

The Pastoral Staff Letter

A Note From Jenny

Dear Friends,

"Thank you" is too small a phrase to adequately express all the gratitude I have been carrying since Sunday's Installation Service. It was a remarkable day for me personally, but even more importantly, it was an important day in the life of our congregation. Thank you to the many who helped make it possible, and to all of you who came to participate.

I hope that all of you will also participate in our upcoming Fall Fellowship Gatherings. These gatherings, which take place in members' homes began last year as a way to bring the congregation together, including conversation about hopes for the future and how our stewardship campaign helps ensure that future is faithful and vibrant. I will be at all of the gatherings, and I look forward to seeing you. You should have received an electronic invitation. Paper invitations are also coming in the mail. If you are not able to attend the gathering closest to you, you are welcome to select any other date that works for you. A full list of gatherings is included online (www.mapc.com) or you may call Lisette Perez-Erazo 212-288-8920 x8485 for more information. I am grateful to Julian Schroeder and the Stewardship Committee, as well as to all of the hosts of each gathering, for making our Stewardship season one focused on connections and relationships.

See you Sunday,

Jenny



**Madison
Avenue
Presbyterian
Church**

Issue #46

September 27, 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 and
Instagram!**

See you in church!
The Pastoral Staff

Sunday Worship—26th Sunday of Ordinary Time September 30, 2018

Worship Schedule 9 am & 11:15 am

Nursery—4th Fl. Phillips Building, 8:30 am—1:00 pm

This Sunday Rev. Jenny McDevitt will be preaching her sermon entitled ***Little Children: Our Sacred Responsibility*** which will be based on the lectionary texts: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20 and Mark 10:13-16. Preview the latest Sunday bulletin, or listen to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC's website.

Quartet Rehearsal, 8:40 am, Choir Room

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, Church House Lobby

Church School, 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Adult Education, 10:10 am, Parish Hall (see details inside)

High School Fellowship, 10:10 am, 4th Floor Phillips Building

Youth Hour, 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

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

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

ESL Classes, 1 pm, Fifth Floor

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space

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This Sunday

Adult Education: *Faces of Our Faith*, 10:10 am, Parish Hall



Join us this Sunday as we welcome back a familiar face of our faith, Paula Cooper, from Zambia. We hope that you will join us this Sunday as Paula shares her journey throughout Africa with us, and shares her hopes for the future.

Paula will be in the Parish Hall at 10:10 am, ready to greet you! Please help us offer her a warm welcome back.

Brand New: High School Fellowship, Sunday Mornings, 10:10 am
4th Floor Phillips Building

Have you been looking for a space to call your own and reconnect with your church friends after a summer away or at camp? MAPC is excited to premiere our brand-new High School Fellowship this coming Sunday. This will be a time that you help design.

This Sunday, Audrey Webber, one of our seminary interns, will lead a conversation about your hopes for this new space. Come join Audrey and plan this exciting year.



For All the Saints

We extend our sympathy to Judy Shedden on the death of her husband, Bill Shedden on September 20. Bill joined MAPC in 1949 when he was confirmed.

We were also recently informed of the death of longtime MAPC member Andre Newburg at the age of 90, after a lengthy illness. Mr. Newburg joined MAPC in 1942 and lived in London. We extend our sympathies to his wife, Ellen, and family.

A memorial service for Ruth Weir will be held at 12:45 pm on Sunday, October 7, in the Dana Chapel, following the 11:15 worship service, and will be followed by the Senior Fellowship Lunch in the Parish Hall.

A memorial service for Vera Gordon will be held at 11 am on Saturday, October 13 in the Sanctuary, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall.



Other Events & Announcements

News from Rev. Paula Cooper



The Rev. Paula Cooper has accepted a job offer as a Mission Co-Worker for the Presbyterian Church (USA). She will serve as a Liaison for East Central Africa. She is very excited and honored to be given this offer. This is the position previously held by Nancy Collins, who is retiring.

Her job duties will include supervising eleven mission co-workers in Zambia, Kenya, Rwanda, and Malawi. She will return to the United States periodically to develop and strengthen her ties with PC(USA) churches and keep them updated on the ministry taking place in East Central Africa. Her contract is for four years, with an option to renew. She expects to be based in Zambia.

Paula's Director at TEEZ wrote her a letter of recommendation for the job, telling her, "Paula, you can do more long-lasting good for TEEZ if you take this job, than if you were to stay here with us."

On September 5, 2018, the MAPC Session voted unanimously to release Paula from her contract with us and wished her Godspeed in her new endeavors. Many on Session agreed that this result is the perfect capstone of the Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellowship in Africa.

Moms' Night Out, Monday, October 1 at 7 pm

MAPC Moms (of kids of all ages) come enjoy a mini-break with a Moms' Night Out on Monday, October 1. We'll meet at 7 pm at an Upper East Side restaurant and enjoy a relaxing meal and conversation. We need to know who is coming so we can choose a restaurant and make a reservation. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices: lgp@mapc.com.



Learn More About MAPC's Shelter, October 7



According to the Coalition for the Homeless census, nearly 64,000 men, women, and children slept in a NYC shelter each night by the end of 2017. No doubt, an overwhelming number that tears at our hearts. Thankfully, MAPC is highly aware and active in providing a shelter for about 12 men caught in the brutal system of poverty. Therefore, all of you are invited to learn more about MAPC's nightly shelter at the Outreach Committee's Shelter Open House on **Sunday, October 7th at 1 pm—3 pm**. Come and educate yourself on the ins and outs of the shelter and homelessness. You attending will not automatically volunteer you, but it will give you an opportunity to know more about the city we live in and the people we share it with. Please send any and all questions to Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com or Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com. Come learn with us!

Senior Fellowship Lunch, October 7, 1:15 pm in the Parish Hall

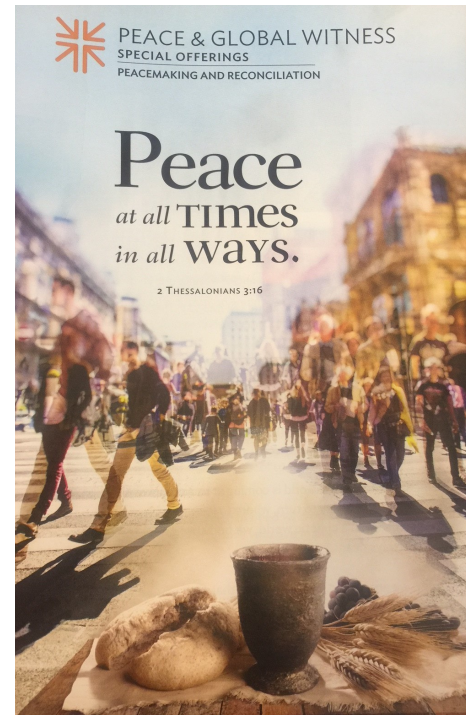


MAPC Seniors and Friends, please come down to the Parish Hall at 1:15 to enjoy a light lunch and conversation together. We invite you all to join in the memorial service for Ruth Weir following the 11:15 am worship service in the Dana Chapel, before going down to lunch. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering, October 7

“So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near” (Ephesians 2:14-17). The letter to the Ephesians tells us that Jesus came to proclaim a peace that is universal. While the earthly ministry of Jesus was in a specific age and place, the peace he shared is limited by neither time nor geography. As followers of Christ, our work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the ends of the earth. The Peace and Global Witness Offering exists to support the holistic and wide-ranging witness of the whole church. This special offering allows the congregation to give twenty-five percent of the money received to a local organization. The remaining donation will be given to the Presbyterian Mission Agency and our mid council.

This year, Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church has chosen to give our 25 percent to New Life of New York City (newlifeofnyc.org), which is a local organization that seeks to engage at-risk and vulnerable youth to resist unhealthy environments in order to encourage them to make good decisions while living in the city. MAPC has been a longtime supporter of New Life of NYC’s work and would like to continue supporting an organization that helps children find peace in their daily challenges. We hope we have piqued your interest in supporting this special offering on **October 7th** during worship, in order to put an end to hostilities and seek peace for those not only in NYC, but throughout the world.



Do You Have a Student Away at School?



If you have a student away at boarding school or college we want to know about it! A church community is often a second family to children as they grow into young adults and we want to continue to let your student know that they are important to our community. If your student is no longer at home, please share their address with Christina Cosby by email at cac@mapc.com, so that their church family can send words of encouragement and care packages as they continue to mark important milestones in their lives.

Dinner with Mayada, Monday Evening, October 15 at 6 pm



The Congregational Nurture Committee is delighted to host our third annual Dinner with Mayada. Mayada Anjari is a refugee from Syria, who, along with her family, has resettled in Jersey City with the help of Rutgers Presbyterian Church and Church World Service. Mayada is a wonderful cook, and Dinners with Mayada are one way she helps support her family as they establish their lives in the United States. The cookbook we have been waiting for will be available at this dinner! We got an advance copy in the mail, and it is stunning! *Food and Wine* lists it as one of the best cookbooks coming out this fall: <https://www.foodandwine.com/news/fall-cookbooks>. The book is \$24.95, and Mayada will happily sign copies. They will make wonderful Christmas gifts! You can preview it here: <https://www.breadandsaltbetweenus.org/>

The cost of dinner is \$40 for adults, and \$20 for children under 12. Since this is a benefit dinner, please pay the full price, if possible. If the full \$40 is not possible for you, please pay what you can, and the committee will subsidize the rest. The event is BYOB, and we encourage you to bring a bottle of wine to share—we also encourage you to invite friends! You can reserve your seat and pay for dinner [here](#). You can pay for both the dinner and the number of books you want at the same time. When you reserve, please let us know if you would like a book, so we will know how many to have on hand. RSVP through the MAPC website, or by emailing Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, lgp@mapc.com, or by signing up during fellowship hour in the weeks prior to October 15.

MAPC SERVES

Monday, October 1st, James Lenox House, 4 pm.

James Lenox House is a residential community for individuals 55 years of age and older, and an outreach partner of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. Each month we will go to visit the residents that live there and lend a helping hand. Most of the time, we will help residents learn to better use their electronic devices such as computers and smart phones. Join us as we partner in teaching and service.



Thursday, October 4th, 6-8 pm.



Join your church family and your friends as we gather together to serve a warm meal to our neighbors in need. This is a time to serve some of the most vulnerable in our community as we take time to put faces with names. We promise you will leave knowing that you made a difference.

For more information and to sign up for either of these times of service, please email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday, October 21, 1 pm, Church House



You're invited to help end hunger in any way you feel you can give!

For the past several years, Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Christian Education Committee has helped organize the CROP Hunger Walk, which is run by local congregations or groups to help raise funds to end hunger around the world, one step at a time. Please join our team as we make our way down the streets of NYC, or to donate funds for the event in order to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs.

MAPC receives several grants through our participation. By donating or taking part in the Walk, you also lend a helping hand to our own Thursday Night Open Table, which feeds about a hundred people experiencing homelessness each week.

We hope to give you more information in the coming weeks about the Walk! Until then, please visit <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/newyorkny/MAPC> to sign up or donate to CROP Hunger Walk.

Look What's Happening at MAPC This Week!

Monday, October 1

4:00 pm	MAPC SERVES: James Lenox House	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Moms' Night Out	Offsite

Tuesday, October 2

5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Library
6:00 pm	Day School Open House	Day School
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Personnel Committee	Pastor's Study

Wednesday, October 3

12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
1:30 pm	Shelter Leaders	Shelter Space
3:45 pm	Kids Club	PH, PL, Gym, 5th Floor
3:45 pm	Wee Kids	4th Floor
4:00 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
5:00 pm	T(w)een Club	Youth Lounge
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Deacons	8th AR

Thursday, October 4

1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table-MAPC SERVES	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Recovery Group	Library
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	5th Floor
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, October 5

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Saturday, October 6

No Events Scheduled—Church House Closed

Fall Dates for Your Calendars

Monday, October 1 (7 pm)—Moms Night Out, 7 pm, Offsite (TBD)

Sunday, October 7 (1 pm)—Senior Fellowship Lunch, 1 pm, Parish Hall

Wednesday, October 10—Blessing of the Animals, meet at the church at 5:30 pm with pets!

Monday, October 15 (6 pm)—Dinner with Mayada

Saturday, October 20 (10 am)—Annual Women's Brunch

Friday, October 26 (6 pm)—Annual Church Family Night Halloween Bash!

Monday, October 29 (7 pm)—Faith & Fermentation

Sunday, November 4 (1 pm)—Senior Fellowship Lunch, Parish Hall

Sunday, November 11—Hood Library Fellowship Annual Book Sale

Sunday, November 18—Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Sunday, November 30 (6 pm)—Church Family Night, Parish Hall

Saturday, December 1 (9 am to 3 pm)—Advent Retreat/Quiet Day

Sunday, December 9 (1 pm)—Senior Fellowship Lunch, Parish Hall

Sunday, December 16 (4 pm)—Annual Carol Sing, Sanctuary

Please feel welcome to join us for our events!

It's a busy and exciting Fall season here at MAPC!

Christian Education at MAPC



Volunteer this Fall with Children's Worship & Youth Worship

Are you passionate about worship at MAPC? Worship is a time that we share a set liturgy as a way to reconnect with God and one another. Moreover, worship teaches us valuable patterns that we use across many areas in our lives. Each Sunday, we share the importance of this liturgy and pattern of life with our younger generation as we worship in an interactive way. This valuable time for our families is made possible by your help! Sign-up and come experience worship in a new way!

If you have further questions or want to learn more, please feel free to reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or by calling 212-288-8920.

Children and Family Ministries

Children's Worship

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



Church School Sunday Mornings at 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Our Church School teachers have planned an exciting Fall. Join us as we share in a joint opening time and engage the Bible in our peer groups. We look forward to learning and exploring God's creation and our role in taking care of it together this year! To sign up or get more information, please out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Kids Club and Wee Kids, Wednesdays, 4-6 pm, Church House

Kids and families, join us on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 pm for Kids Club! Join us for Bible Study, Choir, Recreation and Dinner. To register, visit our [website](http://www.mapc.com) or contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.



Middle and High School Ministries

Youth Worship September-May, from 9 am to 11:15 am!

Worship with your peers and friends in an interactive way in the Dana Chapel during both worship services every Sunday morning. Youth grades 4-7 are invited to join Christina Cosby for a time of worship as they learn about our worship practices at MAPC and lead their worship experience!

Sunday Youth Hour, Sunday Mornings at 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

What characters inspire you in movies, books, and music? How do they show love toward God and others in an inspirational way? Join us on Sunday Mornings as we discover *Faces of Our Faith* as they appear in popular cultures! We will use popular movie clips, characters from books, and people we personally know to explore how they live into their faith and how God calls us to do the same! Middle and High Schoolers are invited to join Christina on Sunday mornings at 10:10 am. Hope to see you on Sunday.

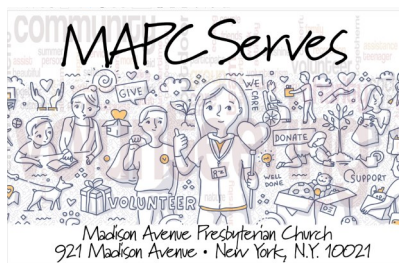
T(w)een Club: Middle School Mid-Week Youth Group, Wednesday Afternoons, 5-7 pm, Church House

Middle Schoolers, we're trying something new just for you! Join us for T(w)een Club Wednesday evenings from 5-7 pm. We'll share dinner and study the Bible with Rev. Jenny McDevitt (bring all your tough questions—she's ready for you!) Haven't joined us on Wednesday nights before? This is the perfect chance to change that, and it's never too late to sign up! For more information, contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or visit our [website](http://www.mapc.com) to find the registration form.



New Youth Service Group for High School Students—MAPC SERVES

Join us as we embark on a new program tailored to serving the vulnerable across our City with high school students in mind. This year, we will share in service and fellowship as we meet the needs of three communities: the elderly, the homeless, and children. Each month, we will offer three service opportunities that reach these three populations! We look forward to having you join us in service beginning in October.



Save the Date:

October 21st at 1 pm, CROP Hunger Walk: a walk to raise awareness about hunger needs across our City and around the world. (See [page 6](#) for more information)

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

Reading Through the Bible picks up with Proverbs 19 on Wednesday, October 3.

20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting is Today, Thursday, September 27)

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6:00-8:00 pm, Apt. 10C

Across culture and time, food and wine have been enjoyed by many. This is no different throughout Scripture. This fall we are going to look at the importance of table fellowship and the production of wine in scripture as we begin a new year. Come, as we sample food, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages from different regions around the world and discover their Biblical roots.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, October 22)

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

The minor prophets, who are they? What do they have to say to us today? These are the same questions we asked as we wondered what to study next. Come learn with us as we begin this new study! Joel has already surprised us as he values the rituals of worship.

Join us at 6:30 pm every other Monday or come early with a bit to eat as we enjoy fellowship with one another. We cannot wait to see you there!

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.

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.

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.

Give Some Love to the New York Common Pantry Grocery Carts

Far too often, a basic human necessity like food is expensive and scarce, especially in New York City. The New York Common Pantry works each year to reduce stress in people's lives by providing a pantry to those in need. The pantry continues to ask for your help! **They need canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, fresh or canned vegetables, and peanut butter.** We simply ask for no glass containers! You may drop your items off in the provided grocery carts found in the Church House Lobby or the Sanctuary Narthex. Or, since we are busy people in a busy city, you may also order groceries to be delivered to the New York Common Pantry (8 East 109th Street, New York, NY, 10029, Phone: 917-720-9700) by one of your grocers. Know that any items you give will not only impact a family, but also a child's life. And we are most thankful for that!

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. 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 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 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!"