

The Pastoral Staff Letter

A NOTE FROM JENNY



Dear Friends,

This Sunday contains three significant events for us here at MAPC. It is Memorial Sunday, Marathon Sunday, and the end of Daylight Savings Time. I am struck by the confluence of all this. Every year on the first Sunday of November, we take time to remember and celebrate the saints of our lives who have died – those we have loved in this life, who are now held secure in the next life, where they see Jesus face to face.

They have become, as the author of the letter to the Hebrews puts it, our great cloud of witnesses. The beginning of chapter 12 reads this way: “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith” (12:1-2). Let us run the race... this Sunday, our city will be filled with runners giving everything they have to make it to the finish line. Let us be inspired by those who have gone before us in faith, giving their all to the church of Jesus Christ, as we strive to do the same. Because while we will set our clocks back this weekend, in truth, life moves ever forward.

This Sunday also marks one week since the most recent mass shooting, this time at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. I cannot (and will not) pretend to understand everything about the epidemic of violence afflicting our country. I suspect that part of the problem, however, is this: we have forgotten that we belong to one another. We have forgotten that in the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, God also created humanity and gave everything into our safekeeping. This includes one another. Cain was perhaps the first to ask the question: Am I my brother's keeper? The answer is not easy, but it is straightforward. Yes. Yes, we are one another's keepers.

This weekend, we will keep the memories of our loved ones alive. We will give thanks that they have found heavenly rest. And at the same time, we will pray: Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. May it be so.

Peace,

Jenny

Sunday, November 4, 2018 - Memorial Sunday

Worship Schedule: 9 am and 11:15 am; Nursery - 4th Floor Phillips Building, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Worship: This Sunday Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt, will be preaching her sermon entitled *For All the Saints* which will be based on the lectionary texts: Ruth 1:1-18, Psalm 146, Revelation 21:1-7, and John 11:32-44. This being the first Sunday of the month, prayers for Healing and Wholeness will be offered during communion at both services. Preview the latest bulletins at [here](#), and listen to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays [on the website](#).

Children's Worship, 9:15 am & 11:30 am, Phillips Lounge

Youth Worship, 9:15 & 11:30 am, Dana Chapel

Fellowship Hour, 10 am & 12:30 pm, Church House Lobby

Adult Education, 10:10 am, Parish Hall

High School Fellowship, 10:10 am, 4th Floor, Phillips Building

Church School, 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Youth Hour, 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

New Member Reception, 10:10 am, 8th AR

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

Shelter Orientation, 1 pm, Shelter Space

ESL Classes, 1 pm, Fifth Floor

Confirmation Class, 4:15 pm, Youth Lounge

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space

MADISON
AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
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**MAPC is on [Facebook](#)
and [Instagram](#)**

THIS SUNDAY

Adult Education: Faces of our Faith Parish Hall, 10:10 am

Chesna Hinkley will lead a conversation on Esther as a face of our biblical faith. Come join us as we discover this courageous woman and her bravery. We will meet at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall.

**To check the church's
calendar, go to [our website](#).**

STEWARDSHIP

Fall Fellowship Gatherings - Sow Bountifully!

The following information is to assist people in planning to attend one of our MAPC Fall Fellowship Gatherings. To make a reservation and for exact location details, **please call the church at 212-288-8920, extension 8485.**

Date and Time

Tuesday, October 16 @ 6:00-8:00 pm Park Avenue about East 58th Street

Sunday, October 21 @ 4:00-6:00 pm

Friday, November 2 @ 6:00-9:00 pm

Monday, November 5 @ 6:00-8:00 pm

Monday, November 12 @ 6:00-8:00 pm

Approximate Location

The home is wheelchair accessible.

West 92nd Street

The home is wheelchair accessible.

West 91st Street

The home has stairs.

Park Avenue about East 89th Street

This home is wheelchair accessible.

East 67th Street

The home is wheelchair accessible.



OTHER EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Music on Madison: Bach Concertos & Sonatas with Juilliard415

On Friday, November 2 at 7:30 pm, musicians from The Juilliard School's historical performance program, prepared by the distinguished British harpsichordist and conductor Richard Egarr, will perform varied and inventive chamber works by Bach. The program includes duo and trio sonatas for flute and violin, as well as Bach's beloved "Brandenburg" Concertos No. 3 and 5. Tickets may be purchased in advance by going to **Brown Paper Tickets**. Admission is also available at the door: \$25 (\$20 - Students & Seniors 62+); children 12 & under: free. Visit the church's [website](#) to view all 15 concerts taking place during our 2018-2019 season.

Great Expectations with the NYCCC Training Choirs

Next Tuesday, November 6 at 6 pm, the three ensembles of the NYCCC's Training Choirs will perform a 30-minute program of music inspired by great literature, with words penned by Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson and Mark Twain. Admission is free and all are welcome!



Fall Dates for Your Calendar

Sunday, November 11

Hood Library Fellowship
Annual Book Sale

Sunday, November 18

Stewardship Dedication Sunday,
with brunch following the services

Sunday, November 30

Church Family Night, 6 pm

Saturday, December 1

Advent Retreat/Quiet Day;
9 am to 3 pm

Saturday, December 8

Tell Me More About MAPC, 9 am

Sunday, December 9

Senior Fellowship Lunch, 1 pm

Sunday, December 16

4th Annual Carol Sing, 4 pm

MAPC Serves, James Lenox House

Are you looking for a way to get service hours? Do you enjoy helping people and using technology? Join us this Monday as we visit James Lenox House, helping residents 55 years of age and older learn to use their personal electronic devices or with any other need they want assistance with. If you are interested in volunteering, we will be there from 4-6 pm! Sign up now by emailing Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Children's Worship

Children's worship takes place during both worship services at 9 am and 11:15 am. This is an interactive worship service designed specifically for children 3rd grade and under.

Church School, Sunday Mornings 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Our Church School looks forward to welcoming you on Sunday as we sing together, read a story, and create something new! It is never too late to join in on the fifth-floor fun. Come and join us at 10:10 am this Sunday. To sign-up or get more information please reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Kids Club and Wee Kids, Wednesday afternoons, 4-6 pm, Church House

Kids and families, join us on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 pm for Kids Club. Its never to late to sign up, visit our website or contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com to register.

Middle School Ministries

Youth Worship, 9 am and 11:15 am!

Worship with your peers and friends in an interactive way in the Dana Chapel during both worship services every Sunday morning. Youth grades 4-7 are invited to join Christina Cosby for a time or worship as they learn about our worship practices at MAPC and lead their worship experience!

Sunday Youth Hour, Sunday Mornings at 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

What characters inspire you in movies, books, and music? How do they show

love toward God and others in an inspirational way? Join us on Sunday Mornings as we discover Faces of Our Faith as they appear in popular culture! We will use popular movie clips, characters from books, and people we personally know to explore how they live into their faith and how God calls us to do the same! Middle and High Schoolers are invited to join Christina on Sunday mornings at 10:10 am. Hope to see you on Sunday.

T(w)een Club: Middle School Mid-Week Youth Group, Wednesday afternoons, 5-6:30 pm, Church House

Middle schoolers, join us for T(w)een Club Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 pm. We'll share dinner and study the Bible with Rev. Jenny McDevitt. Haven't joined us on Wednesday nights before? This is the perfect chance to change that and it's never too late to sign up! For more information contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or visit our website to find the registration form.

High School Fellowship Sunday Mornings, 10:10 am 4th floor Phillips Building

Have you been looking for a space to call your own and reconnect with your church friends? MAPC is excited to premiere our High School Fellowship. This will be a time that you help design. Seminary interns lead this group in conversation and art.

Hood Library Fellowship Annual Book Sale Sunday Morning, November 11

Be sure to spend some time at Fellowship Hour on Sunday, November 11, where you will find the annual Hood Library book sale! What better way to spend time after worship than enjoying a cup of coffee or tea, conversation and browsing for books? Come find some winter reading, and perhaps even a Christmas gift or two. The Library Fellowship uses the proceeds to keep the Library's collection current.

MAPC Serves Opportunities Youth Service Group for High School Students—MAPC Serves

Join us as we embark on a new program tailored to serving the vulnerable across our City with high school students in mind. This year we will share in service and fellowship as we meet the needs of three communities: the elderly, the homeless, and children. Each month, we will offer three service opportunities that reach these three populations. We look forward to having you join us in service beginning in October.



Save these dates:

December 3 at 4 pm

James Lenox House

December 6 at 6 pm

Thursday Open Table: Join us to serve a warm meal to our neighbors in need.

THIS WEEK AT MAPC

Monday, November 5

4:00 pm	MAPC SERVES: James Lenox House	James Lenox House
6:00 pm	Fall Fellowship Gathering	89th Street & Park Avenue
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Tuesday, November 6 Election Day

5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Library
6:30 pm	Personnel Committee	Pastor's Study
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Wednesday, November 7

12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
1:30 pm	Shelter Leaders	Shelter Space
3:45 pm	Kids Club	PH, PL, 5th Floor, Gym
3:45 pm	Wee Kids	4th Floor
4:00 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
5:00 pm	T(w)een Club	Youth Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Deacons	Parish Hall

Thursday, November 8

6:00 pm	20s/30s Bible Study	Apt 10C
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Special Called Meeting of Session	5th Floor
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, November 9

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Saturday, November 10

No Events Scheduled

BIBLE STUDIES AT MAPC

Looking for a place to read Scripture together and get to know people at MAPC? Come to one of our Bible Studies; newcomers are always welcome! **For more information, go to the [MAPC website](#).**

Reading Through the Bible:

Wednesdays 12:30-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge
Reading Through the Bible picks up with Ecclesiastes on Wednesday, November 7th.

20s/30s Bible Study:

(Next Meeting is Thursday, November 8)

Across culture and time food and wine have been enjoyed by many. This is no different throughout Scripture. This fall we are going to look at the importance of table fellowship and the production of wine in scripture. Come as we sample food, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages from different regions around the world and discover their Biblical roots.

Women's Bible Study:

2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 pm, Phillips Lounge

(Next Meeting is Monday, November 5)

The minor prophets, who are they? What do they have to say to us today? These are the same questions we asked as we wondered what to study next. Come learn with us as we begin this new study! Joel has already surprised us as he values the rituals of worship. Join us at 6:30 pm every other Monday or come early with a bit to eat as we enjoy fellowship with one another. We cannot wait to see you there!



Volunteer this Fall with Children's and Youth Worship

Are you passionate about worship at MAPC? Worship is a time that we share a set liturgy as a way to reconnect with God and one another. Moreover, worship teaches us valuable patterns that we use across many areas in our lives. Each Sunday, we share the importance of this liturgy and pattern of life with our younger generation as we worship in an interactive way. This valuable time for our families is made possible by your help! Sign-up and come experience worship in a new way! If you have any questions or want to learn more, please feel free to reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or by calling 212-288-8920.

Give Some Love to the New York Common Pantry Grocery Carts

Far too often, a basic human necessity like food is expensive and scarce, especially in New York City. The New York Common Pantry works each year to reduce stress in people's lives by providing a pantry to those in need. The pantry continues to ask for your help! **They need canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, fresh or canned vegetables, and peanut butter.** We simply ask for no glass containers! You may drop your items off in the provided grocery carts found in the Church House Lobby or the Sanctuary Narthex. Or, since we are busy people in a busy city, you may also order groceries to be delivered to the **New York Common Pantry (8 East 109th Street, New York, NY, 10029, Phone: 917-720-9700)** by one of your grocers. Know that any items you give will not only impact a family, but also a child's life. And we are most thankful for that!

Clothing Donations Needed for Women and Men

The Homeless Outreach Program at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church, one of MAPC's long-term outreach partners, continues to see a dramatic increase of homeless persons seeking assistance. Both casual and business clothing for men and women, as well as new undergarments, are among their most urgent needs. If you have clothing items in clean and neat condition, we encourage you to **take them to the Jan Hus Clothes Pantry at 351 East 74th Street at 1st Avenue. The clothes pantry is available to take donations Monday through Saturday from 8 am-8 pm and on Sunday from 9 am-3:30 pm.** NOTE: Please bring all clothing to Jan Hus directly—clothing may no longer be left in the coatroom off the MAPC Church House Lobby.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay Connected to Worship at MAPC

Did you know that even if you're away or unable to make it to church that you can listen to Sunday worship services at MAPC? Sermons and service highlights (including scripture lessons, hymns and anthems) are uploaded afterwards, and are permanently accessible. They can be downloaded to your electronic device or listened to directly on MAPC's **website**: Peruse valuable online resource today! Once ready for print, our Sunday bulletins are also uploaded to our website on Thursday afternoons and are made permanently available for download.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

Is there someone you would like to honor or remember through a gift of flowers for Sunday worship? If so, please contact Lissette Perez-Eraza at **ljp@mapc.com** or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.

OUTREACH

Ways to get involved at MAPC with hands and hearts!

The following opportunities to participate in hands-on ministries are provided by the Outreach Committee. If you are interested in exploring any of these opportunities, email Rebecca Heilman at **rmh@mapc.com**. Let's put our faith into action!

New York Common Pantry

The New York Common Pantry offers opportunities for volunteers to help pack and distribute food to the working poor on Saturday mornings and other times each week. MAPC has supported this very well organized and effective organization since its inception 30 years ago. This is a wonderful way to follow Christ's command to "feed my sheep!"

The Thursday Open Table Needs YOU!

Can you spare 2 hours on a Thursday evening from 6-8 pm? If so, then you can help feed 120 hungry neighbors a hot meal, offering them Christian hospitality. Please contact Kathy Hoffman at **kfhoffman@earthlink.net** to volunteer for this opportunity.



Hosts are needed at the Shelter

Hosts are needed for the Shelter! The Shelter is comfortable and the experience of helping these men get their lives back on track is one that will change your heart. Two shifts are offered each evening. Early evening hosts volunteer from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm; overnight hosts volunteer from 8:30 pm to 7:00 am. Please contact Rebecca Heilman at **rmh@mapc.com** for more information.

Search and Care

Can you spend an afternoon with an elderly person on the Upper Eastside to walk their pet, go with them to a doctor's appointment, help them shop, balance their checkbook or just offer them the gift of companionship? Contact Robin Strashun at **SandC@searchandcare.org** for more information.