

The Pastoral Staff Letter

This Sunday

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Transfiguration of the Lord

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: Always Ahead of Us*, based on the lectionary texts and our sermon series, **Who Do You Say That I Am?**: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43).

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

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

Fellowship Hour, 10:00 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

Shelter Open House, 1:00 pm, Shelter Space

ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor

Music on Madison, 3 pm, Sanctuary

Confirmation Class, 4:15 pm, 5th Floor

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space



Issue #66

February 28, 2019

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Wednesday, March 6

Ash Wednesday

7:30–9:30 am Ashes on the Church Steps

12 pm and 7 pm — Sanctuary
The Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman preaching

5:15-5:30 pm Family-friendly Service — Dana Chapel

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Adult Education: *The Lord's Prayer: The Education of Human Wanting*, a lecture presented by the Rev. Dr. C. Clifton Black

10:10
am

C. Clifton Black, Otto A. Piper Professor of Biblical Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, will lead Adult Education at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall.



In this session Dr. Black will draw upon his recently published commentary, *The Lord's Prayer* (2018), to introduce dynamics of Christian prayer and basic elements of the prayer Jesus taught his disciples. Dr. Black is ordained in The United Methodist Church and has written many books on the subject of prayer, and commentaries on the New Testament.

A look ahead:

March 10 GIFT (Growing in Faith Together), an intergenerational program for people of all ages to explore the daily lectionary text.

Shelter Open House

1pm

Interested in our Men's Shelter? Come to the shelter today at 1 pm to learn about volunteer opportunities and our guests who stay in our building each night. The shelter leaders are specifically in need for overnight hosts (8:30 pm – 6:30 am) and are always looking for early shift hosts (6:30 pm – 8:30 pm), if that works better for you. Questions? Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com.

Music on Madison: Bach and Arensky

3 pm

The Saint Andrew Music Society's *Music on Madison* season continues today at 3 pm, with pianist Peter Vinograde, violinist Setsuko Nagata and cellist Michael Kannen. From Baroque virtuosity to rhapsodic Russian Late Romanticism: four Bach keyboard Toccatas, and the Arensky *Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor*. Admission to the concerts is \$25 (\$20 – students/seniors); children 12 and under are free. Will Call reservations may be made [online](#) in advance using a credit card, or admission can be paid at the door.

March Events

Pre-Lenten Mini-Retreat

3/2
9 am

There is still time to sign up for the pre-Lenten retreat on Saturday morning, March 3 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Join Rev. Beverly Bartlett for a time of reflection, conversation and prayer. Share in a light breakfast to begin the morning, join in a prayer service, look at some of the scripture passages for Lent together, and spend time in silent prayer, including an opportunity to walk the labyrinth. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, lgp@mapc.com. Contact Beverly Bartlett if you have questions, bab@mapc.com.

Church Family Night

3/8
6 pm

On Friday evening, March 8 at 6 pm, come enjoy a hearty meal, a movie, a craft, play time in the gym, and conversation. This is a great time to get to know other members of the MAPC family. All members of the MAPC community are welcome, whether you have children at home or not—it is **Church** Family Night, not Church **Family** Night!

Suggested donation is \$20 for adults, and a donation of your choice for children under 12. Chef Jim needs to know how many to cook for, so please let us know you are coming! RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Saint Andrew Music Society Benefit Evening

3/8
6:30
pm

The Saint Andrew Music Society is holding a benefit evening featuring soloists Katherine Wessinger and Rod Gomez at a private home on the Upper East Side on Friday, March 8 from 6:30-8 pm.

Patrons will be treated to light hors d'oeuvres and wine to hear arias and songs by Ralph Vaughan Williams and Benjamin Britten, in anticipation of the Saint Andrew Chorale's April 7 performance of works by these two British composers.

The proceeds from the evening will assist with the significant costs of mounting these monumental works for soloists, chorus and orchestra. Tickets are \$150 (\$125 tax-deductible) and can be purchased [online](#) before Monday, March 4.

Youth Fundraiser Luncheon for Triennium, March 17th, 1 pm, Parish Hall

3/17
1 pm

The High School youth planning to attend Triennium are hosting a spaghetti luncheon at 1 pm on Sunday, March 17th to help cover the cost of their 2019 summer trip.

Triennium is a global conference of the Presbyterian Church for high school youth, drawing 5,000 youth together from around the world to worship, play, and study scripture. In order to attend this year's event, the participants need to raise \$3,000. To accomplish this goal, they will prepare and serve lunch for the congregation.

There is no set cost to attend; instead, the youth have elected to offer the lunch for a free-will donation. In addition, there will be interactive activities to help them raise the needed funds. Everyone is invited to come eat, enjoy fellowship with church friends, and get to know the youth of the church more personally.

To sign-up, please email or call Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com or 212-288-8920.



"Here's My Heart" is the summer event's theme. To learn more, visit [Triennium's event website](#).

Lent and Easter at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

Saturday, March 2

Pre-Lenten Mini-Retreat: *A Lenten Feast*

9 am-12:30 pm Parish Hall

The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

See page 3 for more information.

Wednesday, March 6

Ash Wednesday

7:30-9:30 am Ashes on the Church Steps

12 pm and 7 pm — Sanctuary

The Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman preaching

5:15-5:30 pm Family-friendly Worship — Dana Chapel

Sundays in Lent

March 10, 17, 24, 31, and April 7

9 am and 11:15 am — Sanctuary

Wednesday Evening Classes: *Cultivating and Letting Go*

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10

7-8:30 pm — Parish Hall

Sunday, April 14

Palm Sunday

9 am and 11:15 am — Sanctuary

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt preaching

Thursday, April 18

Maundy Thursday

7 pm — Church House Lobby

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt preaching

Friday, April 19

Good Friday

12-3 pm Service of Devotion — Sanctuary

4:30 pm Worship for Children & Families — Sanctuary

7:30 pm Service of Tenebrae — Sanctuary

Sunday, April 21

Easter

9 am and 11:15 am Festival Services — Sanctuary

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt preaching

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 3-5th grade is welcome to come to Church School on the 5th 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 more information reach out to Christina Cosby at 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 3-5th 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](#) or by contacting Christina Crosby.

Dates to keep in mind: March 6th, Ash Wednesday Chapel Service 5:15-5:30 pm

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 7th. Youth Sunday will be on June 2 at 10:10 am.

T(w)een Club: Middle School Mid-Week Youth Group, Wednesday afternoons 5-6:30 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, and she will assist you.

Dates to keep in mind: March 6th, Ash Wednesday Chapel Service 5:15-5:30 pm

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

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

All High School Students are invited to serve the vulnerable across our City. In fact, their help is needed to reach our service goal of 300 hours of service this year. So far, they have made it half way as together they served for 150 hours thus far. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.



Stewardship

We continue to make progress toward our 2019 stewardship goal of \$750,000. As of February 27, we have received pledges totaling **\$645,875**.

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>

Children's Worship and Youth Worship

Volunteer Opportunities

Come experience worship in a new way.

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

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.

Reading Through the Bible:

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

Reading Through the Bible will begin reading Jeremiah on March 13th. **Note:** *No meeting on March 6th.*

20s/30s Bible Study: (Next Meeting is **Thursday, February 28th**) 6:00 pm, 10th floor.

Anyone in their 20s or 30s is invited to come and explore Philippians this Thursday through a short video clip, bible study, and conversation. Together participants will enjoy dinner, fellowship, and Bible study. If you want to know more about 20s and 30s Bible Study email Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

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

2nd and 4th 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.

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.

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 Rev. [Rebecca Heilman](mailto:Rebecca.Heilman@mapc.com) at 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:Kathy.Hoffman@earthlink.net) at 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 Rev. [Rebecca Heilman](mailto:Rebecca.Heilman@mapc.com) at rmh@mapc.com for more information.

Search and Care

Can you spend an afternoon with an elderly person on the Upper East Side 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:Robin.Strashun@searchandcare.org) 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



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, March 4

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Tuesday, March 5

5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Hood Library
6:00 pm	ESL Evening Classes	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Personnel Committee	Pastor's Study
7:00 pm	Deacons	8th Floor

Wednesday, March 6 Ash Wednesday

7:30 am	Ashes on the Church Steps	Sanctuary Steps
12:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary
4:00 pm	Kids Club	PH, PL, 5th Floor, Gym
4:00 pm	Wee Kids	4th Floor
4:15 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
5:00 pm	T(w)een Club	Phillips Lounge
5:15 pm	Family-friendly Ash Wed. service	Dana Chapel
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary

Thursday, March 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	Hood Library
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	5th Floor
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, March 8

6:00 pm	Church Family Night	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	SAMS Benefit	offsite
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Saturday, March 9

No events scheduled

New York Common Pantry Grocery Carts

The New York Common Pantry works each year to reduce stress in people's lives by providing a pantry to those in need. Please help through your gifts of canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, canned vegetables, and peanut butter. No glass containers. You may drop your items off in the provided grocery carts found in the Church House Lobby or the Sanctuary Narthex. 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.