

SP&SA UPDATE

October 2013

Give Yourself to Love

By K Karpen

The other day I was showing a friend around the church and describing some of the projects that you do around here: the shelter, food pantry, GEMS, Homework Help. Finally he asked me, 'How do you get all the volunteers, and who coordinates all that?' I spoke to him about the different volunteers who coordinate volunteers. But finally I told him, 'Mostly we just tell people we need people, and they show up.'

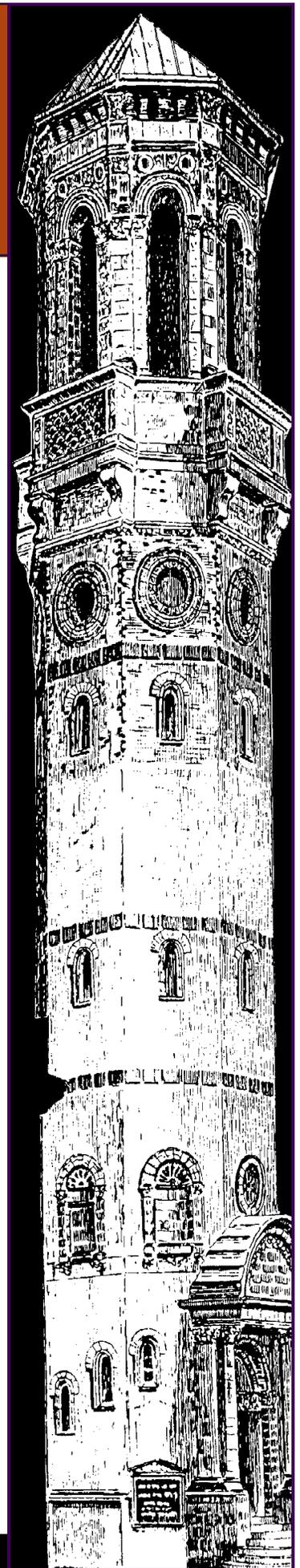
I think it's one of the delightful things about the culture of this place: there is a feeling that every person here can do something to make this corner of the world a little better, kinder, less harsh, more generous.

Of course, there are a few who stand out. Don Struchen, who helps unload the food pantry trucks every week at the age of 90. (Not that that's old.) Jim Melchiorre, who helps coordinate the women's shelter here, and can be found an all hours doing what it takes to make sure the women find a safe and welcome place. Jo Goodson, who

has inspired dozens and dozens of us to make food each month for teenage girls trying to leave the sex industry. Susan Marchand and Charlene Floyd, who corral the seventy or so weekly volunteers who work as Homework Help tutors. Julie Nelson, who runs our whole Sunday School program as a volunteer. Shirley Brevard, who comes almost every day to answer phones and give a smile to the people who wander in. And that's only the beginning.

There's something very Methodist about all that. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, had sixteen questions that he asked himself every day. Number nine was this: 'Have I been zealous in undertaking and active in doing what good I could?' Maybe he was channeling that 1st century rabbi who taught that love isn't something you feel; it's something you do.

October is the perfect month to find something you are passionate about. Something that needs your time & good energy. And just start doing love.





YOUNG ADULTS Fall Renewal

By Miriam Wood

I'm always tempted to think of Fall as a time of slowing down. More and more root vegetables appear at the farmer's market as nature prepares for winter's hibernation. Cooler weather means more baking, and fewer sunlight hours remind me to slow down after a busy summer. On the other hand, Fall is often a time of renewal and growth for the young adults at SPSA: schools are back in session, everyone is back from summer holidays, and our young adult events are restarting!

There are lots of ways to get involved at SPSA in the Fall. My favorite over the last few years has been Wednesday night tutoring! This is, obviously, not a strictly young adult event, although we have pretty strong representation among the tutors. And there's also the Getaway Retreat!

Our first Sunday of the month brunches are restarting October 6th. Join us at 12:45 p.m. in the Parlor for food and conversation. Look for Lydia, who will be leading this month. We hope to get our book discussions restarted, and find other ways to build our young adult community. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact me.

GREEN TEAM YOGA FESTIVAL OCT. 5

By Rosina Pohlmann



The Green Team at SPSA is having a lot of fun make our church and world a greener place! On Sept. 21st, we visited Earth Matter, a composting operation based on Governor's Island that turns 200 tons of scraps, collected from NYC Greenmarket drop-off locations, into compost. While there we walked goats, hung out with chickens and learned the basics of composting. It was great fun, and we hope to go back soon! In other composting news, we will soon be meeting with the NYC Dept. of Sanitation to prepare for our participation in their Organics program, which will divert all food scraps produced in our Church building away from landfills and to a composting site.

On the energy front, we are hoping to raise enough money to conduct a thorough energy audit of the Church building - an important first step in reducing our carbon footprint. To raise the money, the Green Team will be hosting a Yoga Festival Oct. 5th, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Come, and bring your friends!

For more information contact me.

HELP TELL OUR STORY AT OPEN HOUSE NY!



We're opening our landmarked doors to the community on Saturday October 12 as part of Open House NY, which celebrates

NYC architecture, and we need your help.

We'll be giving guided tours from 1 to 5 p.m., showing off our faux marble columns and mismatched towers. No special knowledge is needed—we have a written guide to all our architectural features. This is a great opportunity to meet some new folks, many of them neighbors. Email Nancy Meyers if you can join us for some or all of the time.

West Side Campaign Against Hunger's Annual Harvest Dinner and Silent Auction is Tuesday Nov. 12th at 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$200. More information at www.wscach.org

MISSION, CHURCH & SOCIETY: WHAT WILL YOU DO?



By June Quarfordt

MCS has been actively adding to the church calendar with wonderful ways for you to serve.

On OCTOBER 13th, we will hold a "Housing Sabbath," when we will be visited by a speaker from Habitat for Humanity NYC. You will learn how you can help create "affordable" housing right here at home. For more info: habitatnyc.org

On OCTOBER 20TH, we will have "Bread for the World" recognition Sunday, and will be joined by Hannah Lupien, policy director for WSCAH. For more info: www.bread.org

We continue to maintain a lively conversation with Hillary Taylor, our missionary intern in Africa. For communication info contact Amanda Mountain.

Please know that we are trying to put before you many ways to help SPSA be the loving, giving and caring place that it is and to help YOU find the area of service that has a special calling for you.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: Fall Activities and Festivities

By Christie House, President

SPSA United Methodist Women's unit started up for the Fall again in September. Our next meeting will be led by Rosângela Oliveira and Marie Moser on the theme "Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace." Please join us for this meeting October 13 in the parlor after the church service.

October is a busy month for our connectional fellowship. On October 5 the annual district meeting will be held at Epworth UMC in the Bronx.

On October 26 the New York Conference United Methodist Women will come together for the annual meeting at Grace UMC in Valley Stream, on Long Island. All members are encouraged to attend these meetings.

Also in October, United Methodist Women will be setting up the tables outside the church building on

October 20, after church, for a sale of clothing, books, *This and That*, and jewelry. If you have jewelry to contribute, please let Christie House or Betty Ann Driver know. There will be a street fair up on Broadway and we hope to catch some of the pedestrian traffic during the afternoon.



Elections for new officers will take place at the end of the year and we have a number of offices that will open: President and Vice President, Program Resources, and Hospitality. Please let Jo Teideman or Christie House know if you'd like

to be nominated for one of these positions. We'd like to give everyone a chance to serve and contribute in a meaningful way.

Don't forget: take time to knit, crochet, and make other crafts for the November 24 all-church Christmas sale.

SPIRITUAL CORNER:

Your Own Digital Jesus

By Barbara Wheeler-Bride

As we become a more and more digitally connected society, faith has found its way to Facebook, too. You can use the Internet to connect with other Methodists – and people of all faiths – and find tools that will help you with your own spiritual growth. Here are just a few ways you can connect to your own personal Jesus online:

YouVersion – A Bible app that includes different versions and languages. You can sign up for a Bible plan to help you focus your study. Oh, and it's FREE! Find more details at YouVersion.com or search your app store.



Online devotions – The Upper Room, Alive Now, and 3-Minute Retreat are just a few of the online devotionals available as mobile apps for easier reading. Download one of them to your smartphone or tablet and take it along on your daily subway/bus commute.

If you don't already, follow SPSA on Facebook and Twitter: facebook.com/stpaulandstandrew and twitter.com/SPSAUMC. You'll see the ways we're living out our faith in real life. Use these online social communities as tools to share all of the things that are happening at SPSA. Think of it as e-vangelism.

If you'd like to contribute to the "Spiritual Corner" contact Barbara Wheeler-Bride



MIND (Methodists in New Directions) will meet here September 29, 3:00pm. We need you!

Homecoming 2013 Worship and Potluck Lunch!

Join us Sunday, September 29, 11am for our annual Homecoming Celebration. Right after worship we'll gather in the lovely Social Hall for a potluck. Please bring a main dish, salad, veggie dish or dessert. Jo Goodsonat.



Above: our annual Volunteer Recognition Sunday for the great volunteers of the WSCAH Food Pantry was a big success!

Below: the SPSA Green Team headed to Governor's Island for a day of composting fun.



Two dozen of us showed up September 17 to help cook for the Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS). We made food for five weeks! Thank you, everyone!



Children & Families:

Sunday School for Those in Pre-K, too!

By Julie Nelson

"Let the Little Children Come to Me" is a message that every child hears over and over again in church. The story of Jesus telling the adults not to keep the smallest of the community away but to bring them closer to him. He embraced them and loved them.

At SPSA we're taking Jesus words a little closer to heart this school year. This September we began our first Pre-K Sunday School class. And it has been fantastic! Every Sunday we meet in the boardroom after the children's message. We play games, make crafts and most importantly learn the stories of the Bible! Using story-book style take-home booklets and coloring books, too, we're sharing God's love with the very smallest and most important members of our community!

Do you know a young person who would enjoy and benefit from our great Children's Education program? We now have classes for pre-K through 5th grade. Encourage them to give it a try!

Don't miss Fall Crafts and Haunted House, put on by the Youth! Tuesday, October 29, 4 and 6 pm.



EVERY MEMBER
COMMITMENT:
**WHAT CAN YOU
CONTRIBUTE?**

By Jo Goodson

October is the month when we create an estimated church operating budget for SPSA for the next year. Our budget includes these estimated costs:

- 1/ People who receive salaries for work in support of the church: clergy and non-clergy
- 2/ Expenses to the New York Annual Conference to support our connectional responsibilities
- 3/ Utility cost for lights, heat, air conditioning, hot water, stoves and refrigerators
- 4/ Mortgage payments to finish paying off the cost of the social hall renovations
- 5/ Programs of Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, the Youth Room, etc.
- 6/ Toilet paper, cleaning products, maintenance for normal wear and tear
- 7/ Ways we communicate with ourselves and the community: the Update, the bulletins, the website etc.



The funds to pay for these expenses come from the:

- 1/ Givers in our church community
- 2/ Groups that pay to use space in the church building

So far in 2013 the income from givers and groups has covered the expected expenses very well. In fact, for the first six months of the year the giving was greater than the expenses because some generous individuals paid their pledges ahead. However, this summer, we had two instances of serious water damage that caused parts of the ceiling to collapse. Serious safety issues like this need to be addressed immediately so the funds were spent to fix the damage even though these expenses had not been included into this year's budget.

Paying for these extraordinary expenses has made it necessary for SPSA to postpone paying some other commitments, such as our connectional apportionments to the New York Annual Conference. It has also brought into focus what we've known for some time, that the funds received from the SPSA givers and space users is not sufficient to build a reserve fund that could be used to pay for major building expenses.

To address these concerns, the Trustees and Finance Committees are working closely together to coordinate the requests for pledges for the 2014 Operating Budget and requests for gifts and pledges to a new Capital Campaign that will raise money for:

- 1/ The most recent major damage to the church building
- 2/ Major repairs to the marble steps on West 86th street & WEA
- 3/ Roof repairs need to prevent further ceiling and other inside damage

You will begin receiving details on the giving requests this of information will come your way between Homecoming Sunday on September 29, the kickoff for the Operating Budget Pledge Drive, and Pledge Sunday November 3, when we ask you to bring forth with joy your the ongoing ministry of SPSA. However, if you have any that aren't being addressed please see Jo Goodson, Chair Finance Committee.



Fall. Lots
2014
gifts for
questions
of

Our Church Conference will be Wednesday, October 30, 7 pm

YOUTH:

EATING OUR WAY INTO A NEW YEAR

By Jessie Floyd, CYM President

September 14-15 marked the start of youth group.

We met Saturday night for a kick-off progressive dinner. The event involved a gradual, and very filling, dinner where parents, youth, and mentors met up to set the year in motion.

We began with a prayer and introductions while munching on hummus, cheese and vegetable appetizers provided by the Barrington-Dye household. Then, we went down the stone stairs and through Morningside Park to be greeted with the Heckman's delicious spaghetti, various homemade sauces (including mouth-watering pesto), and fresh bread.



After playing a rowdy game of running charades (in which my team was flattened), we marched down the block to the Neiblum's for dessert. The table was piled high with cookies, sheet cakes, lemon squares, and even some strawberry pretzel Jell-O that became a youth group favorite after enjoying it on our mission trip to Prattsville, NY.

The evening included much first week of school story-telling, excited laughter, and an eager anticipation for a strong year with my favorite people.

For more Youth information, contact Siobhan Sargent:

- October 19** Parent Meeting, 4pm
- October 20** Confirmation begins
- October 25-27** Church Retreat
- October 27** No Youth Group
- October 29** Haunted House!

CAMPUS MINISTRY: GROWING AT COLUMBIA

By Joshua Foster

The Columbia University Methodist Campus Ministry has officially started again this semester and we are ready for a great year. In our first full Gathering we discussed the topic of prayer and how it affects our everyday lives. It was a great discussion and one that challenged each of us to strive to make prayer a more prominent part of each day.

Going forward, we have the vision of continuing to grow our ministry and for our gatherings to be a great place for people to come fellowship in prayer, discussion, and peace. As we grow we will begin to do more things such as weekend retreats and other outings. We want to be more involved with the students on our campus and the broader community of NYC in which we find ourselves.

To reach our vision we will need a lot of help, prayer, and support. Feel free to join us on Monday nights from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. in Earl Hall on Columbia's campus for The Gathering. Also, anyone who would like to volunteer to help out with our ministry is welcome to contact me, Joshua Foster



All-Church Getaway Retreat Quinipet, Shelter Island NY

We'll stay at beautiful Camp Quinipet, a former estate on the shore of Peconic Bay, for a weekend of walking on the beach, worship, playing, eating together, and learning about each other. Cost: \$75, or what you can afford. Bring linens, warm clothes & a sense of humor.



October 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 29 HOME COMING 11 Worship K Preaching 12:15 Homecoming Lunch 1:30 Youth 3 MIND Meeting	30 8:30 Gathering	October 1 6:30 Pilates 7:30 Knitting	2 6 Tutoring Begins	3 7:30 Interfaith Event with B'nai Jeshurun (88th St)	4	5 2 Yoga Fundrais- ing Festival!
6 COMMUNION 11 Worship K preaching 12:30 Orientation 12:45 Young Adult Brunch	7 8:30 Gathering	8 6:30 Pilates 7:30 Knitting	9 6 Tutoring	10	11	12 1 Open House NY
13 Housing Sabbath 10 Choir 11 Worship K preaching 1 Youth Group 1 United Methodist Women	14 Church closed 8:30 Gathering	15 6:30 Pilates 7:30 Staff Parish	16 6 Tutoring	17 Hamlet opens!	18	19 4 Youth Parent meeting
20 Bread for the World 10 Choir 11 Worship K preaching 1 Youth 1 Sidewalk Sale 6 Potluck!	21 7:15 Trustees 8:30 Gathering	22 6:30 Pilates 7:30 Knitting	23 6 Tutoring	24	25 Fall Retreat	26 Fall Retreat
27 (Fall Retreat) 10 Choir 11 Worship Charles Preaching	28 8:30 Gathering	29 4 Fall Crafts 6 Haunted House 6:30 Pilates 7:30 Knitting	30 6 Tutoring 7 Church Conference	31 Halloween	1 All Saints	2

Shelter: Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:00; AA Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00; Food Pantry, Monday 8:00 to 6:30, Wednesday to Friday 8:00 to 3:00.



presents
Separate Tables
by
Terence Rattigan
At the West End Theatre

Wed-Sat, October 2-5, @ 8:00 p.m.
Sat & Sun, October 5 & 6, @ 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$18 General Admission;
\$15 Seniors & Students (with ID)

For Reservations/Tickets, go to
[www.brownpapertickets.com/
event/450713](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/450713)



Hamlet

October 17-November 10, 2013
The West End Theatre
Tickets are on sale now
at [Smarttix.com!](http://Smarttix.com)



MAKE OUR HOME YOUR HOME!
Become one of our resident
theatre companies.

Contact John@stpaulandstandrew.org
263 West 86 Street New York City



Interfaith Conversation w.
Religious Leaders from Israel
Thursday, October 3, 7:30-9:00

Rabbi Ron Kronish
Interreligious Coordinating Council
Qadi Iyad Zahalka
Judge, Shariah Court of Israel
(at B'nai Jeshurun, 257 W 88th St)



Homework Help @ SPSA
Each Wednesday, 6-7 pm
Contact Charlene

Harvest Potluck
Sunday, October 20, 6 pm.
550 West End Ave, gate entrance.
Bring a main dish, salad, veggies,
drink or dessert to share!

Homecoming Luncheon
Sunday, September 29, 12:30 pm
Pot-luck: Bring something to share!
Harvest Potluck:
Sunday, October 20, 6 pm
R & Charlene's, 550 West End (Gate)

The Church of St. Paul & St. Andrew
United Methodist
263 West 86th Street
New York, NY 10024
(212) 362-3179
www.stpaulstandrew.org



Sylvia Barker, our oldest member, turned 99 on September 11, 2013!
Wishing her well are, from left, Jon Mikel Zeigler, June Quarfordt, Siobhan Sargent, Peggy Griffin-Jackman, and, with cake, Cindy Thrall.