

The Pastoral Staff Letter

Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 9 am & 11:15 am
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship: Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt will preach her sermon, "Never Lost, Always Found" based on the lectionary texts: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14 and Luke 15:1-10.



Issue #88

September 12, 2019

Inside this issue:

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	<i>Sunday</i>	1
9:15 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge	<i>For All the Saints</i>	2
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Lobby	<i>Adult Education</i>	2
10:10 am	Adult Education	Parish Hall	<i>September Events</i>	3
10:10 am	Confirmant Interest Meeting	Dana Chapel	<i>Worship volunteers</i>	4
10:20 am	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	<i>Music at MAPC</i>	5
11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary	<i>Disaster Assistance</i>	5
11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge	<i>Bible Studies</i>	6
12:30 pm	Fellowship Hour	Parish Hall	<i>Hands-on Ministries</i>	6
2:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	<i>MAPC Calendar</i>	7
3:00 pm	John Trout Memorial Service	Sanctuary	<i>Fall 2019 Highlights</i>	8
4:00 pm	John Trout Memorial Reception	Parish Hall		



For All the Saints

The memorial service for John Trout, who was a member of MAPC's professional octet from 1991 until 2007, will be held in the MAPC Sanctuary this coming Sunday, September 15th, at 3 pm. A reception will follow the service in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation 2019-2020

Calling all 8th and 9th graders (and families)! Plans are already underway for this year's Confirmation class. Rev. Jenny McDevitt is looking forward to leading this time with you, beginning in October and concluding in April. Classes will take place following the 11:15 am worship service and lunch will be provided. If you or a family member has not yet indicated interest, email Jenny at jmm@mapc.com. She needs an email address for your parent or guardian, and the best way to be in touch with you. A gathering for all prospective Confirmands is scheduled for Sunday, **September 15 at 10:10 am in the Dana Chapel.**

Sundays 10:10 am Parish Hall

Adult Education - Fall 2019

Looking at Luke

September 8—Overview

September 15—Luke and Women with Rev. Beverly Bartlett

September 22—Luke and Money with Rev. Beverly Bartlett

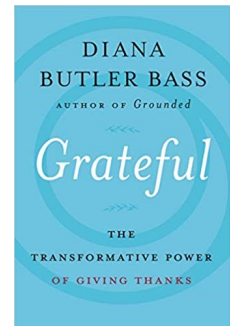
September 29—Luke and Food with Rev. Rebecca Heilman

Faithful Living in Challenging Times

October 6—Act in Hope

October 13—Cultivate Joy

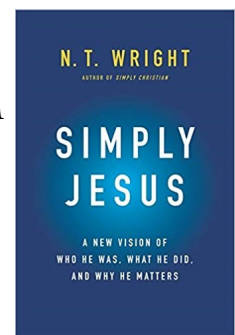
October 20, 27, November 3, & 10—Live in Gratitude (4-week book discussion of Diana Butler Bass's *Grateful*)



Evening Bible Study

1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7 pm, 8th Floor

The first meeting will be **Monday, September 16**. Refreshments will be provided. The first class will be a basic overview of the gospels, and we will begin with N.T. Wright's book, *Simply Jesus: A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did and Why He Matters*, at the October 7 meeting.



You may order the book on Amazon, available as a hardback, soft cover, or Kindle edition. In addition, the church has ordered 10 copies which are available for purchase for \$11 each. You can see Rev. Beverly Bartlett at fellowship hour during the next two Sundays if you would like to purchase the book. If you would like Rev. Bartlett to hold a copy for you, please email her at bab@mapc.com.

September Events

Church Family Night, Friday, September 13, 6 pm, Parish Hall

Come to the first Church Family Night of the fall on Friday night! Enjoy dinner, a craft activity, a movie, and play in the gym or on the Roof Garden. It's a great time to catch up with church friends you haven't seen over the summer or meet some new ones! You do not need to have children at home to come to Church Family Night—it is for the whole church family. Suggested donation for the evening is \$20 for adults, and a contribution of your choice for children under 12. Chef Jim needs to know how many to cook for, so please let Lissette Perez-Erazo know if you are coming, lgp@mapc.com.

9/13
6 pm

Shelter Open House

Learn more about the shelter and volunteer opportunities following the 11:15 am worship service on Sunday, September 22. Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com with any questions or concerns.

9/22
1 pm

Senior Fellowship Lunch

MAPC seniors and friends are invited to come downstairs to the Parish Hall to enjoy a light lunch and conversation. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

9/22
1 pm

Moms' Night Out

MAPC moms gather periodically at an Upper East Side restaurant for dinner and conversation. The next gathering is Thursday, **September 26** at 7 pm. When we know how many are coming, we will make reservations. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo, lgp@mapc.com.

9/26
6 pm

Give to Communities Affected by Hurricane Dorian

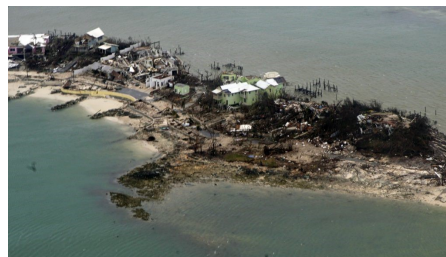
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been in touch with partners in the Bahamas to offer assistance to those affected by the devastating Category 5 hurricane. Donations to support the PDA response in hurricanes, designated to

[DR000194](https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000194/), are greatly appreciated. To give by phone, call 800-872-3283. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

P.O. Box 643700

Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Online donation: <https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000194/>



Worship Needs You!

At its most basic root, “liturgy” means “the work of the people.” At MAPC, worship takes many people, up front and behind the scenes, to create a meaningful service during which we encounter the Holy One. There are a variety of ways to be involved — some old, some new(er). We will ensure that proper training or instruction is given so that you know exactly what to do. To indicate interest, or to ask any questions, email Rev. Jenny McDevitt at jmm@mapc.com. In most cases, you will then receive an email link to sign up as your schedule allows.

- **READING SCRIPTURE (9 & 11:15 am)** Each week, we read multiple passages from Scripture. A theological degree is not required to read aloud in worship. The full text of your reading will be provided to you by the Wednesday prior. If you have not read in worship recently, a pastor will meet with you in advance to review and rehearse. Adults and youth alike are invited to sign up.
- **GREETING / USHERING (9 & 11:15 am)** A warm greeting on Sunday morning sets the tone for everything that is to follow. As we have multiple entry points into our sanctuary, we would be glad to add numbers to those willing to help welcome our community into worship. This is a great opportunity for individuals or families. We ask greeters and/or ushers to arrive 20 minutes prior to the start of worship.
- **ACOLYTES (11:15 am service)** Bringing back an older tradition, children and youth are invited to serve as acolytes, indicating the start of worship by lighting the candles on our communion table. Acolytes will receive instruction and practice with one of the pastors in advance of serving.
- **SERVING COMMUNION (9 & 11:15 am)** Anyone ordained as an elder or deacon (whether you are currently serving, or have served in the past) is invited to serve communion. Typically, we need anywhere from two to six servers for each service. Group training will be provided each year; this year’s training will be held Sunday, September 22 at 10:10 am in the Sanctuary.
- **PREPARING COMMUNION (11:15 am service)** Ever wonder how all the communion elements appear in worship? The work of a small but faithful crew prepares the simple meal we share each week. Those prepping the meal arrive roughly 20 minutes prior to the start of worship, and remain afterwards briefly to clean up. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals or families, especially those who prefer working behind the scenes. Training is provided.
- **ASSISTING WITH CHILDREN’S WORSHIP (9 & 11:15 am)** Following the Lesson with Children and Youth, children in second grade and younger are invited to the Phillips Lounge for time together geared specifically for them. Every lesson is planned in advance, and volunteers receive the lesson plan and all materials well in advance. For safety reasons, two adults (age 18+) are needed for each service. No theological training needed — only a love of children and a desire to help them know God. (Per MAPC’s child safety policy, background checks are required for children’s worship volunteers.) Email Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com if you are interested in assisting with this important ministry.



Music at MAPC

Saint Andrew Music Society: Announcing our 55th Season

The Saint Andrew Music Society's 55th Season brochure is in the mail! Extra copies are available in the narthex and Church House Lobby to distribute to your friends! You can also peruse all fourteen concerts taking place this season on our website [in print: www.mapc.com/music/sams/concerts], 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.

MAPC on Social Media



Facebook

Follow MAPC on Facebook for news, reminders, events, and pictures from everyday life at the church. It's a good way to engage in fellowship and to know what's going on each week.

facebook.com/MadisonAvenuePresbyterian/



SoundCloud and iTunes

Listen to Sunday sermons from MAPC on the streaming platforms SoundCloud and iTunes. SoundCloud also allows users to share the audio files and compile playlists. Download the SoundCloud app or listen on the web: https://soundcloud.com/mapc_sermons On iTunes, download the podcast app and search for Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church.



Instagram

Look for [mapc_nyc](https://www.instagram.com/mapc_nyc) in the app and follow us.

https://www.instagram.com/mapc_nyc

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!

Evening Bible Study (new): See page 2
1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 7 pm.

Reading Through the Bible:

Wednesdays, 12:30 pm-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge. This Wednesday we will be starting Ezekiel.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, September 23)

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

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!

Thursday Night 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

The Shelter will resume in the middle of September.

Take this time to consider being a host for 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. If being a host is not for you, drop off some dinner, breakfast, or desert! If you would like to know more about the shelter please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com.

Clothing Donations

If you are looking to donate clothing for men or women, you can bring the items to the Urban Outreach Center at the Church of the Living Hope, 161 E 104th Street. The church is located near the 103rd St. Station on the Lexington Avenue (6) line.

New York Common Pantry

The New York Common Pantry is always looking for donations! Please help through gifts of **canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, canned vegetables, and peanut butter** (no glass containers). Your gifts may be dropped off in the grocery cart found in the Church House Lobby. You may also order groceries to be delivered to their site: 8 East 109th St. New York, NY 10029. They are not only looking for donations, but volunteers as well! Help pack and distribute food any day of the week. For more information, contact NYCP at 917-720-9700.

Monday, September 16

6:00 pm	20s/30s Bible Study	Roof Garden
7:00 pm	Evening Bible Study	8th Floor

Tuesday, September 17

6:00 pm	Stewardship & Development Committee	Pastor's Study
7:00 pm	Congregational Nurture Committee	Phillips Lounge

Wednesday, September 18

8:00 am	Trustees	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
7:00 pm	Christian Education Committee	Phillips Lounge

Thursday, September 19

1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing Group	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	Sanctuary
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, September 20

No events scheduled

Saturday, September 21

No events scheduled

Sunday, September 22

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Parish Hall
10:10 am	Adult Education	Parish Hall
10:20 am	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Fellowship Hour	Parish Hall
1:00 pm	Shelter Open House	Shelter Space
1:00 pm	ESL Teachers Meeting	5th Floor
1:00 pm	Senior Fellowship Lunch	Parish Hall



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

Baptism

Interested in having your child baptized at MAPC? Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com about attending an orientation session. Baptisms are then scheduled in conversation with Senior Pastor Rev. Jenny McDevitt to ensure the timing meets the needs of your family.

September

Friday, September 13, 6 pm—Church Family Night, Parish Hall

Monday, September 16, 7 pm—Evening Bible Study begins (meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month), 8th Floor

Saturday, September 21, 10 am—Saturday Family Fun, 5th Floor, Roof Garden

Thursday, September 26, 7 pm—Mom's Night Out, Offsite

October

Friday, October 4, 5 pm—Blessing of the Animals

Friday, October 25, 6 pm—Annual Church Family Night Halloween Bash!

Sunday, October 27, 3 pm—Organ Masterworks: Andrew Henderson, organ, Sanctuary

Thursday, October 31, 4 pm—Halloween on the Sanctuary Steps

November

Saturday, November 2, 1 pm—Annual Women's Brunch

Thursday, November 14, 7 pm—Mom's Night Out, Offsite

Friday, November 15, 6 pm—Church Family Night, Parish Hall

Sunday, November 17—Hood Library Fellowship Annual Book Sale

Sunday, November 24, 3 pm—Choral Concert: Poulenc, Bernstein & Randall Thompson;
Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra; Sanctuary

December

Sunday, December 1, 10:30 am—One Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 am.

Sunday, December 1, 11:45 am—Advent Festival

Wednesday, December 4, 7 pm—Company of Deacons

Saturday, December 7, 9 am to 12 noon—Advent Retreat/Quiet Morning

Sunday, December 15, 4 pm—Annual Carol Sing, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 18, 6 pm—Blue Christmas, Dana Chapel