

The Pastoral Staff Letter



**Madison
Avenue
Presbyterian
Church**

Issue #32

May 24, 2018

Sunday Worship Trinity Pentecost May 27, 2018

Worship Schedule

10:30 am service

Infant Nursery—4th Fl. Phillips Building, 9:15 am-12:15 pm

Toddler Nursery—4th Fl. Church House, 9:15 am-12:15 pm

This Sunday, Rev. Jenny McDevitt will be preaching her sermon entitled “*Do We Really Need to be Born Again?*”, which will be based on the lectionary texts: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; and John 3:1-17. Preview the latest [Sunday bulletin](#), or [listen](#) to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC’s website.

Summer Choir Rehearsal, 9:30 am, Choir Room

Children’s Worship, 10:45 am, Phillips Lounge

Fellowship Hour, 11:45 am, Church House Lobby

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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This Sunday

Please note we begin our summer worship schedule this Sunday, May 27, with one service at 10:30 am.

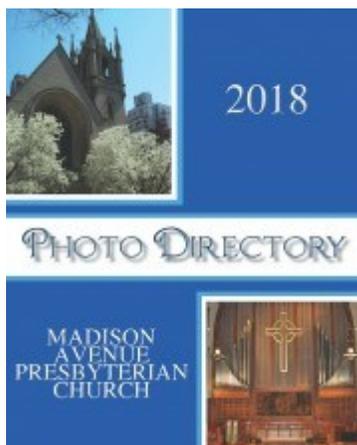
Summer Choir Begins



You're invited to sing on Sundays during the summer at MAPC! Our Summer Choir provides an opportunity for church members and friends to sing some beautiful choral music together as leaders of worship. Beginning this Sunday and continuing through Sunday, July 29, the Summer Choir will meet on Sunday mornings for a rehearsal at 9:30 am in preparation for our 10:30 am services. This is a great way to join in on the music-making at MAPC on an informal level; just come as you can. To peruse this summer's choral music repertoire and further information, check the MAPC [website](#). Please contact Andrew Henderson at aeh@mapc.com for more information.

Other Events & Announcements

New Church Directory is Ready!



Our new church directory is ready and available to members of MAPC! We are using an online church directory, which you may print if you would like a paper copy. Here is how you access it: go online to <https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/>.

Click on "Church Member Sign In" then click on "create a login now". You will need to enter the email you use to receive church communications and create a password. If you are blocked from creating a log in, it means the email you are using is not what we have in our records for you! If that is the case, please contact Carmen Olmeda in the church offices with your correct email ad-

dress, so she can update it in the system, at co@mapc.com. If you find that any of your information is incorrect, or out of date, please send the correct information to Carmen, and we will ensure that it is updated.

If you did not have your photo taken, or would like to provide an updated one, please send your photo to Arnaldo Pitre at aap@mapc.com.

Please keep this directory confidential to the MAPC community, and refrain from using it for any marketing or solicitation purposes.

We hope you will find this a helpful tool for being in touch with one another and getting better acquainted with other MAPC members.

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

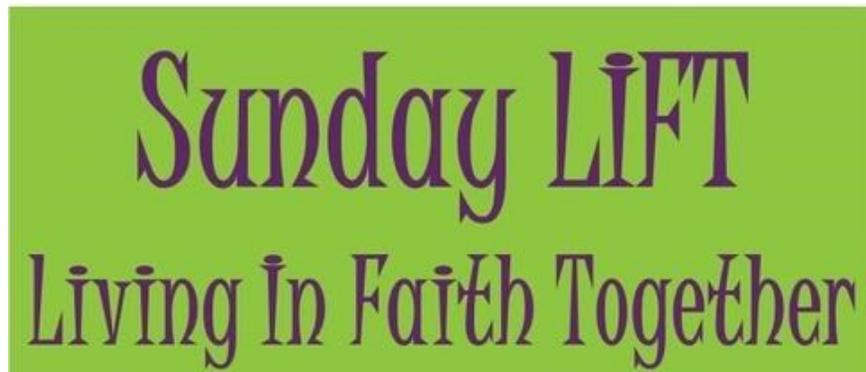
We normally have our summer Roof Garden party in July, but the sprinkler installation project that will be happening in the Church House this summer will make the Roof Garden inaccessible as of June 1. Chef Jim will be cooking for us and is planning a Mexican menu, complete with margaritas. So, come enjoy an “almost summer” Roof Garden Party! This is an opportunity for the adults of the congregation to enjoy a time of fellowship in this beautiful space which is used more often by our children. To allow as many of you as possible to attend, we will once again offer childcare on the 5th Floor. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Eraza at lgp@mapc.com, or watch for sign-up opportunities during fellowship hours on Sunday mornings. Suggested donation is \$40. If you are requesting childcare, we ask for a contribution of \$15 per child. We’ll order pizza for the kids.



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. Apogee 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.

SUNDAY LIFT, a Christian Education Summer Opportunity, Sunday Mornings Throughout June, in the Atrium on the 8th Floor



Exciting news! Five-year-olds, or one-hundred and five, we have the perfect summer educational experience for you!

MAPC has been chosen to pilot a new educational curriculum this summer. *Sunday Lift* is an intergeneration educational experience that focuses on faith formation and cultivating community within congregations. This goal is accomplished through bible study, games, and sharing a meal together. We hope that you will join us for this exciting summer Christian education opportunity for all ages.

Update From the Synod of Harare

We recently received another photo from our partners in the Synod of Harare showing the progress on the building of the Harare City Church.



The following photos were sent back in December.

The progress is noticeable.



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 have been working 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.

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.

Church Family Night, Friday Night, June 8 from 6 to 9 pm

We will have one more Church Family Night before the summer begins, on Friday, June 8. Please come enjoy a relaxed evening with

the church family. We'll have good food and fellowship, a craft table, a movie and gym play. RSVP to Lisette Perez-Eraza at

lgp@mapc.com. Suggested donation is \$20 for adults and contribution of your choosing for children under 12.

All Church Retreat September 28-29 at Holmes Camp and Conference Center



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.

Christian Education at MAPC

Volunteers Needed for Children's Worship

Children's Worship needs your help this summer! If you can help assist in Children's Worship this summer, 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 our at our summer worship service at 10:30 am. This is an interactive worship service designed specifically for children 3rd grade and under.



Kids Club is on hiatus for the summer and will resume on September 12, 2018.

Middle and High School Ministries

Youth Worship is on hiatus for the summer and will resume on September 9, 2018.

All children and youth older than 3rd grade should stay in the sanctuary with their parents during worship. Beginning on June 3rd there will be an interactive activity available from the

usher, which will help them engage in worship in an interactive manner.

T(w)een Club is on hiatus for the summer and will resume on September 12, 2018.



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

Next week, on May 30th, we will begin the Book of Proverbs. If you haven't already, now would be a great time to join our group!

20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting is Today, Thursday, May 24)

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, June 12)

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 continue our study on *Hospitality: A Journey Through Scripture and History*. Bible study begins at 6:30, and all are welcome to bring dinner for fellowship at 6 pm. We look forward to seeing new faces at our next session.



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

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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-Eraza 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!"