening / 6:00-9:00pm
To celebrate Women’s History Month, watch Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart – the first feature documentary about Lorraine Hansberry, the visionary playwright who authored the groundbreaking A Raisin in the Sun. A conversation with Executive Producer Chiz Schultz will follow the screening. $10, suggested donation.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Pushing Past Procrastination Workshop / 6:00-9:00pm
Mario Sprouse leads this workshop designed to identify what procrastination really is and provide effective tools to help eliminate it. In the Labyrinth Room. $18, dinner & program; $10, program only. Register online or during Coffee Hour.

Note: The Calendar of Events schedule subject to change. Please call to confirm.
**A GOSPEL CELEBRATION**

*Sunday, March 1 | 2:30pm*

The Marble Community Gospel Choir, directed by Rashad McPherson, performs traditional and contemporary music that highlights the power of Gospel as Message, Healing and Celebration. Come be transformed by the songs and spirit sung by this uniquely diverse and talented group of singers. **Tickets:** $20; $15 in advance if purchased before February 26. $15, seniors & students (with ID) at door. Purchase tickets at MarbleChurch.org or during Coffee Hour in late February.

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**MARCH MUSIC MONDAYS**

*March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 12:30pm*

Take a 30-minute break from your workday and come to **March Music Mondays**, a continuation of our Soul Break mid-day recital series. Enjoy organ masterworks from some of the finest organists in the New York metro area. Free and open to all. Sanctuary.

- March 2: Theodore Davis
- March 9: Nathaniel Gumbs
- March 16: Bryan Dunnewald
- March 23: Clara Gerdes
- March 30: Jeremiah Mead

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**MARBLE MUSIC NEXT DOOR**

**SACRED SONG AND HOLY HARMONY**

*Thursday, March 26 | 7:30pm*

Hosted by Music Director Kenneth Dake, **Sacred Song and Holy Harmony** is a soiree featuring extraordinary emerging artists from The Marble Choir and other talent from New York City. Come and hear music that will enliven your spirit and prepare your heart for the joy of the Easter season. Open to all! In the Marble Loft (next door, 274 5th Ave).

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**THE LAST WORD**

No matter the height of them, faith takes the mountains that stand in front of us and makes them the road that passes under us.

— Craig D. Lounsbrough

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**A BLESSED COMMUNITY**

**DR. FLORENCE PERT PORTRAIT DEDICATION**

In November, we celebrated the legacy of Dr. Florence Pert, the first woman ordained in the Collegiate Churches of New York in 1987, who became Senior Associate Minister and Senior Associate Minister Emerita until her death in 2008. At the reception, speakers included Maggie Peale Everett and the portrait by Joachim Marx was unveiled by the Florence Pert Legacy Committee (Valerie Doll, Mamie McIndoe, Marian Patterson, Baleta McKenzie, Rev. Liz Testa, Patrice Donnell).

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2019 Giving Statements were sent from the Marble Business Office on January 23. These were sent electronically to all with an email address (unless you previously requested as a hard copy). Those without email addresses will receive hard copies. For questions, please contact Clay Hale (CHale@MarbleChurch.org or 212-686-2770, ext. 252).