

The Pastoral Staff Letter

This Sunday
Sunday, March 31, 2019
4th Sunday in Lent

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, *reconcile*, based on the lectionary texts and our sermon series, *reLent*: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

Children's Worship, 9:15 am & 11:30 am, Phillips Lounge
Youth Worship, 9:15 am & 11:30 am, Dana Chapel
Fellowship Hour, 10 am & 12:30 pm, Lobby
Adult Education, 10:10 am, Parish Hall
High School Fellowship, 10:10 am, 4th Floor Lounge
Middle School Youth Hour, 10:10 am, Youth Lounge
Church School, 10:10 am, 5th Floor
Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room
ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor
Confirmation Class, 4:15 pm, 5th Floor
Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space



Issue #70

March 28, 2019

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				[ri-lent], verb
				1. to become less severe or to relinquish
				2. to become more compassionate or to soften
March 6 / Ash Wednesday	"receive"	Rev. Rebecca Heilman	12, 5:15, & 7 pm	
March 10 / Lent 1	"resist"	Rev. Beverly Bartlett	9 & 11:15 am	
March 17 / Lent 2	"reconsider"	Rev. Jenny McDevitt	9 & 11:15 am	
March 24 / Lent 3	"repent"	Rev. Jenny McDevitt	9 & 11:15 am	
March 31 / Lent 4	"reconcile"	Rev. Jenny McDevitt	9 & 11:15 am	
April 7 / Lent 5	"rejoice"	Rev. Jenny McDevitt	9 & 11:15 am	
April 14 / Palm Sunday	"recreate"	Rev. Jenny McDevitt	9 & 11:15 am	
April 18 / Maundy Thursday	"remember"	Church House Lobby	7 pm	
April 19 / Good Friday	"release"	Pastoral Staff & guests	12, 4:30, & 7:30 pm	
April 21 / Easter	"relief"	Rev. Jenny McDevitt	9 & 11:15 am	

3/29
7:30
pm

Music on Madison: Organ Students from Manhattan School of Music

On Friday, March 29 at 7:30 pm three graduate students from Manhattan School of Music's Organ Department, Hannah Lingen Cen, Shannon Murphy & Austin Philemon, will perform a varied program of organ masterworks by Bach, Dupré, Langlais, Ravel, Saint-Saëns & Sowerby on MAPC's Casavant Frères Organ. Admission is \$10; Children 12 and under/MSM faculty & students are free. Will Call tickets are available in advance [online](#).

Sunday, March 31, 2019

10:10
am

Adult Education: Using a Labyrinth



Is God calling you to *reLent*, in order to reorient yourself this Lenten season? Within the church walls it is easy to engage in spiritual practices with prepared materials and practices lead by others. However, it is easier than one initially thinks to use these same practices at home.

This Sunday everyone is invited to come and learn the spiritual practice of creating and using a labyrinth in their daily life of prayer. This spiritual discipline can be used in a time of personal reflection, with children at home, or with a homebound friend unable to make it to church. There is no skill level needed to engage in this simple spiritual discipline, just an open and willing heart.

A look ahead:

April 7—Seminary Intern Audrey Webber will lead a time of Bible Journaling.

April 14—There will be no Adult Education. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the Palm Sunday outreach events.

March and April

Moms' Night Out

MAPC moms gather periodically at an Upper East Side restaurant to enjoy dinner and conversation together. It's a great way to get to know other MAPC moms and share wisdom and experiences. RSVP for the next gathering on April 1st to Lissette Perez-Erazo, lgp@mapc.com, in the church office. When we know how many to expect, Rev. Bartlett will make a reservation at a neighborhood restaurant. The next gathering will be May 2, 2019.

4/1
7 pm

Lenten Class Series

4/3
7 pm

Cultivating & Letting Go, a class series for Lent, meets Wednesdays in the Parish Hall from 7-8:30 pm. The Parish Hall will be open at 6:30 pm for gathering time with coffee and cookies provided. Rev. Jenny McDevitt leads the classes.

April 3: Do You Have Time? Or Does Time Have You?: Analyzing Our Calendars

April 10: Your Place in the Story: How Scripture Influences Our Choices

Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra: Works by Britten and Vaughan Williams

4/7
3 pm

On Sunday, April 7 at 3 pm, the Saint Andrew Chorale and Orchestra, along with 80 singers from our New York City Children's Chorus, will perform two major works composed in England during the early 20th century. Vaughan Williams considered his *Sancta Civitas* (The Holy City) to be his favorite large choral work, written for double chorus, children's chorus, soloists and orchestra, based on texts he selected from the book of Revelation. Originally conceived for performance on BBC radio, Benjamin Britten's *The World of the Spirit* for chorus, soloists, narrators, and orchestra is a piece of similarly large proportions, which was not heard in concert performance until 1998. This concert will be the Saint Andrew Music Society's most ambitious concert undertaking in our 54 seasons, with 120 singers drawn from our Saint Andrew Chorale & New York City Children's Chorus, plus the Saint Andrew Orchestra, comprising 40 of NYC's finest freelance players! Admission is \$30 (\$25 – students/seniors 62+); Children 12 and under are free. Will Call tickets are available in advance online.

Labyrinth Available During Holy Week in the MAPC Gym

The labyrinth will be available for use during Holy Week on the following days and times:

- Palm Sunday, April 14, after each morning worship service
- Maundy Thursday, April 18 beginning at 5 pm through Saturday, April 20 at noon. During these days the labyrinth will be left up in the gym and you may come walk it whenever the building is open and there is not a worship service happening concurrently.

The labyrinth is a centuries' old form (millennia, even) of walking prayer or meditation.

The most famous example in the Christian tradition is on the floor of the Chartres Cathedral. More information on the labyrinth, and suggestions on how to use it as a form of prayer, will be available in the gym during the times the labyrinth is available.

Holy Week Services at MAPC

Sunday, April 14

Palm Sunday

9 am and 11:15 am — Sanctuary

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt preaching

Thursday, April 18

Maundy Thursday

7 pm Service of Remembering — Church House Lobby

includes hand washing and a shared meal

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt leading

Friday, April 19

Good Friday

12-3 pm Service of Devotion — Sanctuary

4:30 pm Worship for Children & Families — Sanctuary

7:30 pm Service of Tenebrae — Sanctuary

Sunday, April 21

Easter

9 am and 11:15 am Festival Services — Sanctuary

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt preaching

Donations Needed for Hygiene Kit Assembly on Palm Sunday

We are one day closer to Palm Sunday (April 14th) and assembling Hygiene Kits for people all over the world. Donate items now via our [Amazon Wishlist](#). It's easy! Click on the [link](#), choose your item, and buy as many items as you would like. They will automatically ship to MAPC, so you don't have to drop it by the church.

Hygiene Kits require particular items, so if it's easier to go to the store, we recommend the following:

- standard size washcloths; wide-tooth combs; finger or toenail clippers; bath-size bar of soap; toothbrushes; standard (not mixed) size Band-Aids.

Our goal is to assemble as many kits as possible. All items need to arrive at the church by Tuesday, April 9th. Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman with any questions or concerns. Find the link here:

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1PS1EDR4KUB23>

Extending our Love on Palm Sunday

During worship on **Sunday, April 14th**, MAPC will take up the Special Offering of **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Whatever gift you can give will go towards our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

Following both services, you are invited to the Parish Hall for brunch to help **assemble Hygiene Kits** for people who are experiencing poverty or the aftermaths of a natural disaster. Additionally, this time together will offer an opportunity to participate in the **2019 Bread for the World letter writing campaign** titled *Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow*. A table will be set up for writing a personal letter or email to our elected officials of Congress, so that we may add our voices to advocate for better nutrition for mothers and children across the world. May we extend our love again and again, to see the vulnerable we've been called to stand with and to serve. Suggested donation for brunch is \$10. Rev. Rebecca Heilman (rmh@mapc.com) is open to all questions or concerns about the day.

Upcoming Dates—Mark Your Calendars!

Church Family Night, Friday, April 12, 6 pm

MAPC Book Club, Tuesday, April 16, 4pm

Annual Hood Library Literary Luncheon, Sunday, April 28, 1 pm

Moms' Night Out, Thursday, May 2, 7 pm

Pub Theology (formerly Faith and Fermentation), Monday, May 6, 6:30 pm

Church Family Night, Friday, May 17, 6 pm

Church Family Night, Friday, June 21, 6 pm

Annual Summer Roof Garden Party, Monday, July 15, 6 pm

Stewardship Update

We continue to make progress toward our 2019 stewardship goal of \$750,000. As of March 28, we have received pledges totaling **\$656,835**.

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>

Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Parents' Meeting for 2019-2020 Confirmation Class

April 7th at 1 pm in the Youth Lounge.

All Parents of youth in 8th grade or older are encouraged to attend. During this meeting Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Christina Cosby will share the plans for next year's confirmation class and engage in a time of conversation with families.

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 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 in 3-5th grade. The 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.

Youth Worship, 9 am and 11:15 am

Youth Worship takes place during both worship services every Sunday morning and offers a time for peers to encounter God through an interactive worship service in the Dana Chapel. Youth in 4th-7th grades are invited to join Christina Cosby to 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

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?*"

All Middle and High School Youth are invited to sign-up to participate in Youth Sunday on June 2, 2019 at 10:30 am. The Deadline is April 14th.

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 topic. All youth grades in 6th-8th grades are invited to join the fun and discussion. 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 Bible study with games at 6 pm. Newcomers 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 Phillips Building

All high schoolers are welcome to join in creative activities and faith-centered conversation. Come and bring your friends for a time of art, Bible Study, and fellowship.

Youth Service Group for High School Students—MAPC Serves

All High School Students are invited to serve the vulnerable across our City. In fact, their help is needed to reach our service goal of 300 hours of service this year. So far, they have made it half way as together they served for 150 hours thus far. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

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, Phillips Lounge.

Reading Through the Bible is on hiatus and will resume in May.

20s/30s Bible Study: Next Meeting is **March 28th**, 6:00 pm, 10th floor.

Anyone in their 20s or 30s is invited to come and explore Philippians this Thursday through a short video clip, Bible study, dinner, and conversation. If you want to know more about 20s and 30s Bible Study email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is **Monday, April 8th**, Hood Library)

2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 pm

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.

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

Follow MAPC on [Facebook](#) for updates and to share news and events.

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 Rev. Rebecca Heilman 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 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 Rev. Rebecca Heilman 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 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!"

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

Monday, April 1

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Moms' Night Out	Upper East Side

Tuesday, April 2

5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Hood Library
6:00 pm	ESL Evening Classes	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Personnel Committee	Pastor's Study
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Wednesday, April 3

4:00 pm	Kids Club and Wee Kids	PH, PL, 4-5 Fl, Gym
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
6:00 pm	Deacons	8th Floor
6:30 pm	Lenten Adult Education	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Thursday, April 4

1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, April 5

3:30 pm	Saint Andrew Orchestra Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Saturday, April 6

9:30 am	SA Chorale & Orchestra Rehearsal	Sanctuary
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Shelter Open House

Interested in our Men's Shelter? Come to the shelter on Sunday, April 7th at 1 pm to learn about volunteer opportunities and our guests who stay in our building each night. The shelter leaders are specifically in need for overnight hosts (8:30 pm – 6:30 am) and are always looking for early shift hosts (6:30 pm – 8:30 pm), if that works better for you. Questions? Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com.