

The Pastoral Staff Letter

Sunday Worship November 19, 2017

**24th Sunday after Pentecost
Pledge Dedication Sunday**



**Madison
Avenue
Presbyterian
Church**

Issue #7

November 16, 2017

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. Beverly A. Bartlett is preaching. Her sermon entitled ***"Buried Treasure is Not Treasure"*** will be based on the texts: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; and Matthew 25:14-30. 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

Pledge Dedication Brunch, 10 am & 12:30 pm, Lobby

Church School, 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Youth Hour, 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

MAPC Children's & T(w)een Choir Rehearsal, 10:15 am, Sanctuary

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

Confirmation Class, 1 pm, Youth Lounge

ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor

Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra Concert, 3 pm, Sanctuary

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space

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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This Sunday

Stewardship Sunday, November 19

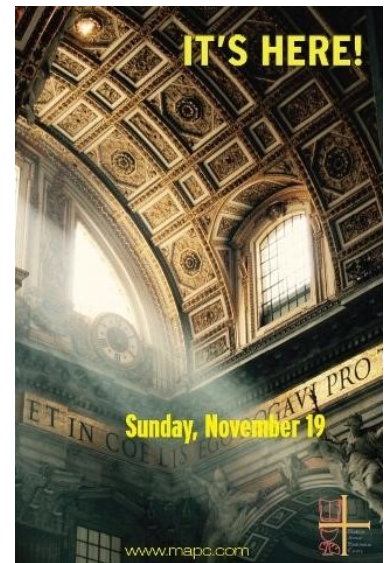
It's here! All members have received a stewardship letter, a pledge card, and a brochure describing the church's programs and finances. Read the letter and the brochure. We hope you have prayerfully considered your commitment to the church for 2018. This Sunday bring your completed pledge card to worship when, during the service, there will be a grand opportunity for all of us to put that commitment together into the font, the very place that our

Christian life began.

Following each service, there will be a brunch served as a way of getting together as our church's thanksgiving for all that we have received as a church in this past year.

If you cannot be in worship this Sunday, please take time to mail your pledge card to the church this week or the very near future. Or, you can also make a pledge online by going to <http://www.mapc.com/giving/>

and clicking on the "Give Online" key.



Haydn, Schubert & Mendelssohn: This Sunday at 3 pm

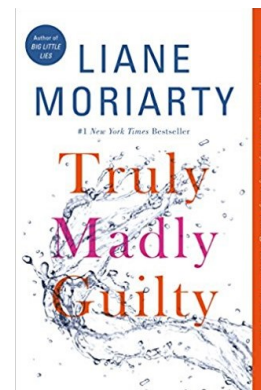


This Sunday, November 19 at 3 pm, the Saint Andrew Chorale and Orchestra, along with 35 singers from In Harmony—the High School ensemble of our New York City Children's Chorus, will open their 53rd Season with Joseph Haydn's *Harmoniemesse*, Schubert's *Mass in G* and Mendelssohn's *Verleih' uns Frieden*—a work based on a prayer for peace by Martin Luther. Tickets may be purchased in advance online, or at the door for \$30 (\$25—Students/Seniors); Children 12 and under: free.

Other Events & Announcements

MAPC Book Club on Hiatus until January 16, 2018

Due to holiday travel plans, the MAPC Book Club, has decided to take a break until January 16, the regularly scheduled third Tuesday of the month date. The book for the January meeting will be *Truly, Madly, Guilty* by Liane Moriarty. Please pick up a copy and plan to join the book group at 4 pm, January 16 in the Hood Library—you have plenty of time to read it!



Church Family Night, December 1, 6 to 9 pm in the Parish Hall



Come enjoy a relaxing evening of fun and fellowship at the start of a crazy season. In addition to our usual dinner, movie, craft and gym time, we are adding Christmas carols to this Church Family Night. Come enjoy singing your favorites. We need to know how many to plan for, so please let us know ASAP if you are coming: RSVP to Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices, wlds@mapc.com. We ask for a \$20 donation for adults and a children over 12, and a donation of your choice for your child, based on their appetite.

Company of Deacons Gathering, December 6, 7 pm in the Parish Hall

Once again, the Board of Deacons will host a Company of Deacons gathering in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, December 6. All MAPC folk

who have been ordained a deacon, whether they currently serve on the Board or not, are invited to attend. We will have some delicious

refreshments and engage in conversation on how we provide a ministry of compassion in the midst of anxious times.

Yoga for Every Body, December 8 and 22, 9 am on the 5th Floor

Come enjoy a relaxing hour of yoga in this very busy month. You will feel much more grounded as you face the December whirl of activity and demands. Everyone is welcome, regardless of experience. Please bring a mat (we have a few available to borrow, if you don't have one) and any yoga props you own: blocks or straps. We begin at 9 am on the 5th floor, and ask for a \$20 donation to help cover the teacher's fee.



Senior Fellowship Lunch, Sunday, December 10 at 1 pm in the Parish Hall

MAPC Seniors and friends, please come downstairs to the Parish Hall after coffee hour to enjoy a relaxing time of fellowship with a light lunch on Sunday, December 10. Suggested donation for lunch is \$10.



Highlights of the October Session Meeting

The Session met in regular session on October 24. Click [here](#) for more information.

Christmas Angel Gift Dedication, Sunday, December 3

Angel Gifts are due back Sunday, December 3, and will be dedicated in worship that morning. Gifts are to be left

with the Receptionist. If you are able to help with sorting on Monday, December 4, please contact Andy Smothers at ads@mapc.com. The gifts will benefit children of incarcerated parents

through the Church of Gethsemane, and may represent the only Christmas gifts these children will receive. *Thank you* for supporting this ministry!



Music on Madison: *Christmas on Madison Avenue*,
on Sunday, December 3 at 3 pm



The Concert Choir of our New York City Children's Chorus will sing seasonal choral works for treble voices including excerpts from Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* & Randall Thompson's *The Place of the Blest*, plus works by Norman Luboff and Paul Halley—including the world premiere of Halley's *The Bright Daystar*, composed for the 5th Anniversary of the NYCCC. Tickets are available in advance at www.mapc.com/music/sams or at the door; admission is \$25 (\$20—Students/Seniors); Children 12 and under: free.

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. You may visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b45aaa623a4f49-childrens> for a complete list of opportunities to engage with this ministry.

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

Families are always welcome to sign up for this year's Kids Club. This year's program takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 3:45-6:00 pm. For more information visit the [MAPC website](#) or contact Christina

Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

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!

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

This Sunday, youth are invit-

ed to the Stewardship Brunch in the Parish Hall during the 10:10 am hour.



Youth Service Group

Thursday, December 1 at 6 pm in the Parish Hall

Our next service opportunity is serving a warm meal to our neighbors who struggle with food insecurity. If you are interested in attending this service opportunity, please contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Youth Outing

Monday, November 27 at 4:30 pm meet in the Church House Lobby

MAPC families are invited to participate in this year's World Vision Give-back Gift Shop. This interactive shop allows families and youth to give back to our community and communities around the globe by learning what lives are like in Africa.

Families, children, and youth can enjoy: taking a picture with a live goat, traveling to Africa through a virtual-reality experi-



ence, taking part in a water walk, making a care-kit to help those in the US affected by natural disasters, and play in the 180-degree snow globe photo booth.

MAPC has a long tradition of caring for, offering support, and praying for African communities. This is a wonderful way that our youngest members can

better understand this outreach ministry of our church. I hope that you, your children and family will consider taking part in this opportunity.

Children and adults of all ages are welcome to participate. To join MAPC's trip to the event, please RSVP to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com no later than November 20! We look forward to helping our community and learning about African culture together. Hope to see you on November 27!

Please stay tuned for more Fall service opportunities coming up, or go to the [MAPC website](http://www.mapc.com) for a complete list or click here to find an [easy-to-print calendar](#).

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. On November 29th we will pick up with Psalm 48. Please note that Reading Through the Bible will **not** meet on Wednesday, November 22.

20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting is Today, November 16, 2017)

5:30-8 pm, in the Youth Lounge on the 5th Floor

If you are in your twenties or thirties, join us for a time of fellowship and food and a time of Bible study.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, November 20, 2017)

1st and 3rd 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

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**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!"