The Pastoral Staff Letter

A Note From Jenny

Dear Friends,

Conventional wisdom claims it takes a month of daily practice to form a new habit. There's some disagreement whether small changes or substantial changes are easier to adopt. Either way, this points toward a universal truth—change is hard. (Tell you something you don't already know, right?)

We are changing some of our habits at MAPC this fall, particularly regarding communication. This Pastoral Staff Letter now opens with a note from me, because our relationships and interactions as a church are about more than just information. We've also included the upcoming week's calendar in these pages. That same calendar is posted throughout the building and is also available online, but it will no longer be included in our Worship Bulletin. This is actually cause for celebration we have so much going on, our bulletin is full past overflowing. I am grateful for this "problem."

Since moving, one of my newest habits is taking my dogs on a walk first thing in the morning, rather than simply letting them out into my fenced backyard in Kansas. Central Park is lovely, but 4 am is not my favorite time to enjoy it. On the other hand, I delight in another new habit: walking almost everywhere (during more

reasonable hours). That's the thing of change, isn't it? We like some parts of it more than other parts. This much is always true, though—change is a sign of life. And living things, including all of us, are designed by God to adjust, adapt, and ultimately, flourish.

See you Sunday,

Jenny

Sunday Worship—22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time September 2, 2018

Worship Schedule 10:30 am Service Nursery—4th Fl. Phillips Building, 9:15 am-12:15 pm

This Sunday our Pastoral Resident, Rev. Rebecca Heilman, will be preaching her sermon entitled *Welcoming the Implanted Word* will be based on the lectionary texts: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; James 1:17-27; and Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23. This being the first Sunday of the month, prayers for healing and wholeness will be offered during communion. Preview the latest Sunday <u>bulletin</u>, or <u>listen</u> to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC's website.

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

Welcome Rev. Rebecca Heilman Reception, 11:45 am, Parish Hall

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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To Check out the Church's Calendar:

Go to the website at

<u>http://www.mapc.com/</u> <u>calendar/calendar/</u>

MAPC is on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>!

See you in church! The Pastoral Staff

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A Note From Rebecca

While preaching at my Ordination Service, Jenny announced that nearly 600 members of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church were awaiting my arrival to New York City in order to welcome me to a new home. What an honor it is to finally be with you! And let me tell you, I am overjoyed to call this place and all of you my home.

I grew up in the small town of Valdese, North Carolina, where I was baptized and raised in Waldensian Presbyterian Church like my father, grandmother, and great grandfather. You're probably wondering, what is this strange "W" word? Well, it is not your fault for not knowing this word, because, far too often, the Waldensian people are left out of Christian history books. Simply put, the Waldensians were a religious sect developed around the 12th century who pride themselves as Christian reformers before the "official" Martin Luther reformation. A significant piece of history, right? In 1893, twenty-nine Waldensians arrived in North Carolina to prepare the arrival of several more hundred people (including my great, great grandfather). Furthermore, the Waldensian settlers pride themselves in giving birth to a manufacturing and textile town, which allowed them to escape the overcrowded alps and, even more so, the overwhelming poverty. When they first arrived, hungry and exhausted, a nearby Presbyterian Church sustained their survival for several years, which led the Waldensians to join the Presbyterian Church. Today, there are Waldensian settlements all over the world, such as in Italy, Uruguay, Argentina, Germany, and even New York. I'd be happy to talk with you more about my heritage, as I could go on and on about the subject. So, I digress.

What else can I tell you? First, I'm a southerner at heart! I love shrimp and grits, liver mush, fried green tomatoes, and Brunswick stew. I will use "y'all" and you will probably think I sound funny when I say "mountain" or "again". I am a book lover, a food lover, a plant lover, a dog lover, and I'll be honest...a Netflix lover. I am a person who likes long walks and swims (but will never run!). I value deep conversations and seek out moments of diversity, so that I can embrace and love any cultures in my vicinity. I have many extracurricular (and probably impossible) first-call goals, such as to continue to learn sign language, to read Hebrew daily, to get back into cooking, to buy lots of plants, to paint until my hands fall off, to attend as many Broadway shows that I can afford, and to make the perfect pimento cheese.

I am a graduate of Presbyterian College with a degree in International Studies and Christian Education. As a child, I was a deep thinker and compassionately cared for people not only around me, but throughout the world. I knew I wanted to "help" people when I was older and I never imagined my "helping" people included a call to ministry. I discovered my call while studying Christian Education under the Rev. Rebecca L. Davis at Presbyterian College. I was exposed to a Gospel where the poor, the orphaned, the widows, children and women, are uplifted instead of suppressed. I realized my passion for social justice, missions, and studying the Bible, which ultimately led me to serve as a PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) in Lusaka, Zambia. While living with an incredible host family and fully immersing myself in the Zambian culture, I quickly became aware of the brutal and vulnerable poverty that engulfs a Zambian's life. My year in Zambia was more than teaching the sixth grade or doing service in an international context. Instead, I discovered the ministry of presence, listening, and fully embracing a culture different from my own. When I learned this hard lesson, there was no escaping God's call in my life.

Following my time in Zambia, I attended Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA to acquire a Masters of Divinity. During my first semester at Union, I looked at MAPC's Global Ministry Fellowship position and thought, "In three years, I will apply." Fast forward three years, and I discovered Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church was offering a different call directed towards pastoral ministries. I never imagined God calling me to the parish, but I recognized new passions such as providing pastoral care, preaching and worship, and, yes, even Hebrew, while interning at a hospital and church. Your pastoral

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residency combines all of my passions into one call, and even provides opportunities for areas of growth! God is consistently present, yet constantly working through us and in us so that discernment never ends. Your pastoral residency provides the space to learn, grow, and continue the journey of discernment. I often say, "I am walking and willing." And, as your first pastoral resident, I have never been more thrilled to walk with you and more willing to love you! So, for the next three years, will you walk with me on this journey through my humble learning moments and, frankly, willing to follow the Spirit, wherever she may take us? I sure am! I look forward to listening to your holy stories, embracing all those in need, and opening my heart to this church and God's urban ministry!

With Love and Peace,

Lebecca Salman



Other Events & Announcements

Worship at 9 and 11:15 am

We return to two worship services September 9! Don't forget that Adult Education, Church School and Youth Hour also start up again and occur between both morning services.

Blessing of the Backpacks (and other bags)



Ready or not, a new academic year is almost upon us. Students, bring your backpacks or bookbags to worship (yes, to worship!) on September 9 to receive a special blessing and a small gift during the Children's Lesson. Adults, if you wish to participate, bring whatever bag accompanies you throughout your day. Let's begin the year remembering that God is with us wherever we go and whatever we do. (Tip: bring your backpacks to be blessed, and you can fill them up with anything you need for the picnic later that day!

Fall Picnic in the Park, September 9 at 1 pm

Celebrate the start of a new program year with a picnic in Central Park! We'll gather at 1 pm (location to be announced). Sandwiches, salad, and chips will be provided; please bring some dessert to share. If you're able, bring blankets or whatever you wish to sit on. We'll have some chairs available for those who need them. Come and enjoy a relaxed afternoon in the park with MAPC. Meet Rebecca, our pastoral resident, and meet Chesna and Audrey, our seminary interns. Play a few silly games with Jenny or just chat with a friend. This is a great and non-threatening event to invite some friends to join you! RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at <u>lgp@mapc.com</u>. (In the event of rain or extreme heat, we'll gather in the Parish Hall.)



MAPC Serves: Thursday Open Table, September 6 at 6 pm

Start off the school year serving a warm meal to our neighbors in need next Thursday, September 6 at 6 pm. We are looking for 8 volunteers to help prepare plates, greet guests, and serve warm meals tableside. We need your help to ensure that all get fed and are greeted with a smile. If you can volunteer on September 6, please RSVP by emailing Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com

If you cannot make it next Thursday, do not worry, as we will serve together on the first Thursday of every month, so mark your calendar for October 4!



Learn More About MAPC's Shelter



According to the Coalition for the Homeless census, nearly 64,000 men, women, and children slept in a NYC shelter each night by the end of 2017. No doubt, an overwhelming number that tears at our hearts. Thankfully, MAPC is highly aware and active in providing a shelter for about 12 men caught in the brutal system of poverty. Therefore, all of you are invited to learn more about MAPC's nightly shelter at the Outreach Committee's Shelter Orientation on Sunday, September 16th at 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Come and educate yourself on the ins and outs of the shelter and homelessness. You being at the orientation will not automatically volunteer you, but it will give you an opportunity to know more about the city we live in and people we share it with. Please send any and all questions to Rebecca Heilman or Christina Cosby. Come learn with us!

Singing at MAPC

Are you interested in singing with the **Church Choir**, or our choral society, the **Saint Andrew Chorale**? The Church Choir sings anthems and provides musical leadership for our 11:15 am services and special liturgies from September through May. The Saint Andrew Chorale sings concerts as a part of the Saint Andrew Music Society concert season, often joined by orchestras and accompanied by professional instrumentalists. Rehearsals for both the Church Choir and Saint Andrew Chorale resume on **Thursday**, **September 6**. If you are interested, visit the Choirs page on our website, or contact Andrew Henderson: <u>aeh@mapc.com</u>, or 212-288-8920.





The all-church retreat at Holmes Camp and Conference Center will be here before you know it! In fact, we will need to give Holmes our numbers shortly after the summer holidays are over. Please look at your calendars and sign up now!

There are two options:

- 1. You may come up on Friday evening (with sleeping bag and towels) and enjoy dinner and a relaxed evening of fellowship and breakfast the next morning before the rest of the folks arrive, or
- 2. Come for the day on Saturday.

The evening meal on Friday begins at 7, and we'll enjoy games, conversation and evening prayer afterwards. We will plan on starting the program around 9:30 am on Saturday, depending on when the bus arrives.

The cost for those coming overnight is \$90 (includes lodging, three meals, and day use fee on Saturday).

The cost for those coming up on Saturday is \$30 (includes morning coffee and snacks, lunch and day use fee).

The cost of transportation is additional!! We have reserved a bus for those coming for the day on Saturday. The bus will leave MAPC at 7:45 am and depart Holmes to return to NYC at 4 pm. The roundtrip cost for the bus is \$50.

For those coming up on Friday evening, we will arrange carpooling, or you may take Metro North and someone will pick you up from the Southeast Station.

We will have a separate children's program on Saturday morning, while the adults share in discussion, then everyone will enjoy lunch together and afternoon activities of their choice: hiking, visiting the farm, sitting on the porch, or playing games.

If you have questions, please contact Lissette Perez-Erazo at <u>lgp@mapc.com</u> You may sign up during coffee hour after worship on upcoming Sunday, or by contacting Lissette, or through Sign Up Genius: <u>www.SignUpGenius.com/</u> <u>go/20F0F44A5AF2DA1FE3-holmes</u>

Church Family Night, Friday, September 14, 6 pm in the Parish Hall

Come kick off the fall with a fun night of fellowship! We'll enjoy dinner, complete with both child and adult beverages, a craft activity, a movie (with popcorn), and play in the gym and on the Roof Garden. Come spend time with church friends you may not have seen over the summer months. You do not need to have children at home to come to Church Family Night—it is for the whole church family (however, you do need to be comfortable with a bit of happy chaos!). Suggested donation for the evening is \$20 for adults, and a contribution of your choice for children under 12. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, <u>lgp@mapc.com</u>.



Families enjoying Church Family Night.

Saint Andrew Music Society: Announcing Our 54th Season



The Saint Andrew Music Society's 54th Season brochure has been sent off to the printers! While we await receiving the mailing, you can peruse all fifteen concerts taking place this season on our <u>website</u>, ranging from performances by our very own choral society—the Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra; MAPC's community children's chorus program—the New York City Children's Chorus; students from The Juilliard School, Mannes College, and the Manhattan School of Music; and a host of recitals featuring vocalists and chamber ensembles.

Installation Service for Jenny McDevitt

On September 23, at 3 pm, Rev. Jenny McDevitt will be installed as our Senior Pastor. Join the Presbytery of New York City for worship and a celebratory reception to follow. Rev. Tom Are, Jr., Senior Pastor of Village Presbyterian Church (Jenny's previous congregation) will preach.



Wednesday Afternoon Kids Club & Wee Kids



The Pastoral Staff is excited to invite your family to join us Wednesday afternoons from 4-6 pm for Kids Club and Wee Kids. This year, Kids Club is going to be better than ever! We hope you will join us for Bible Study, Choir, Recreation, and Dinner.

There will be more opportunities for special worship services, field trips, and more that we are excited to share with your family.

To register, please visit <u>mapc.com/education/childrens-ministry</u> or reach out to Christina Cosby at <u>cac@mapc.com</u>.

New Youth Service Group for High School Students—MAPC Serves

The Christian Education Committee at MAPC is excited to offer you a program tailored to serving the vulnerable across our City. 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!

We hope you will help us reach our goal of 300 service hours this year!

To sign up, check out the MAPC Serves tap on our website: <u>http://mapc.com/education/youth-ministries/</u>. If you would like more information, please reach out to Christina Cosby by email at cac@mapc.com or by calling 212-288-8920. See <u>page 4</u> for the first opportunity.



Dinner with Mayada, Monday Evening, October 15 at 6 pm



The Congregational Nurture Committee is delighted to host our third annual Dinner with Mayada. Mayada Anjari is a refugee from Syria, who, along with her family, has resettled in Jersey City with the help of Rutgers Presbyterian Church. Mayada is a wonderful cook, and Dinners with Mayada are one way she helps support her family as they establish their lives in the United States. The cookbook we have been waiting for will be available at this dinner! It is beautiful and would make a wonderful Christmas gift. The book is \$24.95, and will You Mayada happily sign copies. can preview it here: https://www.breadandsaltbetweenus.org/

The cost of dinner is \$40 for adults, and \$20 for children under 12. Since this is a benefit dinner, we encourage you to pay the full price, if possible. We also encourage you to invite your friends! If the full \$40 is not possible for you, please pay what you can, and the committee will subsidize the rest. The event is BYOB, and we encourage you to bring a bottle of wine to share. You can reserve your seat and pay for dinner <u>here</u>. You can pay for both the dinner and the number of books you want at the same time. When you reserve, please let us know if you would like a book, so we will know how many to have on hand. RSVP by emailing Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, <u>lgp@mapc.com</u>, or by signing up during fellowship hour in the weeks prior to October 15.

Middle School Mid-Week Youth Group



Middle Schoolers, we're trying something new just for you! Join us for T(w)een Club Wednesday evenings from 5-7 pm. We'll share dinner and study the Bible with Rev. Jenny McDevitt (bring all your tough questions—she's ready for you!) Mary Huff is directing a youth choir that won't be the same without you, so bring your joyful singing voice. We'll mix in some games, crafts, service options, and other activities from time to time, too. Haven't joined us on Wednesday nights before? This is the perfect chance to change that. (Want to come by right after school? That's okay, too. There will be study hall space and snacks available for you. To register, contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or visit our <u>website</u>.

Look What's Happening at MAPC This Week!

Monday, September 3			
	LABOR DAY—CHURCH HOUSE CLOSED		
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space	
Tuesday, September 4			
5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Phillips Lounge	
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space	
Wednesday, September 5			
1:30 pm	Shelter Leaders	Shelter Space	
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	Sanctuary, Phillips Lounge	
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space	
7:00 pm	Special Called Meeting of Session	5th Floor	
7:00 pm	Deacons Meeting	Parish Hall	
Thursday, September 6			
1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing Grp	James Lenox House Library	
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table (MAPC Serves)	Parish Hall	
6:30 pm	Recovery Group	Library	
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space	
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	5th Floor	
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	
Friday, September 7			
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space	
Saturday, September 8			
9:00 am	Tell Me More About MAPC	Phillips Lounge	

Fall Dates for Your Calendars

Sunday, September 9 (after 11:15 am Worship)—Church Picnic in Central Park Friday, September 14 (6 pm)—Church Family Night, Parish Hall Sunday, September 16 (1 pm)—Shelter Orientation, Basement Shelter Sunday, September 23 (3 pm)—Jenny McDevitt's Installation Service Fri-Sat, Sept. 28-29—All Church Retreat at Holmes Presbyterian Camp Monday, October 1 (7 pm)—Moms Night Out, Offsite (TBD) Sunday, October 7 (1 pm)—Senior Fellowship Lunch, Parish Hall Wednesday, October 10—Blessing of the Animals Monday, October 15 (6 pm)—Dinner with Mayada Saturday, October 20 (10 am)—Annual Women's Brunch Friday, October 26 (6 pm)—Annual Church Family Night Halloween Bash! Monday, October 29 (7 pm)—Faith & Fermentation Sunday, November 4 (1 pm)—Senior Fellowship Lunch, Parish Hall Sunday, November 11-Hood Library Fellowship Annual Book Sale Sunday, November 18—Stewardship Dedication Sunday Sunday, November 30 (6 pm)—Church Family Night, Parish Hall Saturday, December 1 (9 am to 3 pm)—Advent Retreat/Quiet Day Sunday, December 9 (1 pm)—Senior Fellowship Lunch, Parish Hall Sunday, December 16 (4 pm)—Annual Carol Sing, Sanctuary Please feel welcome to join us for our events!

Christian Education at MAPC

Volunteer this Fall with Children's Worship & 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 further questions or want to learn more, please feel free to reach out to Christina Cosby at <u>cac@mapc.com</u> or by calling 212-288-8920.

Children and Family Ministries

Children's Worship

Children's Worship takes place during our summer worship service at 10:30 am. This is an interactive worship service designed specifically for children 3rd grade and under.

Church School begins on Sunday, September 9, 10:10 am

Our Church School teachers are eagerly waiting to welcome your family back to MAPC's

Middle and High School Ministries

Youth Worship is on hiatus for the summer and will resume on September 9, 2018. Church School this Fall. Join us as we share in a joint opening time and engage the Bible in our peer groups. We look forward to learning and exploring God's Word together this year! To sign up or get more information, please out to Christina Cosby at <u>cac@mapc.com</u>.



Kids Club See <u>page 6</u> on signing up. We will begin our year together on September 12!

All children and youth older than 3rd grade should stay in the sanctuary with their parents during worship.

T(w)een Club See <u>page 8</u> on signing up. Come join the fun as we learn, play, sing and eat together beginning 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 <u>http://www.mapc.com/christian-ed/adultclasses/</u>.

Reading Through the Bible:

Wednesdays, 12:30 pm-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge Reading Through the Bible is on hiatus until September 12.

20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting is Thursday, September 13)

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

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 as we begin a new year. 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: (Next Meeting is Monday, September 10)

2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 pm, Library

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!

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: <u>peruse</u> this 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.

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.

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 <u>lgp@mapc.com</u> or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.

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!

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 <u>cac@mapc.com</u>. 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 <u>kfhoffman@earthlink.net</u> 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 <u>cac@mapc.com</u> 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!"