

# The Pastoral Staff Letter

**This Sunday**

**Sunday, February 3, 2019**

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Worship Schedule:** 9 am and 11:15 am

**Nursery:** 4th floor 8:30 am—1 pm

**Worship:** This Sunday Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt will preach her sermon, ***Jesus: Hometown Prophet***, based on the lectionary texts and our sermon series, **Who Do You Say That I Am?**: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30.

**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

**Adult Education,** 10:10 am, Parish Hall

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

**Middle School Youth Hour,** 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

**Church School,** 10:10 am, 5th Floor

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

**Annual Congregational Meeting,** 1:00 pm, Parish Hall

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

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



Issue #62

January 31, 2019

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*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

This Sunday, February 3rd, 2019

## Adult Education: Christina Cosby, “*Jesus as Community Centered*”

2/3  
10:10  
am

Jesus has many facets, especially as a leader who draws community together. This Sunday the Adult Education class will journey through the Gospel of Luke looking at the specific leadership qualities Jesus demonstrates. This will allow participants to reflect on how they can implement these qualities into their own life and community. Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church’s Director of Christian Formation will lead this time of discussion and reflection. All are welcome to come and experience a new perspective on the divinity and personhood of Jesus Christ.

A look ahead:

February 10—Intergenerational Sunday, Jesus as a Leader

February 17—Jesus and His Open Table, Rev. Rebecca Heilman

## Annual Congregational Meeting

2/3

**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. Pizza and games will be available for young people, and childcare will be provided.

## *A Lenten Feast*

A Mini-Retreat in Preparation for Lent

Led by the Rev. Beverly Bartlett, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life  
Saturday, March 2nd, from 9 am to 12:30 pm, Church House Lobby

Through reflection, conversation, and prayer,  
our path of Lenten repentance can become a feast.

See page 10 for more information and how to register.

## February

### *For All the Saints*

A memorial service will be held for MAPC member Patricia O'Connell on **Saturday, February 2** at 11 am in the Sanctuary. A luncheon/reception will follow in the Parish Hall. Pat died on January 23, 2019. We give thanks for the Gospel which reminds us "in life and in death, we belong to God."

### Instrumentalists in Worship during February

On the first three Sundays in February we will be joined by guest instrumentalists who will enhance our 11:15 am worship services. On Sunday, **February 3rd**, we will be joined by a string quintet and members of our children's choir in excerpts from Schubert's *Mass in G*. On **February 10th** we will hear works by Paul Halley and J. S. Bach with soprano saxophone, and on **February 17th** flutist Gretchen Pusch will play works for chorus and flute by Fred Gramann and John Weaver.

### MAPC Moms' Night Out

**2/7**  
**7 pm**

The next MAPC Moms' Night Out meets Thursday evening, February 7th at 7 pm at an Upper East Side restaurant. What busy mom doesn't need a relaxing evening out? This is a wonderful way to get to know other MAPC moms and share wisdom and experiences—or talk about something completely non-child related! RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com)

### Shelter Open House

**2/10**

Would you like to learn more about our shelter? **Come to the Shelter Open House Sunday, February 10th, following the 11:15 a.m. service.** Learn about volunteer opportunities and our guests who stay in our building each night. We are looking for early shift (6:30 pm – 8:30 pm) and late shift (8:30 pm – 6:30 am) hosts to help our guests feel more comfortable and at home. All are invited to volunteer, including families! If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Heilman ([rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com)).

Join MAPC on [Facebook](#)

## Children, Youth, 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

Anyone age 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade is welcome to come to Church School on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. This time allows kids to explore the lectionary text for the week with their friends and teachers. 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](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

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

It is never too late to sign up for Kids Club, an afterschool program on Wednesday for kids age 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade. This Wednesday program runs from 4 to 6 pm and includes a time for play, a Bible Story, and choir. The program concludes with dinner at 5:30 p.m. for the whole family. More information can be found on our [website](http://www.mapc.com) or by contacting Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com). **Dates to keep in mind: No Kids Club, February 20<sup>th</sup>, Public School Break**

### Youth Worship, 9 am and 11:15 am

Youth Worship is a time for peers to encounter God through an interactive worship service in the Dana Chapel and takes place during both worship services every Sunday morning. Youth grades 4th-7th are invited to join Christina Cosby for a time of worship as they learn about our worship practices at MAPC and lead their own worship experience!

### Sunday Youth Hour (Middle School), Sunday Mornings at 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

This Winter middle schoolers are invited to come and explore identity together, *"What Makes Me Who I Am?"* This time allows students to reflect on the factors that make

them unique and the many variables that influence their personhood. This study will feed into our next focus, *"Who Am I as a Child of God?"*

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

### T(w)een Club: Middle School Mid-Week Youth Group, Wednesday afternoons 5-6:30 pm, Church House

Join Christina Cosby and Rebecca Heilman on Wednesday afternoons to explore what matters and does not matter in Jesus' eyes. *"Jesus Doesn't Care: Jesus Accepts Everyone for Who They Are"* is our new topic for discussion this winter. All youth grades 6th-8th grades are invited to join the fun and discussion. This Wednesday's afterschool program includes study hall from 4-5 pm, choir at 5 pm, dinner at 5:30 pm for the whole family, and a time of Bible study with games at 6 pm.

Signups for the 2018-2019 academic year are always welcome. Email Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com), and she will assist you.

### High School Fellowship, Sunday Morning, 10:10 am, 4th Floor Lounge

This winter join Chesna and Audrey for a time of creativity and faith-centered conversation. Come and bring your friends for a time of art, Bible Study, and fellowship. Your presence makes our group better!

### Youth Service Group for High School Students—MAPC Serves

Join us as we serve the vulnerable across New York City. 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.

### Upcoming Opportunities:

February 7<sup>th</sup> Thursday Open Table  
February 11<sup>th</sup> James Lenox House



## February

### Senior Fellowship Lunch

**2/10**  
**1 pm**

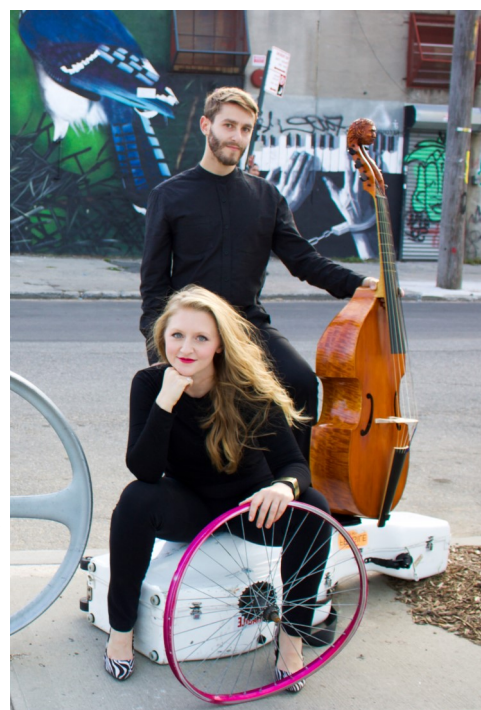
MAPC Seniors and friends will have lunch together in the Parish Hall on Sunday, February 10th at 1 pm following fellowship hour. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

### Music on Madison: Duo Seraphim

**2/10**  
**3 pm**

The Saint Andrew Music Society's *Music on Madison* season continues next **Sunday, February 10 at 3 pm**, with a performance by Duo Seraphim titled "Barbara Strozzi: In Defiance of Time and Fate." Soprano Sarah Hawkey and Niccolo Seligmann, viola da gamba, will present a program featuring works by Venetian composer Barbara Strozzi –one of the most fascinating women's voices in the arts from 17<sup>th</sup> century Italy.

Admission to our *Music on Madison* concerts is \$25 (\$20 – students/seniors); children 12 and under: free. [Will Call reservations](#) may be made online in advance using a credit card, or admission can be paid at the door.



## *Volunteer this Winter*

### Children's Worship and Youth Worship

Come experience worship in a new way.

Visit [Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer in February.

## Stewardship Update

We continue to make progress toward our 2019 stewardship goal of \$750,000. As of January 30, we have received pledges totaling **\$640,520**.

To put this in perspective: **if each of our members increased their pledge by only \$200, we would surpass our goal**. While many have given, and given generously, we need everyone's participation to continue our legacy of ministry in and to the city.

Please prayerfully consider a faithful, financial commitment to the work of Jesus Christ through Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. You can pledge [online](#) or by calling the church office at 212-288-8920.



<http://www.mapc.com/pledge-2019>

## February

### Sign Up Now for Triennium, July 16-20

*Interest meeting, February 10th, Youth Lounge*

2/10

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](#). The Presbytery of New York City has asked that all interested candidates for this year's delegation to fill out this interest [survey](#). We will hold an informational meeting at MAPC on February 10<sup>th</sup> following the 11:15 am worship service in the youth lounge. 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](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

### Bring on the Pasta, MAPC! (By February 14th, Please)

The Super Bowl is this coming Sunday, but let's not forget another competition - the New York Common Pantry's 3rd Annual Pasta Bowl! The pantry is looking for boxes upon boxes of dry (not fresh) pasta, preferably whole wheat. Last year NYCP collected over 11,000 pounds of pasta for families in need of a warm meal. Please bring a box (or five) to the church and drop it in the food cart located in the front lobby by February 14th. Let's see how much pasta MAPC can donate this year! Or donate online. A \$1.00 donation = 1 lb of pasta. Online donations may be made at [nycommonpantry.org](http://nycommonpantry.org). Please select "General Donation" & type Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church into the "this donation is in honor of" line. Or, type "for pasta bowl" into the "please notify the following of my gift" line. If you have questions, contact Rebecca Heilman at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com).

Preview the latest Sunday [bulletin](#), or [listen](#) to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC's website.

## Bible Studies at MAPC

Looking for a place to read Scripture together and to get to know people at MAPC? Come to one of our Bible Studies. Newcomers are always welcome! For more information, visit the Adult Education page at [mapc.com](http://mapc.com).

### Reading Through the Bible:

*Wednesdays 12:30-1:30 pm, Library*

Reading Through the Bible meets every week at 12:30 pm and will pick up with **Isaiah 43**.

**20s/30s Bible Study:** (Next Meeting is **Thursday, February 14th**) 6:00 pm, Come celebrate Valentine's Day with your church friends as we enjoy an evening of fellowship and fondue. If you plan to attend or want to know more about 20's and 30's Bible Study email Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

**Women's Bible Study:** (Next Meeting is **Monday, February 11th**)

*2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, 6:30 pm, Phillips Lounge*

The minor prophets—who are they? What do they have to say today? These are the same questions Women's Bible Study asked inspiring a study of the minor prophets in the Old Testament. The minor prophets are full of wisdom and insight into the Biblical world. More so, they have a lot to teach people today.

Women's Bible Study invites women of the church to come to learn more about the history of God's people and invite their inspiration to influence lives today.

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

### The Thursday Open Table

Can you spare two 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](mailto:kfhoffman@earthlink.net) at [kfhoffman@earthlink.net](mailto:kfhoffman@earthlink.net) to volunteer for this opportunity.

### Host at the Shelter

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](mailto:rmh@mapc.com) at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto: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](mailto:SandC@searchandcare.org) 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!"



## This Week at MAPC



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

### Monday, February 4

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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### Tuesday, February 5

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

### Wednesday, February 6

12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Library
4:00 pm	Kids Club	PH, PL, 5th Floor, Gym 4th Floor
4:00 pm	Wee Kids	Choir Room
4:15 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Youth Lounge
5:00 pm	T(w)een Club	5th Floor
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	8th Floor
7:00 pm	Deacons	

### Thursday, February 7

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	Moms' Night Out	Offsite
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	5th Floor
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

### Friday, February 8

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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### Saturday, February 9

no events scheduled



## March

A Lenten Feast: Mini-Retreat in Preparation for Lent  
Led by the Rev. Beverly Bartlett, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life  
Saturday, March 2nd, from 9 am to 12:30 pm, Church House Lobby

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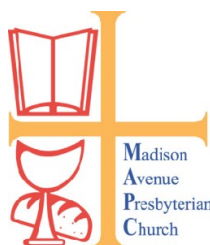
It is more common to think of Lent as a time of fasting, not feasting. One overarching theme of Lent is repentance—turning around and returning to God, and the goal of repentance is being one with God, which is indeed a feast for the soul. In this morning together, we will look at some of the scripture passages for the season of Lent and reflect on ways to make this season meaningful for our lives of faith. What Lenten discipline can we take on that will help us strengthen our relationship with God and discern God's word and path for our lives? In what ways can we turn around and open our hearts to the feast of God's presence?

Psalm 63:5 says, "My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast." In Jesus' parable of the prodigal son, the son repents, turns around, and the father greets him with open arms and celebrates his return with a feast.

Come and join in this morning of reflection, conversation and prayer as we look at ways in which our path of Lenten repentance can become a feast. We will share in a light breakfast to begin the morning, join in a morning prayer service, look at some of the scripture passages for Lent together, and have time for silent prayer, including an opportunity to walk the labyrinth. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com). Contact Beverly Bartlett if you have questions, [bab@mapc.com](mailto:bab@mapc.com).

### Tell Me More About MAPC, March 2

3/2



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 **March 2, 2019**, at 9 am on the 8th Floor. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com). Future dates—April 13 and May 11, in the Phillips Lounge.

*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.