

The Pastoral Staff Letter

Church Family Night, Friday, January 11 @ 6 pm, Parish Hall

Tomorrow is Church Family Night! Come enjoy a delicious dinner in the Parish Hall, conversation, a craft activity, movie and playtime in the gym—you can do it all, or simply enjoy sitting with friends. This is for everyone in the MAPC church family, not just families with kids at home (though you do need to be prepared for some boisterous, kinetic energy!). The suggested donation is \$20, and we ask that you make a donation for children under 12 based on their appetite. Please let us know that you're coming by RSVPing to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, lgp@mapc.com.

Sunday, January 13, 2019 Baptism of the Lord

Worship Schedule: 9 am and 11:15 am
Nursery: 4th floor Phillips Building, 8:30 am—1 pm

Worship: This Sunday Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt, will preach her sermon, ***Jesus: Son of God***, based on the lectionary texts and our sermon series, **Who Do You Say That I Am?**: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

Children's Worship, 9:15 am & 11:30 am, Phillips Lounge

Youth Worship, 9:15 am & 11:30 am, Dana Chapel

Fellowship Hour, 10:10 am & 12:30 pm, Lobby

Intergeneration Christian Education Hour, 10:10 am, Parish Hall

High School Fellowship, 10:10 am, 4th Floor Lounge

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

ESL Teacher Meeting, 1 pm, Fifth Floor

Shelter Orientation, 1 pm, Shelter Space

Confirmation Class, 4:15 pm, Youth Lounge

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space



Issue #58
January 10, 2019

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Tell Me More About MAPC

Saturday, January 12

For those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do, we periodically host a "Tell Me More About MAPC" conversation.

The next gathering will be held **January 12, 2019**, at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo lgp@mapc.com.

This Sunday January 13, 2019

Intergeneration Christian Education Hour: “Who Do You Say That I Am?”, 10:10 am, Parish Hall

Join us this Sunday as we take a closer look at who Jesus is as Son of God together. As a church family we will have games to play, a time of Bible Study, a light breakfast to share, and a time for prayer. We hope that you, your family, and friends will join us in the Parish Hall as we discover more about the person we call Son of God.

A Look Ahead:

January 20 – Dirk Smit, Princeton Theological Seminary: Jesus from a South African Perspective

January 27 – Jerusha Rhodes, Union Theological Seminary: Jesus from a Muslim Perspective

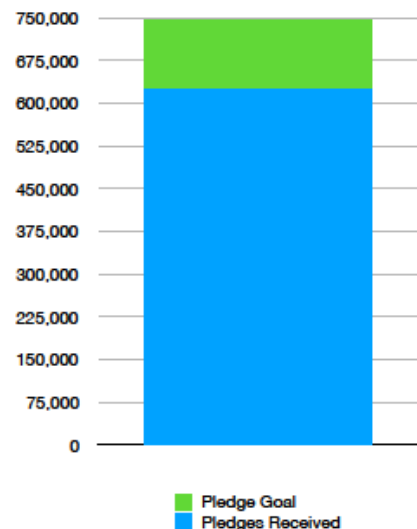
Shelter Open House

Would you like to volunteer for our shelter? **Come to the Shelter Open House this Sunday, January 13th, following the 11:15 am service!** You will learn more about our shelter and volunteer opportunities. Each night, we need a host for the early shift (6:30 pm – 8:30 pm) and the late shift (8:30 pm – 6:30 am) to help our guests feel more comfortable and at home. All are invited to volunteer, including families! Bring a meal to share, games to play, or a yummy dessert. We hope you will be able to volunteer! If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Heilman (rmh@mapc.com).

Stewardship Update

Thanks to many early and generous pledges, we are approaching our 2019 stewardship goal of \$750,000. As of January 1, we have received pledges totaling \$625,435. For comparison's sake, as of January 1, 2017, we had received pledges totaling \$547,814. All of these numbers allow us to be both optimistic and hopeful for 2019, but we aren't there yet.

If you have not yet pledged, please consider doing so now. You may [pledge online](#) or call 212-288-8920 for a pledge card. Help us reach our goal of \$750,000 in order to keep our ministry thriving while also keeping our endowment secure for the future.



Events

MAPC Book Club, Tuesday, January 15th, at 4 pm in the Hood Library

For their January meeting, the MAPC Book Club will discuss Jane Austen's beloved classic, *Pride and Prejudice*. If you haven't read it since high school or college, here is your opportunity to re-visit the Bennets, Bingleys and Mr. Darcy. All are welcome!

Pizza and Game Night, Friday, January 18, Church House 5th Floor, 6 pm

Middle and High School students are invited to join us on Friday, January 18 for pizza and game night. We will play *Minute to Win It* and have plenty of fun prizes available. Come eat pizza, play games, and bring one friend! We look forward to seeing you next week. Please RSVP so we know who to expect, you can email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Annual January Fellowship Event: Friday Night Fireside Jazz, January 25th, from 6 to 9 pm

Come enjoy an evening of good food, great music and lively fellowship in the Church House Lobby. Chef Jim is preparing a New Orleans inspired menu, the jazz trio is booked, there will be a fire in the fireplace, and childcare will be offered on the 5th Floor if that makes it easier for you to attend. The suggested donation for the evening is \$40, and we ask for a donation of \$15 per child if you need childcare.

Sign up in the Church House Lobby after worship on Sundays in January, or you can respond to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, lgp@mapc.com. Please indicate if you will need childcare.



Sign Up Now for Triennium, July 16-20!

Presbyterian Youth Triennium is a time for Presbyterian Youth in grades 9-12 from all over the world to gather in one place to celebrate our common faith in God. This is a gathering of about 5,000 youth and chaperones at Purdue University that join together in worship, share in fellowship, and engage in conversation with one another during small group sessions.

The summer's theme is "*Here's My Heart*." To learn more visit Triennium's event website here. If you are interested in joining this year's trip to Purdue University, please reach out to Christina Cosby by phone at 212-288-8920 or email at cac@mapc.com. Sign-ups are due to the Presbytery by January 15.

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 lead by our seminary interns, Audrey and Chesna, designed specifically for children 3rd grade and under.

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

Come explore the lectionary text each week with your friends and church school teachers! Every Sunday, we meet on the 5th floor at 10:10 am. Anyone age 3-5th grade is welcome to join. If you are interested in being a church school teacher, we need your help! For any questions or more information reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Kids Club and Wee Kids, Wednesday afternoons, 4-6 pm, Church House

Kids and their families are invited to join us on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 pm for Kids Club. It's never too late to sign up, visit our [web-site](#) or contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com to register. Dates to keep in mind: No Kids Club, February 20th, Public School Break

Middle School Ministries

Youth Worship, 9 am and 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 (Middle School), Sunday Mornings at 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

This Winter we will explore Identity together, "What makes us who we are?" Together we will explore the factors that make us unique and the many variables that influence our personality. This study will feed into who we are as children of God.

Save the Dates: Preparation for Youth Sunday will begin April 7th. Youth Sunday will be on June 2 at 10:10 am.

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

Join Christina Cosby and Rebecca Heilman on Wednesday afternoons as we explore what matters and doesn't matter in Jesus' eyes. *Jesus Doesn't Care: you may be surprised at what matters most to Jesus*, is our new topic for exploration together this winter.

We hope your family will join us for choir at 5 pm, dinner at 5:30 pm, and a time of Bible study at 6 pm. You don't want to miss out as there will be plenty of time for fun and games too. If you haven't signed up for the 2018-2019 academic year yet, it is never too late. Email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com and she is happy to assist you.

High School Fellowship, Sunday Morning, 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

This winter we are continuing our Bible Journaling as we read Luke's Gospel with Chesna and Audrey. Come and bring your friends for a time of art, Bible Study, and fellowship. Your presence makes our group better!

MAPC Serves Opportunities

Youth Service Group for High School Students—MAPC Serves

Join us as we serve the vulnerable across our City with high school students in mind. We will be sharing 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.

Upcoming Opportunities:

February 4 James Lenox House

February 7 Thursday Open Table

Hood Library Awareness and Appreciation Sunday, January 27th, Church House Lobby

MAPC's Hood Library is a gem—too often a hidden gem! It is tucked away in plain sight, off the Church House Lobby, just to the left of the elevators. The Library Fellowship faithfully keeps the collection current—you will find fiction and all sorts of non-fiction available for borrowing any time you are in the church. On Sunday mornings, members of the Library Fellowship are there to chat and help you find a book. On other days, you may sign books out using the notebook on the desk.

Sunday, January 27th, is the **annual Hood Library Awareness Sunday**. This year, the Library would also like to show its appreciation for all of you who support and use it, and so you will find some extra goodies to enjoy during fellowship hour! You will also find a couple of tables full of books in the Church House Lobby—some for borrowing and some for purchasing. Please take time to browse the tables, and if you haven't already discovered it, please make sure and find the Library when you are in the building. You are sure to find something of interest to borrow!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY, February 3

The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow the 11:15 am worship service on February 3. The meeting includes the election of officers, a final report of our 2018 finances, a presentation of the 2019 budget, and approving the terms of call for installed pastors.

Rev. Jenny McDevitt will provide a brief summary of the past year and share some plans for the year to come. A light lunch and fellowship will follow in the Parish Hall. While only members may vote, all are invited to attend.

Third Grade Bibles—February 3rd at both worship services

If you have a child in third grade, we would love to gift them with a Bible on **February 3rd** during worship. Giving third graders Bibles is a long-standing tradition of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

that is shared with many other churches across the country. If your family has a member in third grade please send their name to Christina Cosby at, cac@mapc.com, so that we can make sure everyone is

included. If your child, is older than third grade and needs a Bible we are happy to include them as everyone deserves to have access to the Word of God in language easy for them to understand.

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 12:30-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge

Reading Through the Bible is on hiatus until January 16th, when we will pick up with Isaiah 25.

20s/30s Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Thursday, January 10)

This fall we enjoyed reading about wine throughout scripture. This Winter we will pick up with a new study. Do you have suggestions or questions of faith you want answered? If the answer is yes to either of those questions email them to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, January 14)

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 reflect on the minor prophets in scripture, history, and their importance in our lives today!

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!

Hands-on Ministries

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, email Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com. Let's put our faith into action!

The Thursday Open Table

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.

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 7:00 am. Contact Rebecca Heilman at rmh@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!"

This Week at MAPC

Jan Hus Presbyterian Church clothing collection

Jan Hus is continuing to collect clothing from the community. 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. Go to their website to learn more: uoc-nyc.com. NOTE: Please bring all clothing to Jan Hus directly—clothing may no longer be left in the coatroom off the MAPC Church House Lobby.

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.

Monday, January 14

SESSION PACKET MATERIALS DUE

| | | |
|---------|---------------------|---------------|
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |
| 6:30 pm | Women's Bible Study | Phillips |
| | Lounge | |

Tuesday, January 15

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|---------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 4:00 pm | MAPC Book Club | Library |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |
| 7:00 pm | Congregational Nurture Committee | Phillips |
| | Lounge | |

Wednesday, January 16

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 12:30 pm | Reading Through the Bible | Library |
| 3:45 pm | Kids Club | Parish Hall, |
| | PL, 5th Floor, Gym | |
| 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 | Day School Committee | 8th AR |
| 6:00 pm | Cocaine Anonymous | 5th Floor |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |

Thursday, January 17

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 12:15 pm | Day School: MLK Chapel | Sanctuary |
| 1:00 pm | Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing | James Lenox |
| | House | |
| 6:30 pm | Thursday Open Table | Parish Hall |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |
| 6:30 pm | Recovery Group | Library |
| 7:00 pm | Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal | 5th Floor |
| 8:30 pm | Church Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room |

Friday, January 18

| | | |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| 6:00 pm | Pizza & Game Night | 5th Floor, Gym |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |

Saturday, January 19

No Events Scheduled

New York Common Pantry Grocery Carts

The basic human necessity of food can be 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, 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!



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.

A New Sermon Series Begins January 13

Who Do You Say That I Am?
a sermon series about who Jesus is and why he matters today

| | |
|-------------|--|
| January 13 | <i>Jesus: Son of God</i> |
| January 20 | <i>Jesus: Savior of the World</i> |
| January 27 | <i>Jesus: Teacher of Old Ways, Today</i> |
| February 3 | <i>Jesus: Hometown Prophet</i> |
| February 10 | <i>Jesus: Compelling Leader</i> |
| February 17 | <i>Jesus: Reversing Everything We Know</i> |
| February 24 | <i>Jesus: Unreasonable Expectations</i> |
| March 3 | <i>Jesus: Always Ahead of Us</i> |

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt preaching • worship Sundays at 9 & 11:15 am • 921 Madison Avenue at 73rd Street • [mapc.com](#)