

Weekly Newsletter March 17, 2019

# WEST SIDE IS A WELCOMING CHURCH, ROOTED DEEPLY IN CHRIST, INVITING ALL TO CONNECT, GROW AND SERVE.

# Justin Lee Joins Us Today at 4:00 pm!

Justin Lee is gay. He's also a conservative Christian. For many years he thought the two were mutually exclusive. But they're not. And he'll be at West Side today at 4:00 pm to talk about his journey as a devout evangelical who discovered himself to be gay.

He'll discuss his groundbreaking book—*Torn: Rescuing the Gospel from the Gays-vs.-Christians Debate*—as well as take questions from the audience and moderate a panel discussion with three experts:

 Rev. Dr. Shari Brink, president and CEO of the Blanton-Peale Institute and Counseling Center, which provides affordable, holistic mental health care to 1,800 people in New York City, and a founding co-president of Room for All, a nonprofit working for full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in the Reformed Church in America.



- Mark Miller, associate professor of church music at Drew University, lecturer in sacred music at Yale University and minister of music at Christ Church in Summit. He lives in Plainfield with his husband of 20-plus years and their two teenagers.
- Chris Warren-Dickins, a licensed professional counselor who works with clients on a wide range of issues, including anxiety, depression, anger management, and gender and sexuality issues. He lives in Ridgewood with his husband and two daughters.

The event will wrap up with refreshments and a "meet and greet" in the Narthex, where Justin's books will be available for purchase and signing.

We hope you'll join us for this engaging conversation...and invite your friends.

The program will be livestreamed at westside.org/watch and featured post-event on our website and at youtube.com/c/westsidepres. Like and subscribe!

# Is This Your First Time Visiting West Side?

Welcome! We're so glad you're here. We look forward to helping you connect with others, grow more deeply in your faith and enrich your own life by serving others. Wherever you are on life's journey, there's a place for you at West Side.

Please stop by the visitor table located just inside the front doors, fill out a Let's Connect card and pick up a visitor bag. And please stay after the service to enjoy coffee/tea and refreshments and meet the pastors and members.

Have a question? Our staff is here to help:

Rev. Marc Oehler, pastor, moehler@westside.org

Rev. Penny Hogan, associate pastor, phogan@westside.org

Rev. Liz Junod, pastoral associate, ljunod@westside.org

Deborah Holden-Holloway, minister of music, dholden-holloway@westside.org

Pat McGlade, R.N., faith community nurse, pmcglade@westside.org

Esmé Elkins, children's ministry coordinator, eelkins@westside.org

Anne Lee, executive administrative assistant, alee@westside.org

### "Meet the Artist" Reception Today

John lanacone, the featured artist in The Gallery for the month of March, is hosting a reception today after the 10:15 am service. Please stop by to chat and check out his work...as well as the literary messages he's added to each image. All of John's images for this show start off as photographs, and some remain obviously so. But many have been highly manipulated in his "digital darkroom." Enjoy each print as it is...no matter how distant the original pho-



tograph may seem. See something you love? Twenty-five percent of sales goes to West Side.

# **Lenten Small Groups**

Our Lenten Small Groups started this past week, but you can drop in anytime. Pick up a Lenten brochure in the Narthex and join us! Connect with some new folks, engage your head, heart and soul, dive deeper into the River of Grace.

# **High School BARN Tonight**

High school youth meet in the Barn **every Sunday night** for fun, faith and fellowship from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. It's a great chance to get recharged before the start of the school week.

### Mozart's Requiem

There's no need to travel to NYC to hear great classical music. West Side's Oratorio Choir and Orchestra will present Mozart's Requiem on **March 31** at 3:00 pm. Come hear this haunting, emotionally stirring choral masterpiece, which remained unfinished at Mozart's death on December 5, 1791 at the age of 35.



### **Anthony Kearns and the West Side Singers**

Members of West Side's Chancel and Oratorio Choirs will be performing with world-renowned tenor Anthony Kearns at West Side on Saturday, **March 23** at 7:00 pm. They'll be singing "Will You Come and Follow Me," "The King of Love my Shepherd Is" and "Be Thou My Vision." Proceeds from this special concert benefit Julia's Butterfly Foundation, a volunteer organization that provides financial assistance to families with terminally and chronically ill children. To purchase tickets (\$25 general admission, \$100 VIP), visit juliasbutterflyfoundation.tix.com.

## Jail Ministry

Every year, West Siders travel to the Drug Rehabilitation Center at the Bergen County Jail to share an Easter meal with the inmates. Participants are asked to contribute baked goods (preferably homemade) and a two-liter bottle of soda, and meet in the church parking lot at 4:15 pm for a 4:30 pm departure. Easter will be celebrated on **April 13** this year. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Genevieve Lowry (gml9001@gmail.com) by March 22.

# Are You Ready to Call West Side Home?

You're invited to a New Member Class on **April 7 and April 28** from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. (Dinner and child care will be provided.) This dynamic two-part class is designed to help you get to know our clergy and church leaders, connect with other prospective members, ask questions, and consider how God is calling you to become part of our ministry and mission. To sign up for the class, or if you have questions, please reach out to Anne Lee (alee@westside.org).

# **Anthony De Mello Retreat**

Followers of the author won't want to miss this retreat on Saturday, **April 6** from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Pulsifer Chapel. "Awareness: The Joy of Being Alive" begins with bagels and coffee and continues with four workshops throughout the day. Laughter, love, happiness, silence and freedom are just a few of the topics that will be discussed. Please bring a brown bag lunch. To register, or for more details, get in touch with Pastor Liz (ljunod@westside.org).

### Women's Retreat

Save the dates—April 26 to April 28—for the Women's Retreat at Johnsonburg. The theme: Resilience for the Fearfully and Wonderfully Made. For details and to register, visit campiburg.org. Several West Side women have already signed up!

# **TODAY AT WEST SIDE**

8:00 am—Little Lambs Child Care - Room 202	10:15 am—Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
8:15 am—Chapel Worship - Chapel	10:15 am—Sunday School - Rooms 206, 306,
9:00 am—Contemporary Worship -	311, 312 and Serenity Room
DePhillips Hall	11:15 am—Lenten Small Group - Chapel
9:00 am—Sunday School - Rooms 206, 306,	11:15 am—Prayer Circle - Chapel
311, 312 and Serenity Room	11:30 am—Mission and Social Concerns
9:00 am—Lenten Small Group -	Meeting
Conference Room	4:00 pm—Justin Lee - Sanctuary
9:15 am—Lenten Small Group - Chapel	6:30 pm—Circles of Trust - Mollie Ledwith's
9:45 am—Centering Prayer - West Side Room	Home
10:00 am—Lenten Small Group - West Side Room	7:00 pm—High School BARN - Barn

# **COMING UP AT WEST SIDE**

- March 20 Bereavement Support Group in the West Side Room at 6:00 pm
- March 21 Third Thursday Men's Group at Craig Matthews' home at 7:30 pm
- March 23 Anthony Kearns Concert with West Side Singers in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm
- March 24 Parlance Chamber Concert in the Sanctuary at 3:00 pm
- March 30 New Jersey Children's Chorus in the Sanctuary at 6:00 pm
- March 31 Mozart's Requiem in the Sanctuary at 3:00 pm
- April 5 First Friday Women's Group at Esmé Elkins' Home at 7:00 pm
- April 5 New York Classical Players Concert in the Sanctuary at 8:00 pm
- April 6 Anthony De Mello Retreat in the Chapel from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- April 6 Ridgewood Choral Concert in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm
- April 13 Salvation Army Band Concert in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm
- April 14 Palm Sunday Procession at 9:00 am and 10:15 am services
- April 14 Easter Egg Hunt starting on the Plaza at 11:45 am
- 4 Please visit www.westside.org for more information about our programs.