

# *The Pastoral Staff Letter*

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**Madison  
Avenue  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**Issue #24**

**March 29, 2018**

## **Sunday Worship Resurrection of the Lord Easter Sunday April 1, 2018**

### **Worship Schedule**

**9 am and 11:15 am service**

**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 will be preaching. His sermon entitled ***“Afraid and Amazed”*** will be based on the texts: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; and Mark 16:1-8. Preview the latest Sunday [bulletin](#), or [listen](#) to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC’s website.

**Church Choir Rehearsal, 8:15 am, Sanctuary**

**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**

**Roof Garden Family Easter Fest, 10:15 am, Roof Garden**

**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](#)  
and [Instagram](#)!**

*See you in church!  
The Pastoral Staff*

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# This Week

Please Join us for Holy Week and Easter — Come to Our Services

## Maundy Thursday—March 29

### 7 pm: Service of Word & Sacrament with Foot Washing

The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted preaching

Choral Music by Ola Gjeilo



## Good Friday—March 30

### 12 to 3 pm: Meditations on the Passion According to Matthew

Gethsemane—The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

Peter's Denial—The Rev. Denise C. Welsh

The Trials & Sentencing—Christina A. Cosby

Crucifixion—The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted

Death—The Rev. Robert Foltz-Morrison

Burial—The Rev. Beverly Dempsey

Choral Music by J.S. Bach, Pablo Casals, Bob Chilcott, Ken Dake, Herbert Howells & Stephanie Martin

### 4:30 pm: Good Friday Family Service

An interactive, family-friendly service especially for children

### 7:30 pm: Service of Tenebrae

Choral Music by Chilcott, Sanders & Stainer

## Easter Sunday—April 1

### 9 & 11:15 am: Festival Services of Word & Sacrament

The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted preaching

Choral Music by Paul Halley, G.F. Handel & Vaughan

Williams & works for Trumpets, Timpani & Organ

**Good Friday Family Service, Church House, March 30, 4:30 pm**



Everyone is welcome to worship with us as we travel in time to remember Jesus's life and death. This is a progressive worship service that begins in the Church House Lobby and travels through the first floor of the church. Children, youth, and adults of all ages are welcome to join us as we worship together!

Following the service there will be light refreshments served, including Hot Cross Buns—a Good Friday tradition since Medieval age—and a time for fellowship.

## This Sunday

### Roof Garden Family Easter Fest, Easter Sunday, April 1, 10:15



Once again, we will have a Roof Garden family fellowship hour on Easter Sunday, between the morning worship services—a joyful gathering with Easter crafts, playtime, and refreshments. All are welcome to this time of fellowship and festivity as your children burn off some of the sugar they consumed earlier (and perhaps consume a little more). We will also have our usual fellowship time in the Church House Lobby for those who would like a less kinetic atmosphere!

### 2018 Special Easter Offering—Rutgers Presbyterian Church Refugee Task Force

With the daily news so full of reports of flows of desperate refugees in so many areas of the world, it's a relief to know that there is ongoing work to help at least some of them. Christians and others have buckled down to tackle this problem, registering with authorities to sponsor refugees and learning to deal with the red tape and the multitude of details involved in welcoming a family or an individual coming from years of trauma, tedium and terror to settle in an unfamiliar culture.

Members of Rutgers Presbyterian Church, directly across the Park on West 73rd Street, have developed considerable expertise in this. They began by organizing themselves to partner with Church World Service in sponsoring one

family from Syria, finding and furnishing an apartment for them just across the Hudson. The success of this first experience, led them to sponsor a second family that arrived about 13 months ago, after a brief but nerve-racking delay with the first travel ban. Now, the indefatigable members of Rutgers are working to sponsor and settle two families from Afghanistan.

Rutgers has enjoyed considerable support from the community surrounding the church, with neighbors bringing furniture and volunteering to help in other ways. While all that help and energy has been encouraging and invaluable, hard cash is still essential for this undertak-

ing, and that's one area where MAPC members can help. Session has chosen to devote this year's Easter Offering to the Rutgers Refugee Task Force for its work in sponsoring refugee families and helping them start a new life in our country. We can all participate. In response to God's command to help the helpless and in gratitude for the multiple blessings we mostly take for granted, let us all be generous on Easter morning.

Please click [here](#), choose "Giving" and look for the "Easter Offering" in the dropdown box, after hitting the "Quick Give" tab, or look for the special offering envelopes on Sunday. Thank you, in advance for your generosity.

## Other Events & Announcements

### Thank You for Contributing to One Great Hour of Sharing

Thank you for contributing on Palm Sunday to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering! This offering raises money to assist those affected by natural disasters, provides food to the hungry, and helps build strong communities. Through Palm Sunday, we collected a total of \$2,640. If you did not get a chance to contribute to this offering, you can still do so [online](#) by choosing "O.G.H.S." You may also still bring coin boxes or contributions to the church in One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes or designated for "One Great Hour of Sharing."

## Come Welcome our New Senior Pastor and Head of Staff, Jenny McDevitt, on Sunday, April 8!

Jenny's first Sunday as MAPC's Senior Pastor is April 8. On that Sunday, we encourage everyone to come to fellowship hour in the Church House Lobby after the 9 am service to welcome Jenny and to come downstairs to the Parish Hall after the 11:15 am service for a welcome reception. There will be no adult education call that Sunday, so that everyone can enjoy fellowship between the services. There will be Christian Education for children and youth on the 5th Floor at the usual 10:10 am time. For information on Jenny, go to the MAPC website or click [here](#).



## Youth, Thursday Open Table Service Group, April 5 from 6-8 pm



Looking for service hours? Do you enjoy hanging out with friends? Want to help others at church and in the community? Come serve a warm meal prepared by our chief to our neighbors in need. All are welcome, and please bring friends. To sign-up to serve this week, please email Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

## Highlights of the March Session Meeting

The Session met in a regular called meeting on March 27, 2018. It was the shortest meeting in recent memory as no major discussions or motions came up, and the old business of discussing the shelter was postponed until April. This was Dr. Springsted's last meeting. He expressed his deep appreciation of the thoughtfulness with which this Session has approached its work and his wishes for the best future for MAPC. In return, the elders expressed their thanks for his service and their best wishes for his retirement.

## April Congregational Nurture Events

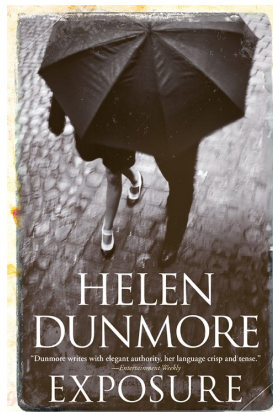
**Friday, April 13, 6 pm**—Church Family Night

**Sunday, April 15, 1 pm**—Senior Fellowship Lunch

**Monday, April 16, 6:30 pm**—Women's Fellowship, with new Senior Pastor Jenny McDevitt

**Tuesday, April 17, 4 pm**—MAPC Book Club, discussing *Exposure* by Helen Dunmore

**Sunday, April 22, 1 pm**—Annual Hood Library Fellowship Literary Lunch



## Music on Madison: Organ Students from MSM

The next concert on our series on **Friday, April 13 at 7:30 pm** features our first *Music on Madison* series collaboration with the Manhattan School of Music. Three graduate students from MSM's Organ Department, Henry Lee, Shannon Murphy & Austin Philemon, will perform a varied program of organ masterworks by Buxtehude, Vierne, Duruflé, Escaich, Hakim & Conte on MAPC's Casavant Frères Organ. Admission is \$10; Children 12 and under/MSM faculty & students: free. Will Call tickets are available in advance [online](#).

## All Church Retreat September 28-29 at Holmes Camp and Conference Center



Mark your calendar now for the All Church Retreat in the fall! WE are having it a little earlier this year and are hoping for beautiful weather for outdoor activities. We'll have plenty of room for those who want to come up and enjoy an evening of fellowship on Friday, and we will plan to start the program around 9 or 9:30 on Saturday for those who come for the day. We'll have more details as we get closer to summer.



# 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 this 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

*This interactive worship service takes place at both of our regularly scheduled worship services (9 am and 11:15 am) and is designed to teach youth about the elements of Presbyterian Liturgy while offering leadership opportunities in worship each Sunday.*

### Kids Club

*Wednesday afternoons from 3:45-6 pm*

Families are invited to join Kids Club at any time! For more information, please visit our [website](#), or contact Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

Kids Club schedule for the remainder of the year:

March 30, 4:30 pm—We will hold our annual Good Friday Family Service. All are welcome to attend as we recount the last days of Jesus's earthly life and anticipate Easter.

### April 4, no Kids Club

April 11, Rev. Jenny McDevitt's first day with us



May 16, last Kids Club for this school year

## Middle and High School Ministries

### T(w)een Club

*Wednesday afternoons from 4 pm to 6 pm*

T(w)eens are invited to join Tween Club at any time during the year! For more information please visit our [website](#).

day of T(w)een Club this year is May 16th. Please see Kids Club Schedule for more details or reach out to Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

Please note that there will not be T(w)een Club on April 4. We hope that you enjoy the Easter holiday and spring break season. The last

*Please stay tuned for more service opportunities coming up, or go to the MAPC [website](#) 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:**

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

On April 4, we will pick up with Psalm 117.

### **20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting, April 12)**

*Thursday, April 12, 5:30-7:30 pm, Youth Lounge*

Join us as we explore the people Jesus encountered on his way to Jerusalem this Lent! As we journey with Jesus together, we will enjoy food and fellowship. If you are interested in learning more, reach out to Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

### **Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, April 9)**

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

We continue to read Paul's letters. Currently, we are near the end of Ephesians! All are welcome to join anytime.

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

The Men's Bible Study is currently on hiatus.

## 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.

## 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 val-

uable 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.

## Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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New York, NY 10021  
Phone: 212-288-8920  
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**We're on the  
web  
[www.mapc.com](http://www.mapc.com)**

## 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 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!"