

The Pastoral Staff Letter

This Sunday
Sunday, April 7th, 2019
5th 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, *rejoice*, based on the lectionary texts and our sermon series, *reLent*: Isaiah 43:16-21; John 12:1-8.

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 2019-2020 Parents Meeting, 1 pm, 8th Floor

Shelter Open House, 1 pm, Shelter Space

Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra, 3 pm, Sanctuary

Confirmation Class, 4:15 pm, 5th Floor

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space



Issue #71

April 4, 2019

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	[ri-lent], verb		
	reLent	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

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Adult Education: Bible Journaling

10:10
am

Join Seminary Intern Audrey Webber in the Parish Hall to learn more about the modern spiritual practice of Bible Journaling. This session will equip participants with a new perspective on how to engage scripture in daily life.

A look ahead:

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

April 21 Easter Sunday—There will be no Adult Education. Members and friends are invited to the Roof Garden for fellowship and crafts.

Shelter Open House

1 pm

Interested in our Men's Shelter? Come to the shelter at 1 pm Sunday 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). Questions? Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com.

Parents' Meeting for 2019-2020 Confirmation Class

1 pm

All parents of rising 8th graders or older who are interested in confirmation are encouraged to attend the meeting at 1 pm Sunday on the 8th Floor. Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Christina Cosby will share plans for next year's class.

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

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. 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. Admission is \$30 (\$25 – students/seniors 62+); Children 12 and under are free. Will Call tickets are available in advance online. [Purchase tickets](#).

April Events

Donations Needed for Hygiene Kit Assembly on Palm Sunday

On **Palm Sunday (April 14th)** help MAPC assemble 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](#).

Lenten Class Series

4/10
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 10: *Your Place in the Story: How Scripture Influences Our Choices*

Church Family Night

4/12
6 pm

On April 12th at 6 pm, come enjoy a hearty meal, a movie, a craft, and play time in the gym. This is a great time to get to know other members of the MAPC family. All members of the MAPC community are welcome, whether you have children at home or not! Suggested donation is \$20 for adults, and a donation of your choice for children under 12. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Tell Me More About MAPC

4/13
9 am

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. Rev. Jenny McDevitt leads these sessions. The next gathering will be held April 13, 2019, at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

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 — Church House Lobby

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

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.

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**, which will go directly towards the people affected by the cyclone in Southern Africa. 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, there will have the 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 you to write a personal letter or email to our elected officials of Congress so that we are a voice in improving 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. Rev. Rebecca Heilman is open to all questions or concerns about the day. Suggested brunch donation is \$10.

Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman (rmh@mapc.com) with any questions or concerns.

Easter Fest, April 21, Roof Garden, 10:10 am

Members and friends of MAPC are invited to the Roof Garden on Easter morning between the worship services for a time of fellowship and crafts. Children will have opportunity to play, pastries will be provided, and adults are welcome to enjoy the company of their church family. Contact Christina Cosby, cac@mapc.com with any questions. Though sign-up in advance is not required, it helps with planning food. Sign up by emailing Lissette Perez at

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 April 4, we have received pledges totaling **\$660,585**. 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.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Parents' Meeting for 2019-2020 Confirmation Class. April 7th at 1 pm on the 8th Floor

All parents of rising 8th graders or older who are interested in confirmation are encouraged to attend the meeting on April 7th at 1 pm on the 8th Floor. Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Christina Cosby will share plans for next year's class.

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. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com. Upcoming dates to serve: Thursday Open Table on April 4 from 6-8 pm. James Lenox House on Monday, April 8 from 4-6 pm.

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 **April 17**, 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-Eraza at lgp@mapc.com or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.

Monday, April 8		
6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study	Phillips Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
Tuesday, April 9		
6:00 pm	ESL Evening Classes	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Christian Education Committee	Youth Lounge
6:00 pm	Outreach Committee	Hood Library
Wednesday, April 10		
7:30 am	Evangelism Committee	Phillips Lounge
4:00 pm	Kids Club & Wee Kids	PH, 4th, 5th Floor, 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
6:30 pm	Lenten Adult Education	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
Thursday, April 11		
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
7:00 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Friday, April 12		
6:00 pm	Church Family Night	Gym, Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
Saturday, April 13		
9:00 am	Tell Me More About MAPC	Phillips Lounge

Donations for Easter Flowers

We are now accepting donations for the flowers that will beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Gifts may be made in memory or in honor of loved ones. To make a donation, please use the special envelopes inserted into the bulletins for the next two Sundays, and [fill out the form here](#). The suggested donation for each name is \$40. In order to include the names of loved ones in the bulletin on Easter, **we must receive your donation by Monday morning, April 15.**