

The Pastoral Staff Letter

Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 9 & 11:15 am
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship: Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt will preach her sermon from the sermon series *Sacred Ordinary Days*, “Sidewalk Encounters (Walk Humbly)” based on the texts Matthew 5:1-12, Psalm 15, and Micah 6:1-18.



8:30 am	Nursery Opens	4th Floor
9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
10:10 am	Fellowship Hour	Lobby
10:10 am	Coloring for Kids	Lobby
10:10 am	Adult Education: Meet the Composer	Parish Hall
10:10 am	Youth Fellowship (6th-12th gr.)	2nd Floor Gym
11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Fellowship Hour	Lobby
12:30 pm	Coloring for Kids	Lobby
1:00 pm	Annual Congregational Meeting	Parish Hall
1:00 pm	Lunch for Children & Youth	Shelter Space
1:00 pm	ESL Classes	5th Floor

Issue #105

January 30, 2020

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This Sunday

Meet the Composer & Hear the Premiere!



This Sunday, February 2 at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall, composer Fred Gramann, Director of Music at the American Church in Paris, will be the guest presenter on our Christian Education series, describing his work as a composer and his approach to setting texts. The Church Choir will be on hand to offer a special “sneak preview” of his new work, *Walk Humbly with Your God*—a commission made possible through Gordon and Lillian Hardy Music Endowment Fund. The anthem is based on a familiar text from the prophet Micah appointed for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany and is dedicated to longtime MAPC member Josephine McFadden. The composer will conduct the official “premiere” of his new work at the 11:15 am service.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The annual meeting of the congregation will take place following the 11:15 am worship service this Sunday. We will gather in the Parish Hall, with a light lunch provided. The purpose of the meeting is to hear highlights from 2019, elect officers, hear a presentation on the 2020 budget, and look toward the future together. Pizza and activities will be provided for children and youth. All are welcome to attend, but only members have voice and vote.



February Events

Music on Madison: A Bernstein Celebration—February 9

The Saint Andrew Music Society's *Music on Madison* season continues on Sunday, February 9 at 3 pm, with a performance featuring the music of Leonard Bernstein. British pianist Simon Mulligan has been described by *The Times of London* as "the most abundantly gifted of pianists." Equally at home in classical repertoire and popular genres, he will perform his own transcriptions and improvisations of excerpts from Bernstein's *Candide*, *On the Town*, *Wonderful Town*, and *West Side Story*. Admission to our *Music on Madison* concerts is \$25 (\$20—seniors/students); children 12 and under: free. [Tickets](#) may be purchased online in advance, or at the door.



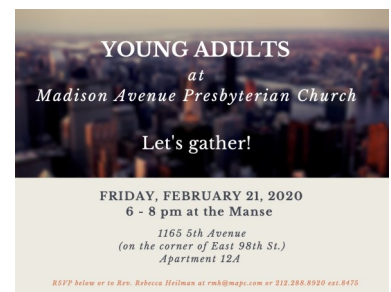
Adult Education—February 9 & 16 (see [page 4](#) for more details)



In a two-week class, led by MAPC member and historian Roy Lennox, we will look at three major figures from the time of the English Reformation: Sir Thomas More, Thomas Cromwell, and Anne Askew. By focusing on these three personalities, we can gain deeper understanding into what the English Reformation really meant. Join us in the Parish Hall at 10:10 am on Sunday, February 9th and 16th.

Young Adult Gathering at the Manse—February 21

All young adults—whether single, married, or a family with young children—are invited to the Manse (where MAPC's senior pastor lives) on Friday, February 21 from 6-8 pm to enjoy a light dinner and time to connect with other young adults in the congregation. Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com to RSVP, or get directions, or ask questions. Hope to see you there!



Shelter Open House—February 23

Interested in our Men's Shelter? Visit our shelter space on Sunday, February 23 at 1 pm to learn more about the volunteer opportunities. The shelter leaders are specifically in need of overnight hosts (8:30 pm – 7:00 am) and are always looking for early shift hosts (6:30 pm – 8:30 pm). Questions? Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com.

Ash Wednesday—February 26

There will be lots of opportunities to receive ashes on Ash Wednesday at MAPC and we hope you will join us for as many as you are able!



7:30—9:30 am	Ashes to Go	
	Sanctuary Steps	
12:00—1:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Midday Service	Sanctuary
5:30—6:00 pm	Youth Rehearsal for Family Service	Dana Chapel
6:00—6:15 pm	Multi-generational Interactive Ash Wednesday Family Service	Dana Chapel
6:20—6:45 pm	Family Fellowship	Front Lobby
7:00—8:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Evening Service	Sanctuary

Fridays for Children—February 28



All elementary age children and younger are invited to the Parish Hall for our Fridays for Children program on February 28th at 5 pm on the 5th Floor! We will read the book *When God Made Light* by Matthew Paul Turner with a service project and games to follow. There will also be choir for all ages with Mary Huff, MAPC's Associate Director of Music and Director of the NYC Children's Chorus. Following Fridays for Children, MAPC's Church Family Night will commence in the Parish Hall with delicious food, a children's movie and lots of time to get to

know other members of MAPC! Email Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com to sign up early or for more information. If it's your first time attending, [fill out this form](#) or fill out the form the night of Fridays for Children. All forms will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Other dates and themes for Fridays for Children:

April 3—When I Pray for You

May 15—When God Made the World

Church Family Night—February 28

The next Church Family Night is Friday, February 28! Come enjoy a tasty dinner, fellowship, a craft, movie, or gym time. It's a relaxing evening and a great way to get to know members of the MAPC community.

RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Suggested donation: \$20 for adults, a donation of your choosing for children under 12.



Adult Education

The English Reformation: Personal Perspectives—Sundays, Feb. 9 & 16 Continued From [page 2](#)

February 9: Will the real Sir Thomas More and Thomas Cromwell please stand up?

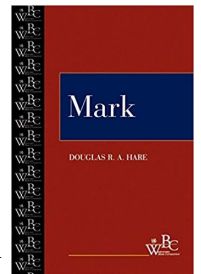
In the classic, Academy Award winning movie, *A Man for All Seasons*, Sir Thomas More is a man of conscience, willing to face death rather than go against his belief that the divorce of Henry VIII was wrong in the sight of God. The villain is Thomas Cromwell, the king's chief minister, who first tried to manipulate Sir Thomas into agreeing to the divorce and then finally forced him to the block. In Hilary Mantel's novel *Wolf Hall* (and the subsequent TV series), Cromwell, although a ruthless politician when necessary, is the hero. He supports the Reformation while Thomas More is presented as a religious bigot intent on persecuting Protestants and not flinching even when the most cruel punishments are inflicted. Which portrayal more closely captures the real More and Cromwell?

February 16: Come meet Anne Askew—a Long Overdue Introduction

On this Sunday, Roy will introduce us to Anne Askew, talking about her life and martyrdom. Anne was a remarkable young woman and proto-feminist, who faced death rather than compromise her religious beliefs. Come learn about her important role in the English Reformation.

Monday Evening Bible Study

The Evening Bible Study has just begun to study the Gospel according to Mark. They are using Douglas Hare's commentary on Mark (the Westminster Bible Companion series) as a resource. [You can find a new or used copy on Amazon](#). The Evening Bible Study normally meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The schedule has been adjusted to accommodate the holiday weekends. The dates for February are Monday, Feb. 3 and Wednesday, Feb. 19 (7 pm on the 8th Floor). All are welcome! You can jump in at any time. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Bartlett at bab@mapc.com. There are beverages, snacks, fellowship and good discussion, and there is always more room at the table!



Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. This long-running group meets at 6:30 pm in the Phillips Lounge. You are welcome to bring a sack dinner at 6 pm and enjoy a time of fellowship before the Bible Study begins. They are currently studying the Psalms and all MAPC women and friends are welcome.

Reading Through the Bible

For several years now, a small group has been meeting on Wednesdays from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm in the Phillips Lounge to read through the Bible, cover to cover, skipping nothing, the whole thing! They are currently making their way through Daniel—the end of the Old Testament is in sight! Even if you have not been with them from the beginning, you are welcome to join in this adventure at any point. Drop in as you can!

20s/30s Bible Study

Be on the lookout for our next gathering! Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com with any questions.

Service Opportunities

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.

MAPC Serves

February 10 is the next chance for youth to help the residents of the James Lenox House trouble-shoot with technology/phone issues and play board games or cards. To sign up, email Director of Youth Ministries, April Martin at aem@mapc.com. Once a month from 4-5:30 pm. Meet in the lobby.

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 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.

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 109th 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.

Youth Information

Shake Shack Sundays

Meet in the lobby and walk to Shake Shack to eat lunch and catch-up with other youth who attend MAPC and with the Director of Youth Ministries, April Martin.

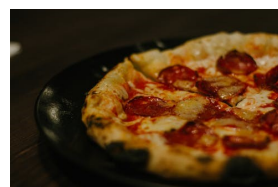
Next two dates: March 1st & March 29th

NEW!

Come to the 2nd Floor Gym to play basketball with April Martin in between services on Sunday mornings. 10:10-ish to 11:00 am every Sunday. Get to know other youth and practice your basketball skills.

Pizza & Game Night

Email April Martin at aem@mapc.com to reserve a spot. Enjoy pizza, soft drinks, board games, time to play in the 2nd Floor Gym and fellowship. **Next two dates: Feb. 7th & Mar. 6th (6 pm—8 pm)**



Weekly Calendar

February 3 — February 9 at MAPC

Monday, February 3		
11:00 am	Shelter Leaders Committee	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Evening Bible Study	8th Floor
7:15 pm	NYCCC Committee	Choir Room
Tuesday, February 4		
5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Library
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Personnel Committee	Pastor's Study
Wednesday, February 5		
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
5:30 pm	Youth Choir and Fellowship	Choir Room, Phillips Lng.
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Deacons	8th Floor
Thursday, February 6		
1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Thursday Night Open Table	Parish Hall
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	Sanctuary
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Friday, February 7		
6:00 pm	Pizza & Game Night	5th Floor, Gym
Saturday, February 8	No MAPC events scheduled.	
Sunday, February 9		
8:30 am	Nursery Opens	4th Floor Nursery
9 & 11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15 & 11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
10:10 am & 12:30 pm	Fellowship Hour	Lobby
10:10 am & 12:30 pm	Coloring for Kids	Lobby
10:10 am	Adult Education: English Reformation	Parish Hall
10:10 am	Youth Fellowship (6th-12th Graders)	2nd Floor Gym
1:00 pm	ESL Classes	5th Floor
1:00 pm	Confirmation Class	Parish Hall
3:00 pm	<i>Music on Madison</i> : Simon Mulligan	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.

Baptism: Interested in having your child baptized at MAPC? Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at 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.

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.

Stewardship Update: Pledge 2020

Thank you to everyone who has turned in a pledge for 2020. As of January 30, we have received **126** pledges totaling **\$685,622.10**. 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.



Worship Needs You!

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, and signing up is easy. We will ensure that proper training or instruction is given so that you know exactly what to do.

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. Sign up for scripture reading (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. Sign up to serve communion here:

<https://signup.com/go/FPKymKv>

MAPC on Social Media

Facebook

Follow MAPC on Facebook for news, reminders, events, and pictures from everyday life at the church. It's a good way to engage in fellowship and to know what's going on each week.

facebook.com/MadisonAvenuePresbyterian/



SoundCloud and iTunes

Listen to Sunday sermons from MAPC on the streaming platforms SoundCloud and iTunes.

SoundCloud also allows users to share the audio files and compile playlists. Download the SoundCloud app or listen on the web:

https://soundcloud.com/mapc_sermons

On iTunes, download the podcast app and search for Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church.



Instagram

Look for mapc_nyc in the app and follow us.



https://www.instagram.com/mapc_nyc

