

# The Pastoral Staff Letter

**Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 9 am & 11:15 am**  
**Pledge Dedication Sunday**

**Worship: Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt** will preach her sermon, "May I Suggest the Fish?" based on the texts Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12; and Luke 24:36-43.



Issue #97

November 14, 2019

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
10:10 am	Pledge Dedication Brunch	Parish Hall
10:10 am	Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grade)	Parish Hall
10:10 am	Open Playtime Toddlers -11 yrs	Gym/Roof Garden
10:20 am	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Pledge Dedication Brunch	Parish Hall
1:00 pm	ESL Classes	5th Floor

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The sermon series concludes Sunday, November 17.

921 Madison Avenue @ 73rd St. mapc.com 212.288.8920

## November at MAPC

### Moms' Night Out

MAPC Moms, come enjoy a relaxing, low-key night out before the rush of the holiday season begins! You deserve it! We will meet at 7 pm on **Thursday, November 14** at Canyon Road restaurant, 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and 77<sup>th</sup> St., for dinner and conversation. Moms' Night Out is for mothers with children of all ages, and is an opportunity to get to know one another and share stories and experiences. Please let us know you are coming so we can adjust the reservation accordingly. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church office at [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

11/14  
7 pm

### Fridays for Children – Let's Give Thanks!



On **Friday, November 15** at 5:15pm, all families are invited to the Parish Hall for our Fridays for Children program. Gratitude will be the theme of the night! So, expect games, a story time, an activity to take home, and choir for first graders and older with Mary Huff, the Associate Director of Music at MAPC and the Director of the NYC Children's Chorus.

Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com) to sign-up early. You're also welcome to register your child(ren) at the church on the night of the 15th. All forms will be provided.

11/14  
5:15  
pm

### Tell Me More About MAPC

For those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do, we are hosting a "Tell Me More About MAPC" conversation on **Saturday, November 16** at 9:30 am in the Phillips Lounge. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

11/16  
9:30  
am

### Shop Amazon and Support MAPC!



Did you know that when you shop for the holidays at [smile.amazon.com/ch/13-1624076](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-1624076), AmazonSmile donates to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church?

## Sunday, November 17

### Pledge Dedication Sunday

**Sunday, November 17** is Pledge Dedication Sunday. In prayerfully considering your 2020 financial commitment to MAPC, please complete a pledge card and bring it with you to worship, where it will be received with gratitude to God. A Congregational Brunch in the Parish Hall will follow each service. Pledge cards were mailed to all members. Additional cards are available in the pews. You may also pledge online at [mapc.com](http://mapc.com). Thank you for your faithful generosity.

11/17

### NYCCC Benefit and CD Release



Please join us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual New York City Children's Chorus Benefit, and the CD release of our new recording, *Christmas in New York*, on **Friday, November 22** from 6 to 8:30 pm in the Church House Lobby and Sanctuary. Get into the Christmas spirit with wassail punch, figgy pudding and other delicious holiday hors d'oeuvres by the award-winning Bartleby & Sage, and support MAPC's own community children's chorus program as you bid on our silent and live auctions and listen to special performances by the Allegro, Concert Choir, and In Harmony ensembles. Early bird tickets (through November 17) are \$60 and may be purchased online [biddingforgood.com/nycchildrenschorus](http://biddingforgood.com/nycchildrenschorus). CDs can now be ordered at [nycchildrenschorus.org](http://nycchildrenschorus.org) or wherever you download your favorite music!

11/22  
6 pm

## Sunday, November 24

### Hood Library Fellowship Annual Book Sale

On **Sunday, November 24**, the Hood Library Fellowship will have tables full of books for sale in the Church House Lobby during the fellowship hours between services. Please come browse the books while you enjoy your coffee, tea, cookies and conversation! You'll find fiction and non-fiction, and "coffee table" books. Come buy Christmas gifts for the readers and book lovers on your list, or stock up on your own reading material for the winter months. The proceeds for the book sale will go to support Open Table.

11/24

### Saint Andrew Chorale and Orchestra

On **Sunday, November 24** at 3 pm the Saint Andrew Chorale and Orchestra will open their 55th season with two mid-twentieth century choral masterworks: Poulenc's *Gloria* and the ebullient, full orchestration of Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. Choristers from the New York City Children's chorus will perform Randall Thompson's *The Place of the Blest* for treble chorus and orchestra, which is featured on their soon-to-be-released recording, *Christmas in New York*. Tickets: \$30 (\$25 - Seniors 62+ / Students); Children 12 & under are free!

11/24  
3 pm

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4315572>

## Advent Festival, Sunday, December 1st after the 10:30 am Worship Service (Remember, just one service on this Sunday!)



**A d v e n t  
F e s t i v a l**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Preparing our hearts & homes  
for the season

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**Sunday, December 1, 2019**  
 One Worship Service @ 10:30 am  
 Congregational Lunch @ 11:45 am  
 Advent Activities for All Ages  
 Closing Devotion @ 1:45 pm

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Activities include:

- Interactive Advent calendars
- Advent devotions to use at home
- Creating a Kristingle centerpiece
- Making a traditional Advent wreath
- Making a kid-friendly Advent wreath
- A community service project
- Helping with paper lace banners for worship
- Making Christmas ornaments
- Decorating cookies
- Purchasing the newly-released NYCCC CD

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Invite your friends and neighbors!  
 Donations accepted to offset costs.

Let's start the season of Advent with MAPC's first ever churchwide Advent Festival!

All members, families, ages, and friends are welcome for lunch in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 am service with various activities to follow – Advent wreath-making, paper-lace banners for the church, ornament making, cookie decorating, and a service project. **12/01 10:30 am**

The labyrinth will be available in the gym for reflective prayer, and Advent calendars and devotions will be distributed to use at home as we wait for light to enter the world. We'll close the festival with Advent devotions. A free-will offering will be received for lunch, and there will be a minimal suggested donation for wreath-making to help cover the cost of materials.

There will be something for everyone, and you won't want to miss it!

## MAPC Day School Application

MAPC families with young children are invited to apply to The Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School, which offers innovative programming for children ages 4 month through 5 years old. Our classes for babies and toddlers are open to the public. Our preschool application deadline (for children who will be between two and five years old by August 31, 2020) is **Saturday, November 30**. Please see our website at <https://www.mapcds.org> for information and our online application.

**due  
11/30**



## Worship Needs You!

At its most basic root, “liturgy” means “the work of the people.” At MAPC, worship takes many people, up front and behind the scenes, to create a meaningful service during which we encounter the Holy One. There are a variety of ways to be involved — some old, some new(er). We will ensure that proper training or instruction is given so that you know exactly what to do. To indicate interest, or to ask any questions, email Rev. Jenny McDevitt at [jmm@mapc.com](mailto:jmm@mapc.com). In most cases, you will then receive an email link to sign up as your schedule allows.

- **READING SCRIPTURE (9 & 11:15 am)** Each week, we read multiple passages from Scripture. A theological degree is not required to read aloud in worship. The full text of your reading will be provided to you by the Wednesday prior. If you have not read in worship recently, a pastor will meet with you in advance to review and rehearse. Scripture reading sign up (no prerequisites): <https://signup.com/go/jzLorCa>
- **SERVING COMMUNION (9 & 11:15 am)** Anyone ordained as an elder or deacon (whether you are currently serving, or have served in the past) is invited to serve communion. Typically, we need anywhere from two to six servers for each service. Communion sign up (must be ordained as an elder or deacon): <https://signup.com/go/FPKymKy>

## Adult Education Survey

The former Christian Education Committee has been divided into two separate committees: Children and Youth Ministries and Adult Education. The Adult Education Committee has created a quick survey and encourages all MAPC members to fill it out. Are you a regular at our Sunday morning Adult Education classes? Have you never been able to attend? Is Evening Bible Study your thing? Is there a particular topic you would like to discuss or learn more about? Are there times that would be more convenient for you?



We want to know all of this and more! Please click on the link below and fill out the form on the church's secure website.

Link to Survey: <https://www.mapc.com/education/adult-education/mapc-adult-education-survey/>

## 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!

**Evening Bible Study:** 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 7 pm, 8th Fl. (The next meeting is **November 18.**) The group is currently reading N.T. Wright's book, *Simply Jesus*. For November 18, we will be discussing chapters 12-14.

**Women's Bible Study** is currently on hiatus and will resume January 13, 2020. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 pm, Library.

### **Reading Through the Bible:**

Wednesdays, 12:30 pm-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge. This Wednesday we will be reading Ezekiel.

### **20s/30s Bible Study**

1st Tuesday and 3rd Thursday, 6 pm, 8th Fl. Email Rev. Rebecca Heilman at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com) for details.

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## 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 at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com).

### **Thursday Night 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 at [kfhoffman@earthlink.net](mailto:kfhoffman@earthlink.net) to volunteer for this opportunity.

### **Host at the Shelter**

Take this time to consider being a host for the shelter! Two shifts are offered each evening, Mondays through Thursday. Early evening hosts volunteer from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm; overnight hosts volunteer from 8:30 pm to 7:00 am. If being a host is not for you, drop off some dinner, breakfast, or desert! If you would like to know more about the shelter please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com).

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## New York Common Pantry

The New York Common Pantry is always looking for donations! Please help through gifts of **canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, canned vegetables, and peanut butter** (no glass containers). Your gifts may be dropped off in the grocery cart found in the Church House Lobby. You may also order groceries to be delivered to their site: 8 East 109<sup>th</sup> St. New York, NY 10029. They are not only looking for donations, but volunteers as well! Help pack and distribute food any day of the week. For more information, contact NYCP at 917-720-9700.

## Monday, November 18

10:00 am	Shelter Leaders Committee	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Evening Bible Study	8th Floor

## Tuesday, November 19

5:30 pm	Stewardship & Development Committee	7th Floor
7:00 pm	Session	8th Floor

## Wednesday, November 20

8:00 am	Trustees	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
5:30 pm	Middle School Choir & Fellowship	Choir Room; PL
6:30 pm	Adult Education Committee	8th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Children & Youth Ministries Committee	Phillips Lounge

## Thursday, November 21

1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing Group	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	Sanctuary

## Friday, November 22

6:00 pm	NYCCC Benefit	Sanctuary; Lobby
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## Saturday, November 23

9:30 am	Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra Rehearsal	Sanctuary
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## Sunday, November 24

9:00 & 11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15 & 11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
10:00 am	Annual Library Book Sale	Hood Library
10:20 am	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
1:00 pm	ESL Classes	5th Floor
3:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra	Sanctuary

A number of recovery groups meet regularly at the church throughout the week. For a current list of groups and meeting times, please see [mapc.com/supportgroups](http://mapc.com/supportgroups).

**Baptism:** Interested in having your child baptized at MAPC? Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com) about attending an orientation session. Baptisms are then scheduled in conversation with Senior Pastor Rev. Jenny McDevitt to ensure the timing meets the needs of your family.

# Advent @ MAPC

- Dec. 1      One Worship Service, 10:30 am  
Congregational Lunch & Advent Festival  
Parish Hall & Church House Lobby, 11:45 am
- Dec. 11     Congregational Dinner & Christmas Pageant  
Parish Hall, 6 pm
- Dec. 15     Annual Carol Sing  
Sanctuary, 4 pm
- Dec. 18     Blue Christmas Service  
Dana Chapel, 6 pm
- Dec. 24     Family Worship, 5 pm  
Candlelight Communion Worship, 10:30 pm
- Dec. 25     Service of Lessons and Carols  
Sanctuary, 11:15 am
- Dec. 29     One Worship Service, 10:30 am



## 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.