

The Pastoral Staff Letter

This Sunday

Sunday, February 10, 2019

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship Schedule: 9 am and 11:15 am

Nursery: 4th floor 8:30 am—1 pm

Worship: This Sunday Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt will preach her sermon, *Jesus: Compelling Leader*, based on the lectionary texts and our sermon series, *Who Do You Say That I Am?:* Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11.

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

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

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

Intergenerational Church School Hour, 10:10 am, Parish Hall

High School Fellowship, 10:10 am, 4th Floor Lounge

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

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

Shelter Open House, 12:45 pm, Shelter Space

Interest meeting, Presbyterian Youth Triennium, 12:45 pm, Youth Lounge

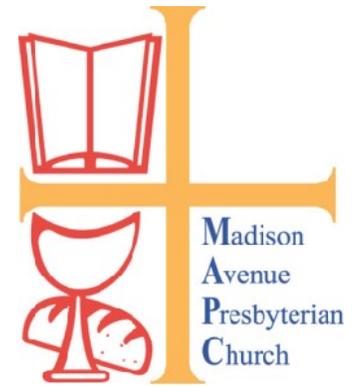
Senior Fellowship Lunch, 1:00 pm, Parish Hall

ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor

SAMS Recital, 3 pm, Sanctuary

Confirmation Class, 4:15 pm, Youth Lounge

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space



Issue #63

February 7, 2019

Inside this issue:

<i>Sunday</i>	1-3
<i>February Events</i>	3, 5
<i>Children & Family</i>	4
<i>Stewardship Update</i>	5
<i>Bible Studies</i>	6
<i>Hands-on Ministries</i>	6
<i>This Week at MAPC</i>	7
<i>March Events:</i>	8
<i>Lenten Mini-Retreat</i>	

A promotional graphic for the sermon series "Who Do You Say That I Am?". The background is a dark, expressive painting of Jesus' face, focusing on his eyes and beard. The text is white and arranged in a list format on the left side of the image.

Who Do You Say That I Am?
a sermon series about who Jesus is and why he matters today

- January 13
Jesus: Son of God
- January 20
Jesus: Savior of the World
- January 27
Jesus: Teacher of Old Ways, Today
- February 3
Jesus: Hometown Prophet
- February 10
Jesus: Compelling Leader
- February 17
Jesus: Reversing Everything We Know
- February 24
Jesus: Unreasonable Expectations
- March 3
Jesus: Always Ahead of Us

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt preaching • worship Sundays at 9 & 11:15 am • 921 Madison Avenue at 73rd Street • mapc.com

This Sunday, February 10th, 2019

**10:10
am**

GIFT (Growing in Faith Together), Intergenerational Church School Hour



Growing in Faith Together (GIFT), a gathering of people of all ages to play, pray, learn, and worship together, meets at 10:10 am Sunday in the Parish Hall. The group will explore Jesus calling his disciples, wondering where Jesus is calling us as individuals and as a community of believers.

Adult Education lecture on February 17 — *“Jesus and His Open Table,”* Rev. Rebecca Heilman

**12:45
pm**

Shelter Open House

Would you like to learn more about our shelter? Come to the Shelter Open House at 12:45 pm on Sunday to learn about volunteer opportunities and our guests who stay in our building each night. There are opportunities to host an early shift (6:30 pm – 8:30 pm) or a late shift (8:30 pm – 6:30 am). All are invited to volunteer, including families! If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Heilman (rmh@mapc.com).

**12:45
pm**

Interest meeting for Presbyterian Youth Triennium

This summer all high school students and rising high school students are invited to travel to Purdue University to gather to worship God, study scripture, and enjoy outdoor recreation with 5,000 of their closet Presbyterian friends. The interest meeting this Sunday will share more on the Triennium experience and what to expect. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com for more information.

Senior Fellowship Lunch

1 pm

MAPC Seniors and friends will have lunch together in the Parish Hall on Sunday, February 10th at 1 pm following fellowship hour. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

Music on Madison: duoSeraphim

3 pm

The Saint Andrew Music Society's *Music on Madison* season continues on **Sunday, February 10 at 3 pm**, with a performance by **duoSeraphim** titled "Barbara Strozzi: In Defiance of Time and Fate." Soprano Sarah Hawkey and Niccolo Seligmann, viola da gamba, will present a program featuring works by Venetian composer Barbara Strozzi –one of the most fascinating women's voices in the arts from 17th century Italy.

Admission to our *Music on Madison* concerts is \$25 (\$20 – students/seniors); children 12 and under: free. [Will Call reservations](#) may be made online in advance using a credit card, or admission can be paid at the door.



Instrumentalists in Worship during February

On the first three Sundays in February we will be joined by guest instrumentalists who will enhance our 11:15 am worship services. On **February 10th** we will hear works by Paul Halley and J. S. Bach with soprano saxophone, and on **February 17th** flutist Gretchen Pusch will play works for chorus and flute by Fred Gramann and John Weaver.



Children, Youth, 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 lead by our seminary interns, Audrey and Chesna, designed specifically for children 3rd grade and under.

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

Anyone age 3-5th grade is welcome to come to Church School on the 5th floor. This time allows kids to explore the lectionary text for the week with their friends and teachers. If you are interested in being a church school teacher, we need your help! For any questions or more information reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

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

It is never too late to sign up for Kids Club, an afterschool program on Wednesday for kids age 3-5th grade. This Wednesday program runs from 4 to 6 pm and includes a time for play, a Bible Story, and choir. The program concludes with dinner at 5:30 p.m. for the whole family. More information can be found on our [website](#) or by contacting Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Dates to keep in mind: No Kids Club, February 20th, Public School Break

Youth Worship, 9 am and 11:15 am

Youth Worship is a time for peers to encounter God through an interactive worship service in the Dana Chapel and takes place during both worship services every Sunday morning. Youth grades 4th-7th are invited to join Christina Cosby for a time of worship as they learn about our worship practices at MAPC and lead their own worship experience!

Sunday Youth Hour (Middle School), Sunday Mornings at 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

This Winter middle schoolers are invited to come and explore identity together, "What Makes Me Who I Am?" This time allows students to reflect on the factors that make them unique and the many variables that

influence their personhood. This study will feed into our next focus, "Who Am I as a Child of God?"

Save the Dates: Preparation for Youth Sunday will begin April 7th. Youth Sunday will be on June 2 at 10:10 am.

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

Join Christina Cosby and Rebecca Heilman on Wednesday afternoons to explore what matters and does not matter in Jesus' eyes. "Jesus Doesn't Care: Jesus Accepts Everyone for Who They Are" is our new topic for discussion this winter. All youth grades 6th-8th grades are invited to join the fun and discussion. This Wednesday's afterschool program includes study hall from 4-5 pm, choir at 5 pm, dinner at 5:30 pm for the whole family, and a time of Bible study with games at 6 pm.

Signups for the 2018-2019 academic year are always welcome. Email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com, and she will assist you.

High School Fellowship, Sunday Morning, 10:10 am, 4th Floor Lounge

This winter join Chesna and Audrey for a time of creativity and faith-centered conversation. Come and bring your friends for a time of art, Bible Study, and fellowship. Your presence makes our group better!

Youth Service Group for High School Students—MAPC Serves

Join us as we serve the vulnerable across New York City. We will be sharing 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.

Upcoming Opportunities:

February 7th Thursday Open Table
February 11th James Lenox House

Bring on the Pasta, MAPC! (By February 14th, Please)

The New York Common Pantry's 3rd Annual Pasta Bowl is here! The pantry is for boxes of dry (not fresh) pasta, preferably whole wheat. Last year NYCP collected over 11,000 pounds of pasta for families in need of a warm meal. Please bring a box (or five) to the church and drop it in the food cart located in the front lobby by February 14th. Let's see how much pasta MAPC can donate this year! Or donate online. A \$1.00 donation = 1 lb of pasta. Online donations may be made at nycommonpantry.org. Please select "General Donation" & type Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church into the "this donation is in honor of" line. Or, type "for pasta bowl" into the "please notify the following of my gift" line. If you have questions, contact Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com.

Stewardship Update

We continue to make progress toward our 2019 stewardship goal of \$750,000. As of January 30, we have received pledges totaling **\$640,520**.

To put this in perspective: **if each of our members increased their pledge by only \$200, we would surpass our goal**. While many have given, and given generously, we need everyone's participation to continue our legacy of ministry in and to the city.

Please prayerfully consider a faithful, financial commitment to the work of Jesus Christ through Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. You can pledge [online](#) or by calling the church office at 212-288-8920.



<http://www.mapc.com/pledge-2019>

Bible Studies at MAPC

Looking for a place to read Scripture together and to get to know people at MAPC? Come to one of our Bible Studies. Newcomers are always welcome! For more information, [visit the Adult Education page at mapc.com](#).

Reading Through the Bible:

Wednesdays 12:30-1:30 pm, Library
Reading Through the Bible meets every week at 12:30 pm and will pick up with **Isaiah 43**.

20s/30s Bible Study: (Next Meeting is **Thursday, February 14th**) 6:00 pm, Come celebrate Valentine's Day with your church friends as we enjoy an evening of fellowship and fondue. If you plan to attend or want to know more about 20's and 30's Bible Study email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is **Monday, February 11th**)

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

The minor prophets—who are they? What do they have to say today? These are the same questions Women's Bible Study asked inspiring a study of the minor prophets in the Old Testament. The minor prophets are full of wisdom and insight into the Biblical world. More so, they have a lot to teach people today.

Women's Bible Study invites women of the church to come to learn more about the history of God's people and invite their inspiration to influence lives today.

[Join MAPC on Facebook](#)

Hands-on Ministries

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](mailto:Rebecca.Heilman@mapc.com) at rmh@mapc.com. Let's put our faith into action!

The Thursday Open Table

Can you spare two 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](mailto:kfhoffman@earthlink.net) at kfhoffman@earthlink.net to volunteer for this opportunity.

Host at the Shelter

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. Contact [Rebecca Heilman](mailto:Rebecca.Heilman@mapc.com) at rmh@mapc.com for more information.

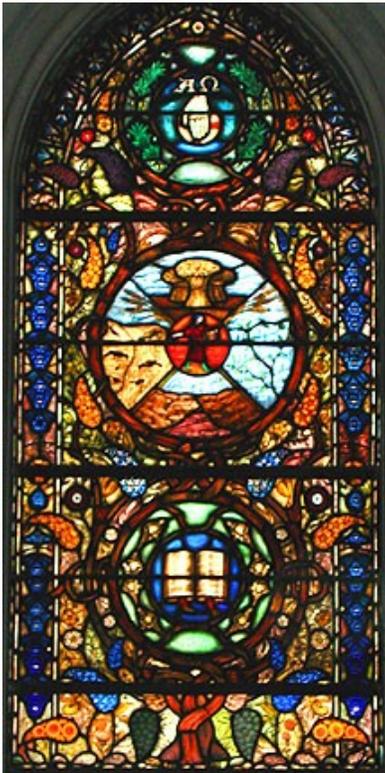
Search and Care

Can you spend an afternoon with an elderly person on the Upper East Side 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](mailto:Robin.Strashun@searchandcare.org) 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!"

This Week at MAPC



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.

Monday, February 11

6:00 pm	Zimbabwe Partnership Committee	Hood Library
6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study	Phillips Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Tuesday, February 12

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Congregational Nurture Committee	Phillips Lounge
7:00 pm	CE Committee	Youth Lounge
7:00 pm	Outreach Committee	Hood Library

Wednesday, February 13

7:30 am	Evangelism Committee	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Hood Library
4:00 pm	Kids Club	PH, PL, 5th Floor, Gym
4:00 pm	Wee Kids	4th Floor
4:15 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
5:00 pm	T(w)een Club	Phillips Lounge
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Thursday, February 14

6:00 pm	20s/30s Bible Study	10th Floor
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Recovery Group	Hood Library
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	5th Floor
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, February 15

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Saturday, February 16

No events scheduled

Volunteer this Winter

Children's Worship and Youth Worship

Come experience worship in a new way.

Visit [Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer in February.

March

A Lenten Feast: Mini-Retreat in Preparation for Lent
Led by the Rev. Beverly Bartlett, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
Saturday, March 2nd, from 9 am to 12:30 pm, Church House Lobby

3/2

It is more common to think of Lent as a time of fasting, not feasting. One overarching theme of Lent is repentance—turning around and returning to God, and the goal of repentance is being one with God, which is indeed a feast for the soul. In this morning together, we will look at some of the scripture passages for the season of Lent and reflect on ways to make this season meaningful for our lives of faith. What Lenten discipline can we take on that will help us strengthen our relationship with God and discern God's word and path for our lives? In what ways can we turn around and open our hearts to the feast of God's presence?

Psalm 63:5 says, "My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast." In Jesus' parable of the prodigal son, the son repents, turns around, and the father greets him with open arms and celebrates his return with a feast.

Come and join in this morning of reflection, conversation and prayer as we look at ways in which our path of Lenten repentance can become a feast. We will share in a light breakfast to begin the morning, join in a morning prayer service, look at some of the scripture passages for Lent together, and have time for silent prayer, including an opportunity to walk the labyrinth. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Eraza in the church offices, lgp@mapc.com. Contact Beverly Bartlett if you have questions, bab@mapc.com.

Tell Me More About MAPC, March 2

3/2



For those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do, we periodically host a "Tell Me More About MAPC" conversation. The next gathering will be held **March 2, 2019**, at 9 am on the 8th Floor. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Eraza lgp@mapc.com. Future dates—April 13 and May 11, in the Phillips Lounge.

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 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.