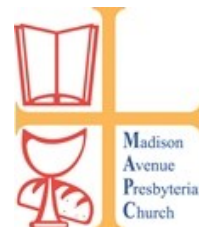


The Pastoral Staff Letter



**Madison
Avenue
Presbyterian
Church**

Issue #30

May 10, 2018

Sunday Worship Ascension of the Lord Mother's Day May 13, 2018

Worship Schedule

9 am and 11:15 am service

Infant Nursery—4th Fl. Phillips Building, 8:30 am—1 pm

Toddler Nursery—4th Fl. Church House, 8:30 am—1 pm

This Sunday the Rev. Jenny McDevitt will be preaching. Her sermon entitled ***"Don't Forget to Look Up"*** will be based on the lectionary texts: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; and Luke 24:44-53. Preview the latest Sunday [bulletin](#), or [listen](#) to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC's 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, Lobby

Church School, 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Youth Sunday Mandatory Rehearsal, 10:10 am, Sanctuary

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

Confirmation Class, 1 pm, Youth Lounge

ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space

To Check out the Church's Calendar:

Go to the website at
[http://www.mapc.com/
calendar/calendar/](http://www.mapc.com/calendar/calendar/)

**MAPC is on Facebook
and Instagram!**

*See you in church!
The Pastoral Staff*

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Welcome Roger Pierce, MAPC's New Director of Administration and Finance



On May 1, we welcomed Roger Pierce as Director of Administration and Finance, to fill the role long-held by Richard Frey. Roger

and Richard will work together throughout the month of May to ensure a smooth transition before Richard's retirement. As you will soon experience for yourselves, Roger balances deep knowledge with a calm spirit. He has over 20 years of experience working at increasingly senior levels at Russ Reynolds Associates here in New York, as well as experience in similar capacities in San Francisco and Greenwich,

CT. Roger recently made the decision to step away from for-profit work and seek out a position with an organization that, in his words, "gives back and makes a difference in people's lives." In fact, Roger first heard of this open position because he had begun volunteering with our overnight shelter. Please join us in welcoming him to the MAPC family.

Other Events & Announcements

Moms' Night Out, Monday, May 14, 7 pm at the Upper East Side Restaurant

MAPC moms, we have a Moms' Night Out coming up this Monday! Jenny McDevitt will join us, so we will have a chance for further conversation with her. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices,

lgp@mapc.com. When we know how many people are coming, we will choose a restaurant and let you know the location. Come enjoy a relaxing evening with other MAPC moms.



Women's Bible Study, This Monday, May 14 in the Phillips Lounge



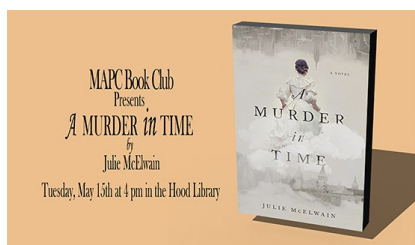
This Monday will mark the beginning of our new study on *hospitality*. Christina Cosby will lead this interactive course as we travel through scripture and history, taking a closer look at how God calls us to live into honoring the

other. Hospitality takes many forms, but how does God call us to engage with those we are called into community with, and stranger alike? Join us as we take a closer look at scripture through this creative approach to studying God's Word

to us. You will be surprised, challenged, and amazed at how God's people have engaged with others throughout time! Bible study begins at 6:30, but everyone is invited to bring dinner for fellowship at 6 pm.

If you have any questions or want to learn more, please reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or by calling the church offices 212-288-8920 x8480.

MAPC Book Club, Tuesday, May 15, 4 pm in the Library



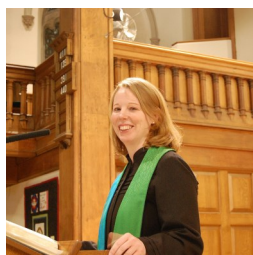
Please come join in the book club discussion on May 15 of *A Murder in Time* by Julie McElwain. We still have a few days in which to read it, and the MAPC Book Club would love to have you join them!!

Pizza and Game Night, May 18, 6-8 pm on the 5th Floor

Game On! Do you enjoy pizza? Are you wondering what to do on Friday night? Do you want to hang out with friends? Then come to MAPC for a fun-filled Friday night as we get our Game On! This Friday we invite our 5th grade friends to join us as we welcome them into our middle school group! We look forward to having you. To sign up, you can RSVP to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.



Tell Me More About MAPC! - Saturday, May 19 at 9 am



New to MAPC? Thinking about joining, or just curious about who we are and why we do things the way we do? Not sure how to spell *Presbyterian*, never mind, know what Presbyterians believe? Looking for ways to get connected and get involved? Join us on Saturday, May 19 from 9 to 11:30 am in the Phillips Lounge. Attendance at one of these gatherings is required before officially joining, but attending doesn't commit you to joining. RSVPs are helpful so we can have enough snacks and coffee on hand for you, but consider yourself invited and welcome even if your presence is a surprise to us. Led by Rev. Jenny McDevitt. Contact Lisette Perez-Eraza at lgp@mapc.com with questions or to sign up.

Auditions for NYC Children's Chorus Now Open!

Children ages 4-18 may now sign up to audition for MAPC's very own New York City Children's Chorus. We anticipate hearing over 200 auditions this spring, so we recommend that you register your child for an audition as soon as possible, due to the high volume of auditions. If your child is a fine singer, please consider auditioning for this outstanding program at www.nycchildrenschorus.org.



Youth and Confirmation Sunday is May 20th



Pentecost is a day that commemorates God sending the Holy Spirit to the church in order that all may understand and be united. Acts reminds us that all ages and cultures are welcomed in God's community. It reads, "God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams."

This Pentecost we will celebrate God's Spirit speaking to this community through its young sons and daughters. For it is the dreams of the older men and women that have taught this generation through dreaming grand visions.

May 20th, our youth will lead us in worship at 9 am and 11:15 am. Come listen to what the Holy Spirit is doing in the community that we call home!

Please note if your child or youth has signed up to lead worship on May 20th there are two mandatory rehearsals on May 13th at 10:10 am and on May 16th at 4 pm.

Congregational Brunch in Honor of Confirmands, Sunday, May 20th, Following the 11:15 am Worship Service

Please come down to the Parish Hall following the 11:15 am worship service and enjoy a time of fellowship and lunch in honor of our confirmands. This has become an annual event as we welcome these young people—Emily Bartlett, Adeline Burg, Cole Glotfelty and Emily Patterson—into the membership of MAPC. There is no charge for the lunch, but there will be a basket for free-will donations. Come downstairs for fellowship even if you cannot stay for lunch!

Kids Club Parents, Please Take This Short Survey!

Dear MAPC Families,

We love Kids Club as much as you do, and we are looking for ways to strengthen our program. Do you have a few moments to fill out our **KIDS CLUB SURVEY**? If you could fill it out and let us know your thoughts by the last day of Kids Club, May 16, that would be very helpful as we plan for the future.

Thank you,
The MAPC Kids Club Staff



PS--If the link doesn't go to our survey, please try this link in your browser:

<https://newyorkcitychildrenschorus.wufoo.com/forms/qbof1u80dmtokb/>

All Church Retreat September 28-29 at Holmes Camp



Mark your calendar now for the All Church Retreat in the fall! We are having it a little earlier this year and are hoping for beautiful weather for outdoor activities. We'll have plenty of room for those who want to come up and enjoy an evening of fellowship on Friday, and we will plan to start the program around 9 or 9:30 on Saturday for those who come for the day. We'll have more details as we get closer to summer.

Roof Garden Party, Thursday, May 31 from 6 to 9, on the Roof Garden, of course!



We normally have our summer Roof Garden party in July, but the sprinkler installation project that will be happening in the Church House this summer will make the Roof Garden inaccessible as of June 1. Chef Jim will be cooking for us and is planning a Mexican menu. So, come enjoy an “almost summer” Roof Garden Party! We will offer childcare again. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com, or watch for sign-up opportunities during fellowship hours on Sunday mornings.

Highlights of the April 24 Session Meeting

- Members of the 2018 Confirmation Class met with Session. Emily Bartlett, Adeline Burg, Cole Glotfelty, and Emily Patterson all met with small groups of elders for shared conversation about their perspectives on faith, church, and dreams for the future. All four were approved and received into membership of the church.
- An update on the Church House sprinkler project was provided, including the contractor and budget recommended by the Trustees. Session approved the Trustees recommendation. Apo-gee will complete the work over the summer, beginning in June and concluding before September 1.
- Session revisited the recommendation from the November 2017 meeting to close the overnight shelter. At that time, Session tabled the decision pending further study. Elders Greg Ballard and Laura Burg presented a thorough report on the status of the shelter, including congregational participation and financial implications. Following the report, the motion to close the shelter was unanimously defeated. The overnight shelter will remain an MAPC ministry.
- The personnel committee brought to the Session a candidate for the position of Director of Administration and Finance: Roger Pierce. Session approved the recommendation.

Farewell Luncheon for Richard Frey, Sunday, June 3 in the Parish Hall, Following the 10:30 am Worship Service

Our Business Manager, Richard Frey, is retiring at the end of May, after almost 25 years at MAPC! Many of you who have served on Session or the Board of Trustees have had the opportunity to work with Richard and know how valuable his years with us have been. For those of you who haven't worked with Richard, he has been a major player in keeping MAPC running for the past quarter century. Please come say thank you and farewell on June 3 after morning worship.



In lieu of a purse, Richard has asked that donations be given to the scholarship fund Richard and his wife Janet have established at Richard's high school, Lancaster Mennonite School. The Frey Endowed Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance to residence hall students from varied racial/ethnic backgrounds. The current recipients are students from Nigeria. To contribute to the Frey Scholarship Fund in honor of Richard's years of service to MAPC, you may place your gift in the offering plate, or you can give online through the MAPC [website](#) (click on the “Giving” tab and in the drop-down box you should find “Richard Frey Gift”). You may also send a check to MAPC, 921 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021, attn: Carmen Olmeda.

Update From the Synod of Harare

We recently received this photo from our partners in the Synod of Harare showing the progress on the building of the Harare City Church. They are getting much closer to completion! Please keep our sisters and brothers in the Synod in your prayers over the coming days as they

hold their Synod meeting May 16-20. We have sent a letter of greeting for them to share at the Synod meeting, and we look forward to hearing an update following it. Our dear friend, Abusa Libias Boloma, who served as one of our visiting pastors-in-residence, has been

the Synod Executive for the last six years. A new Synod Executive will be elected at this meeting, and Libias will return to pastoring a church, which he is looking forward to.



Christian Education at MAPC

Volunteers Needed for Children's Worship

Children's Worship needs your help! If you can help assist in Children's Worship this year, please sign up for the 9 am worship service, or the 11:15 am worship service here. This ministry is a success thanks to your willingness to volunteer. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, please contact Christina Cosby at (212) 288-8920 x8480, or by email at cac@mapc.com.

Children and Family Ministries

Children's Worship

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

Children's Worship will continue over the summer months, and it will take place at our 10:30 am worship service be-

ginning on May 27th.

Kids Club

Wednesday afternoons from 3:45-6 pm

This Wednesday, May 16, is the last Kids Club for this school year. Please come join us as we celebrate the new friendships we have fostered over dinner together.



Middle and High School Ministries

Youth Worship

This interactive worship service takes place at both of our regularly-scheduled worship services (9 am and 11:15 am) and is designed to teach youth about the elements of Presbyterian Liturgy while offering leadership opportunities in worship each Sunday.

This Sunday, May 13th, will be the last Sunday of youth worship for the year. We will conclude our program by leading the adults in worship on May 20th, Youth and Confirmation Sunday (please see [page 4](#) for de-



tails). On May 27th, we will switch to our summer schedule with one worship service at 10:30 am. During the summer months, youth are encouraged to stay in the Sanctuary to worship with their families.

T(w)een Club

Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 pm

T(w)eens are invited to join Tween Club at any time during the year! For more information please visit our [website](#).

T(w)een Club's last day will be May 16th, followed by Youth Sunday on May 20th.

Please stay tuned for more service opportunities coming up, or go to the MAPC [website](#) for a complete list or click here to find an [easy-to-print](#) calendar.

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 <http://www.mapc.com/christian-ed/adultclasses/>.

Reading Through the Bible:

Wednesdays, 12:30 pm-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge

On May 16, we will pick up with Psalm 139.

20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting is Today, Thursday, May 10)

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 pm, Apt. #10C

Join us for food and Bible Study. If you are interested in learning more, reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.



Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, May 14)

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

Hospitality takes many forms, but how does God call us to engage with those we are called into community with? Join us as we take a closer look at scripture through this creative approach to studying God's Word to us. You will be surprised, challenged, and amazed at how God's people have engaged with others throughout time! Bible study begins at 6:30, but everyone is invited to bring dinner for fellowship at 6 pm.

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](#) this val-

uable 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.

Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

921 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10021
Phone: 212-288-8920
Fax: 212-249-1466

**We're on the
web
www.mapc.com**

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-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.

Thank You for Filling the New York Common Pantry Grocery Carts

The New York Common Pantry, the city's largest private food pantry and long-time MAPC Outreach partner, is asking for your continued support: canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, fresh or canned vegetables, and peanut butter. Please—no glass containers. You can drop off items in the grocery carts in the Church House Lobby or the Sanctuary Narthex, or you could even order groceries to be delivered through one of your grocers. (8 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029, Phone: 917-720-9700). Thank you for taking seriously Christ's command to "feed my sheep!"

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-8pm 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 of the MAPC Church House Lobby.

Hands-on Ministries

Ways to get involved at MAPC with hands and hearts!

"Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." 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, e-mail Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com. Let's put our faith into action!

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 (formerly known as Shelter Dinner)

Host 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 am. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@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 even just offer them the gift of companionship? If so, contact Robin Strashun at SandC@searchandcare.org.

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!"