

# *The Pastoral Staff Letter*



**Madison  
Avenue  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**Issue #14**

**January 18, 2018**

**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*

## **Sunday Worship**

**January 21, 2018**

**3rd Sunday After Epiphany**

### **Worship Schedule**

**11:15 am (NO 9 am service)**

**Infant Nursery—4th Fl. Phillips Building, 10 am—2 pm**

**Toddler Nursery—4th Fl. Church House, 10 am—2 pm**

This Sunday the candidate chosen by PNC will be preaching. The sermon entitled ***"The Worst Good News"*** will be based on the texts: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; and Mark 1:14-20. Preview the latest Sunday bulletin, or listen to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC's website.

**Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room**

**Children's Worship, 11:30 am, Phillips Lounge**

**Youth Worship, 11:30 am, Dana Chapel**

**Confirmation Class, 1 pm, Youth Lounge**

**Special Meeting of the Congregation, 12:30 pm, Sanctuary**

**Congregational Reception, 1 pm, Parish Hall**

**ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor**

**Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space**

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# Friday

## Church Family Night in the Parish Hall Tomorrow at 6 pm

Come enjoy the warmth of good food and fellowship on a chilly winter's night. In addition to our customary dinner, craft, movie and open gym, *our candidate for Senior Pastor/Head of Staff will be with us!* She is excited about this opportunity to get to know some of our families. Suggested donation is \$20 for adults and a donation of your choice for children under 12. RSVP to Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices, [wlds@mapc.com](mailto:wlds@mapc.com).



## Meet the Candidate! Reception on Saturday 4 to 6 pm

There will be a reception to meet and talk with the candidate for Pastor/Head of Staff on Saturday, January 20, from 4 to 6 pm in the Church House Lobby. This will be a chance to meet with the candidate in an informal setting and to talk with her before the congregational meeting the next morning.



# This Sunday

## Congregational Meeting January 21, 12:30 pm

The Session is pleased to call a special congregation meeting for January 21, 2018, following the 11:15 am service. This meeting is for the purpose of hearing a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee and to vote upon its recommendation for Pastor/Head of Staff. Following the meeting, there will be a reception in the Parish Hall.

**There will be one service only, at 11:15.** The candidate will be the preacher. Childcare is provided from 10 am to 2 pm.

A letter describing the process and a brochure introducing the candidate have been mailed out to all members. On Saturday, January 20, from 4 to 6 pm there will be an open house in the Parish Hall for all members to come and meet the candidate.



# Welcome to the World

Congratulations to the Coles family! Eloise Elizabeth Frances Coles was born Thursday, January 11 to MAPC members Sarah and Mark Coles, and was enthusiastically welcomed by big sister and brother, Zoe and James.



## Other Events & Announcements

Friday, January 26, 6 to 9 pm, Friday Night Fireside Jazz



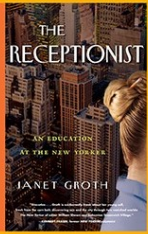
We had so much fun at our first Friday Night Fireside Jazz event last winter that we are doing it again! The Congregational Nurture Committee invites you to come enjoy an extended cocktail hour with jazz in the Church House Lobby, beginning at 6 pm. If you came last year, you will remember that the food, music, fellowship and overall vibe were fabulous! The suggested donation for the evening is \$40 per person. Where else can you enjoy an evening of beverages, delicious food, engaging conversation and good music in NYC for \$40?

We will offer childcare on the 5th Floor, and ask parents to contribute \$15 per child for the evening. Come enjoy a fun evening of fellowship with the MAPC community! RSVP [online](#), or to Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices, [wlds@mapc.com](mailto:wlds@mapc.com).

## Sunday, January 28, 1 pm, Meet the Author! Library Awareness Sunday Author Luncheon

The Hood Library Fellowship will be offering something new for their annual Library Awareness Sunday—a lunch in the Parish Hall with special guest speaker Janet Groth, author of *The Receptionist: An Education at the New Yorker*. *The Receptionist* is a thoroughly enjoyable trip through years that celebrate a high water mark in American writing.

Janet Groth, Emeritus Professor of English at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, also has taught at Columbia, Vassar, Brooklyn College, and the University of Cincinnati. She has held positions as a Fulbright lecturer and as a Visiting Fellow at Yale.



The Hood Library Fellowship  
Hosts  
**Janet Groth**  
Author of  
*The Receptionist:*  
*An Education at the New Yorker*

Sunday, January 28th  
1 PM

Come join us for this special event!

## *Music on Madison: Steinberg Duo*

On **Sunday, January 28 at 3 pm**, the Steinberg Duo: Louisa Stonehill, violin & Nicholas Burns, piano, will perform a program entitled “Meeting of Musical Minds.” One New Year’s Day 1888, violinist Adolf Brodsky arranged a “chance” meeting between Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Grieg. To celebrate the unlikely friendships that were formed during that dinner party, the Steinberg Duo will explore works by these great composers: Brahms’s *Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor*, Grieg’s *Violin Sonata No. 3 in C minor*, and Tchaikovsky’s *Souvenir d’un Lieu Cher*. Admission is \$25 (\$20 – Students/Seniors); Children 12 and under: free. Will Call tickets are also available in advance [online](#).



## Annual Congregational Meeting—February 4

The annual meeting of the congregation Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church will take place after the 11:15 service on Sunday, February 4. The meeting will hear reports from the committees and programs of the church. It will also vote on candidates for elders, deacons, and trustees, as well as any motions regarding by-laws. We will meet in the Parish Hall, where sandwiches will be served. Childcare is available.



## Highlights of the November Session Meeting

The Session met in regular meeting on November 28, 2017. Click [here](#) for more information.

# Christian Education at MAPC

## Volunteers Needed for Children's Worship

Children's Worship is in need of your help! If you can help assist in Children's Worship in the New Year, please sign up for the 9 am worship service, or the 11:15 am worship service here. This ministry is a success thanks to your willingness to volunteer.

If you have questions or need assistance signing up, please contact Christina Cosby at (212) 288-8920 x8480, or by email at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

## 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

*Wednesday afternoons from 3:45-6 pm*  
Kids Club is in full swing! We look forward to seeing everyone as we learn about Epiphany!

If you have not signed up to participate in Kids Club and wish to, families are welcome to sign up at any time.

### Church School

*10:10 am on the 5th Floor*  
Come ready to sing hymns, engage in a story and activity! We look forward to seeing you!



## Middle and High School Ministries

### T(w)een Club

*Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 pm*  
T(w)een Club picked up for 2018 this past Wednesday. All middle and high school students are welcome to join us as we sing in choir, engage in Bible study, enjoy worshiping together, and share a meal.

### Sunday Youth Hour

*Sunday Morning at 10:10 am*  
This year we will study the elements of worship, their significance, and their meaning in our daily life in preparation for planning Youth Sunday later in the Spring. All are encouraged to take part in this meaningful study—especially if you would like to participate in leading worship on May 20th.

### James Lenox House

James Lenox House is a residential community for seniors 55 years of age and older. Each month we help with technology needs, reading mail, and engage in intergenerational community. Our next service date is January 22, we hope that you can make it!

***Please stay tuned for more Winter service opportunities coming up, or go to the MAPC web-site 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*

On January 24th, we will pick up with Psalm 73.

### **20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting is Thursday, January 25, 2018)**

*5:30-8 pm, in the Youth Lounge*

Come enjoy food and fellowship as we engage Scripture and how it speaks into our daily living.

### **Women's Bible Study: (Meets Monday, January 22, 2018)**

*2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 pm, Phillips Lounge*

Please note that we have returned to our normal schedule of meeting on the second and fourth Mondays of the month! We will continue our study of Paul's letters. Come join us for an enriching conversation as we finish reading Colossians!

### **Men's Bible Study:**

The Men's Bible Study is currently on hiatus.

## 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 resource today! Once ready for

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

## 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](mailto:lgp@mapc.com) or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.



## 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.



## 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!"



## Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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New York, NY 10021  
Phone: 212-288-8920  
Fax: 212-249-1466

**We're on the  
web  
[www.mapc.com](http://www.mapc.com)**

### 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 Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com). Let's put our faith into action!*

#### The Thursday Open Table 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](mailto:kfhoffman@earthlink.net) to volunteer for this opportunity (formerly known as Shelter Dinner)

#### 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 Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@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](mailto: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!"