

The Pastoral Staff Letter

Sunday Worship October 29, 2017

21st Sunday after Pentecost/Reformation Sunday

Worship Schedule

9 am & 11:15 am

Infant Nursery—4th Fl. Phillips Building, 8:30 am—1 pm

Toddler Nursery—4th Fl. Church House, 8:30 am—1 pm

This Sunday, The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted is preaching. His sermon entitled **“Conscience”** will be based on the texts: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; and Matthew 22:34-46. Preview the latest Sunday bulletin, or listen to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC’s website.

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, Dana Chapel (*more info inside*)

Church School, 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Youth Hour, 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

Teen Brunch, 12:45 pm, Youth Lounge

Confirmation Class, 1:00 pm, Youth Lounge

Congregational Nominating Committee, 1 pm, Community Services Room

Senior Fellowship Lunch, 1 pm, Parish Hall

ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor

Fall Fellowship Gathering, 4 pm, Offsite

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space



**Madison
Avenue
Presbyterian
Church**

Issue #4

October 26, 2017

To Check out the Church’s Calendar:

Go to the website at
[http://www.mapc.com/
calendar/calendar/](http://www.mapc.com/calendar/calendar/)

MAPC is on Facebook!

*See you in church!
The Pastoral Staff*

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Friday

Church Family Night Halloween Bash!
This Friday, October 27, 6 pm, Parish Hall



The Annual Halloween party is this Friday! Please make sure you have RSVP'd. Children (and grown-ups) are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes. We'll have dinner, a Halloween craft, games, a costume parade with spooky organ music, and treats to take home. In addition, John Carr is once again busy making a beautifully cross-stitched trick-or-treat bag—we will raffle the bag off that evening to raise money for Presbyterian Disaster Relief. The suggested donation is \$20 for adults, and a donation for your child(ren) based on their appetites. RSVP to Wendy De Los Santos, wlds@mapc.com.

In My Father's House

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of MAPC Day School teacher Lynn MacGregor, and to the entire Day School community. Lynn died Monday evening, October 16, after suffering a stroke. Lynn began teaching at the Day School in 1999 and has touched many lives of children, parents and co-workers over the last 18 years. She has left a beautiful imprint on the MAPC Day School. A gathering to remember her will take place this Saturday, October 28, from 4 to 6 pm in the Parish Hall.



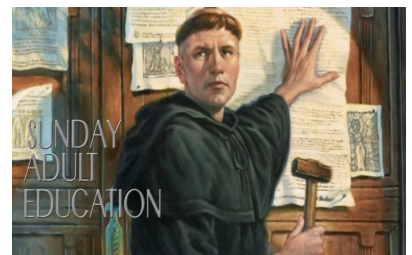
This Sunday

Adult Education: "Protestants and Catholics—Then and Now"

Dr. Eric Springsted is presenting a three-part series on the issues of the Reformation that divided the Church. This Sunday is Reformation Sunday. The title is "Unfinished Business", as we will examine what the issues of Church

unity are today. Dana Chapel,
10:10 am:

October 29
Unfinished Business



October marks the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.



Senior Fellowship Lunch Sunday, October 29 1 pm in the Parish Hall

Seniors, please come downstairs for lunch and fellowship after coffee hour on October 29. The suggested donation for a tasty, light lunch is \$10. The conversation and fellowship, of course, are priceless.

Tween and Teen Brunch October 29 12:30 pm in the Youth Lounge

Youth in middle and high school, please join us on the 5th Floor immediately following the 11:15 am worship service for a time of discussion and food. All are welcome, and bring a friend.

Other Events & Announcements

The Congregational Nominating Committee Invites Your Suggestions

The Congregational Nominating Committee is working on choosing a slate of nominees for elders to serve on the Session, and members to serve as Deacons and on the Board of Trustees. These officers will be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting in February. Your input is important to the nominating committee's work. If you feel a fellow member (or yourself) has the gifts, skills, time and energy to serve as an elder, deacon or trustee, please speak to Barbara Iverson (chair), Curtis Field (co-chair), Anne Connor, Emily O'Brock, Chris Trinko, Art Peponis, or Kalpana David. You may also leave your suggestion in the Congregational Nominating Committee envelope with the receptionist.

A Reminder About Fall Fellowship Gatherings



The Fall Fellowship Gatherings in the homes of MAPC members sponsored by the Stewardship & Development Committee are well under way. Every member of the congregation has been invited to a gathering, in most cases, it is one in your neighbor-

hood.

Thanks to the many members who have already responded through the Paperless Post reply or in other ways. We are off to a good start. If you have not responded, the easiest way is to reply electronically.

We understand that the time of your invitation may not be convenient. We encourage all to attend an event. The full list of all eight gatherings is posted on the MAPC [website](#). If your original invitation is

on a difficult date, please select an event date that is convenient for your schedule and let us know your plans.

We want to combine congregational fellowship and stewardship through these gatherings. We will talk briefly about stewardship and development, have the chance to discuss other issues of interest, and have plenty of time for fellowship. Each gathering will include light refreshments.

The Stewardship & Development Committee

James Lenox House Service Project

Monday, October 30, 2017, from 4-6 pm for Middle and High School Youth

James Lenox House is an apartment building for seniors 55 years of age and older, and is a neighborhood outreach partner of MAPC. The purpose of the project is both helping the residents and building intergenerational community through assisting with technology, reading mail, and engaging in conversation. If you would like to sign-up to participate, please email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or call her 212-288-8920 x8480 by Friday evening.



Highlights of the October Session Meeting

The Session met in regular session on October 24. It conducted largely routine business. It approved the New York City Children's Chorus Benefit fundraiser for November 17, and the NYCCC tour to Spain in June, 2018. It also approved the release from the Outreach Budget of \$15,000 to the PCUSA General Assembly Mission Fund, and it approved the 2017-2018 MAPC Day School Budget.

Reiki Level I Workshop, Saturday, November 4, 9 am to 4 pm, 5th Floor

The MAPC Deacons are sponsoring a Level I Reiki workshop for any who are interested on Saturday, November 4. Reiki is a spiritual, hands-on healing technique first developed in Japan. Reiki is a Japanese word meaning "universal life energy," and is helpful for relaxation, reducing stress and anxiety, easing pain, and promoting healing. Many hospitals use Reiki to complement medical treatment. Anyone can learn Reiki! It is not a religion and is practiced by people of all religions.

Our instructor for the workshop is Wendy Wade, who is a Reiki Master and long-time active member of St. James' Episcopal Church. Wendy has given brief Reiki introductions to the MAPC Board of Deacons on more than one occasion, which led to the interest in offering a more in-depth Reiki Training Workshop.

The workshop will begin at 9 am and conclude at 4 pm, with an hour for lunch. Wendy will give us a brief history and explanation of Reiki, teach us the basic technique, and lead us in practicing Reiki. There is no charge

for this Level I training, but we do ask for a \$15 donation for coffee, snacks and lunch. You may sign up for the Reiki training by contacting Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices, wdds@mapc.com, or contact Associate Pastor Beverly Bartlett for more information, bab@mapc.com.



Memorial Sunday, November 5



We are receiving the names of deceased loved ones and friends to be remembered during the services on **Memorial Sunday, November 5**. It is particularly appropriate to remember those who have died in the last year. If you have someone whose name you would like listed in the service bulletin and included in the prayers, please contact our Office Manager, Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com. **The deadline for the receipt of names is Tuesday, October 31.** The Church Choir will also sing excerpts from Herbert Howells' masterful *Requiem* during the 11:15 am service.

Moms Night Out November 6, 7 pm

All MAPC Moms are invited to a Moms Night Out on November 6. We will meet at an Upper East Side restaurant at 7 pm and enjoy conversation and a nice meal together. Treat yourself to this evening out with other MAPC Moms! RSVP to Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices, wlds@mapc.com. When we know how many are coming, we will make a reservation.

Hood Library Fellowship Annual Book Sale Sunday, November 12

During the Fellowship Hours after each morning service on Sunday, November 12, you will find members of the Hood Library Fellowship behind tables of books for sale in the Church House Lobby. There will be all sorts of fiction and non-fiction, both hardbound and paperback, "coffee table books," and religious books. You are sure to find either some Christmas gifts or winter-reading material for yourself. Come browse the books while you enjoy your coffee/tea, cookie and conversation!

Dinner with Mayada and Friends Monday, November 13, 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall

Last April, we hosted "Dinner with Mayada and Friends" as a special women's fellowship evening. It was a popular event. The only complaint we got was that it was a women's gathering rather than being open to the entire congregation, so we have planned another one as a congregation-wide event! Mayada, her husband, and their four children are Syrian refugees that the Rutgers Presbyterian Church has helped to sponsor as they resettle in this country.



Mayada is a wonderful cook, and "Dinner with Mayada" have given her an opportunity to raise money for her family, while giving those who attend a chance to enjoy Syrian food and learn more about what it is like for this family to begin again in a new home.

Please plan on joining us for Dinner with Mayada and Friends on Monday, November 13, 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. All proceeds from this dinner will go to Mayada to help support her family. We hope to have members from the second Syrian refugee family Rutgers has sponsored with us as well.

The suggested donation for adults is \$40, \$20 for children under 16. RSVP to Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices, wlds@mapc.com.

Give to Support Disaster Relief

The destruction from recent hurricanes has been widely published and work has begun to help people recover. Residents of Texas, Florida, Louisiana, Puerto Rico, Barbuda, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, and elsewhere will be impacted for years to come. Many are still trying to meet immediate and basic human needs. Fires in the Western United States have destroyed homes and displaced many. Natural disasters continue to affect people throughout the world—including famine in South Sudan. Please pray for those affected.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), an entity of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), continues to accept donations to support its work and that of its partners to address needs throughout the world. If you would be willing to donate to this cause, you may do so [online](#) by selecting "Disaster Relief Fund" or by designating an additional gift in our Sunday offering for disaster relief.

Christian Education at MAPC

Call for Children's Worship and Youth Worship Volunteers

MAPC believes in the importance of incorporating children in worship through an interactive environment tailored to their needs. For this reason, we provide a time during the regularly scheduled worship services for children to engage in a liturgy designed for them, and a Bible lesson that mirrors the Sunday sermon. Our hope is this experience allows parents and children the opportunity to discuss the day's scripture passage together. This ministry of MAPC heavily depends on your willingness to volunteer. If you would like to sign-up or have questions, please contact Christina Cosby, cac@mapc.com or (212) 288-8920 x8480.

Children and Family Ministries

Children's Worship

Children's worship takes place during both Sunday services (9 am and 11:15 am), and is an interactive worship service designed specifically for children 3rd grade and under.

Youth Worship

Youth worship occurs during both Sunday Services (9 am and 11:15 am). All children 4th grade and up are invited to attend.

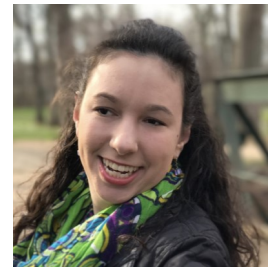
Kids Club

It is not too late to sign up for this year's after school program at MAPC. Kids Club this year takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 3:45-6:00 pm. More information can be found on the MAPC [website](#).



Church School

Church School takes place each Sunday morning during the 10 am hour. This time is designed for elementary-aged children to join together in song and Bible study. To register, please fill out the Children Ministries' form that can be found [here](#) on the website. We look forward to seeing you this Sunday!



Christina A. Cosby,
Director of Christian
Formation at MAPC

Middle and High School Ministries

T(w)een Club

This after-school program is for students in 6th grade and older, and takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-6:00 pm. More information can be found

on the [website](#).

Sunday Youth Hour

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is founded on the motto

"Reformed and ever reforming." This year commemorates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. This fall we will join together to study Scripture and history, as we learn what it

means to be part of the reformed faith. Through our time together we will reflect on the church's past, discuss the church today, and share our dreams for the future of the church. We hope to see you this Sunday at 10:10 am in the Youth Lounge on the 5th Floor!

Youth Shelter Dinner Program

Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 6 pm in the Parish Hall

Our Shelter Dinner seeks to serve a warm meal each week to over 100 men and women in our neighborhood who struggle with food insecurity. This program is a volunteer-run organi-



zation, and relies on your help to make its mission possible! If you are in middle or high school and are interested in participating, please reach out to Christina Cosby at 212-288-8920 x8480, or by email at cac@mapc.com.

Please stay tuned for more fall service opportunities coming up, or go to the MAPC website to find a complete list.

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 <http://www.mapc.com/christian-ed/adultclasses/>.

Reading Through the Bible:

12:30 pm-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge

Reading Through the Bible meets every Wednesday in the Phillips Lounge. Next week we will pick up with Psalm 33!

20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting is Today, October 26, 2017)

5:30-8 pm, in the 4th Floor apartment

If you are in your twenties or thirties, join us for a time of fellowship and food as we enjoy Fall festivities.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, October 30, 2017)

3rd and 5th Mondays, 6:30 pm, Phillips Lounge

Currently, we are studying Paul's letters. Come join us for an enriching conversation as we read the Second Letter to the Thessalonians! We welcome all to a time of fellowship beforehand beginning at 6 pm. Bring your dinner and engage in conversation as we learn more about faith and each other.

Men's Bible Study:

The Men's Bible Study is on hiatus and will resume in January, 2018.

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: [peruse](#) this valuable online re-

source today! Once ready for print, our Sunday bulletins are also uploaded to our website on Thursday afternoons and are made permanently available for download.

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

Thank You for Filling the New York Common Pantry Grocery Carts

The New York Common Pantry, the city's largest private food pantry and long-time MAPC Outreach partner, is asking for your continued support: canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, fresh or canned vegetables, and peanut butter. Please—no glass containers. You can drop off items in the grocery carts in the Church House Lobby or the Sanctuary Narthex, or you could even order groceries to be delivered through one of your grocers. (8 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029, Phone: 917-720-9700). Thank you for taking seriously Christ's command to "feed my sheep!"

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.

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 Andy Smothers at ads@mapc.com. Let's put our faith into action!

The Thursday Shelter Dinner 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 kfhoffman@earthlink.net.

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 Andy Smothers at ads@mapc.com 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!"