

The Pastoral Staff Letter

Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 9 & 11:15 am
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship: Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt will preach her sermon from the sermon series *Sacred Ordinary Days*, “Resting” based on the texts Exodus 20:8-11, Psalm 119:1-8, and 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Mark 2:23-38.



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: English Reformation	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	ESL Classes	5th Floor

Issue #107

February 13, 2020

Inside this issue:

<i>This Sunday</i>	1
<i>February Events & More</i>	2-3
<i>Adult Education</i>	4
<i>Service Opportunities</i>	5
<i>Youth Information</i>	6
<i>MAPC Weekly Calendar</i>	6
<i>Stewardship Update</i>	7
<i>Worship Opportunities</i>	8

This Sunday

Adult Education, Sunday, February 16 at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall

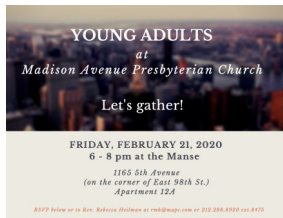
The English Reformation: Personal Perspectives

This Sunday's class, led by MAPC member and historian Roy Lennox will focus on Thomas Cromwell. Originally planned as a two-week series, Roy will add a third class later this spring to focus on Anne Askew—her role is too important to rush through! Please join Roy in the Parish Hall this Sunday morning to take a closer look at the figure of Thomas Cromwell and his role in the English Reformation.



February Events & Looking Forward

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!

Music on Madison: Friday

The organ students from the Manhattan School of Music return to our *Music on Madison* series performing a program of varied organ masterworks by Bach, Buxtehude, Mendelssohn and Alain on MAPC's fine Casavant Frères Organ. They will be joined by soprano Christina Dalmazio (MSM '18) in performances of works by Haydn, Mozart & Fauré. Admission is \$10 and admission can be purchased online in advance; Children 12 and under & MSM students & faculty: free.

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
12:00—1:00 pm

Ashes to Go
Ash Wednesday Midday Service
(Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett preaching)
Youth Rehearsal for Family Service
Youth & Family Service
Family Fellowship
Ash Wednesday Evening Service
(Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett preaching)

Sanctuary Steps
Sanctuary

Dana Chapel
Dana Chapel
Front Lobby
Sanctuary



Fridays for Children—February 28

All elementary age children and younger are invited to the 5th Floor for our Fridays for Children program on February 28th at 5 pm! 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 at 6 pm! 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.



Mark Your March Calendars for MAPC On the Town:

Sunday, March 15th at 2 pm, Raymond Luedeke's opera, *A Doll's House*



April Martin, Director of Youth Ministry here at MAPC, sings the role of Nora in the premiere of composer Raymond Luedeke's opera, "A Doll's House." The plot is based on Henrik Ibsen's classic play by the same title. Join us for this modern, new 3-act opera in concert at Symphony Space (Broadway at 95th Street). We will leave directly from church after the 11:15 am service, taking the bus to Symphony Space. We will arrange for sandwiches at coffee hour or on the go! Tickets are \$15 with group code.

RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church offices, lgp@mapc.com. Or watch for the sign-up sheet during fellowship hours on Sundays! Please let

us know as soon as possible if you can attend so we can buy a block of tickets.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Series

In the Wilderness, On Being Lost, Found and Formed by God

March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8 (6:30 in the Parish Hall for a light supper of soup and bread — (donations welcome) — 7:00 pm Program begins)

During the six Wednesdays of Lent, we will gather to reflect on the theme of wilderness. What are the wildernesses God's people have experienced in the past and are living through currently? What happens in the wilderness? How does God form us and lead us in the wilderness?

Come join in this journey through Lent as we remember God's promises to lead us through the wilderness, with the sure hope of the promised land ahead of us and the assurance of the resurrection.

March 4 and 11, Rabbi Perry Berkowitz and Rabbi Leah Berkowitz,

Journey into the Wilderness: Then, Part I; and Now, Part II

In both sessions we will examine the theme of wilderness through Biblical and post-Biblical sources. What did wilderness mean for ancient Israel, and what is its role in contemporary times—what does it mean for us theologically, spiritually, and ethically in 2020?

March 18 and 25, The Rev. Dr. Udo Middelman, *Living East of Eden (Genesis 3:24)*

What does it mean to be living in a natural, social and political wilderness—apart from the wholeness of the Garden of Eden and unable to return to it until God's reign is complete.

April 1, The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett, *Our Own Personal Wildernesses*

How does God form us and lead us through our own personal wildernesses? As part of the evening's program, there will be an opportunity to use MAPC's labyrinth as a form of walking meditation or prayer, or participate in a guided experience of contemplative prayer.

April 8, A Seder Celebration, beginning at 6 pm, led by Rabbi Perry Berkowitz and Rabbi Leah Berkowitz. Come join with members of the East Side Synagogue as Rabbis Leah and Perry lead us in a Seder celebration. More details of this special evening coming soon!

Adult Education

Adult Education Sunday Morning Series

February 23 through March 29, Parish Hall at 10:10 am

A Discussion of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Churchwide Antiracism Policy

Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community

During these six weeks, we will discuss the PC (USA) policy on Facing Racism, using the study guide designed to go with it. As the introduction to the policy states, "This is not a time for timidity. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has long held strong convictions regarding the sinfulness of racism and the need to struggle against it. Speaking our own convictions now, with clarity and power, could make a tangible difference in the current struggle."

The topics for each week include:

Week 1: Biblical Imperative to Antiracism

Week 2: Envisioning a New Way of Life Together

Week 3: PC(USA) and Racial Reconciliation

Week 4: Racism 101

Week 5: Enduring Legacy of Racism in the US

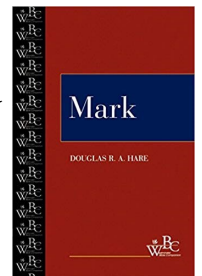
Week 6: Responding as a Community of Faith

It will be helpful, though not necessary, if you can read the policy ahead of time. You can find the Antiracism Policy here: https://facing-racism.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/facing_racism/resources/facing-racism-policy.pdf

Please come join in this discussion. Now more than ever it is critical and faithful to address racism and work to be an anti-racist community.

Evening Bible Study

The Evening Bible Study is currently studying the Gospel according to Mark, 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, but to accommodate the President's Day holiday, the next meeting is 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. *If you are interested in joining the Women's Bible Study, please contact Rev. Bartlett for the current location, as they are meeting at an Upper East Side Nursing Home/Rehabilitation Center to accommodate some of the members.*

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

Monday, March 9 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. **Upcoming date: April 20**

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.

Be a 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 and if you would like to be trained as a host, contact St. James Episcopal Church Intern, Hannah Minton at HMinton@stjames.org.

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 Nights

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. **Upcoming dates: Mar. 6th and May 8th (6 pm—8 pm)**

Weekly Calendar

February 17 — February 23 at MAPC

Monday, February 17	President's Day—Church House Closed	
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
Tuesday, February 18	SESSION PACKET REPORTS DUE	
6:00 pm	Stewardship & Development Committee	Pastor's Study
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
Wednesday, February 19		
9:00 am	Trustees	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
Note:	NO Youth Choir and Fellowship	
6:00 pm	Day School Committee	8th AR
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Evening Bible Study	8th AR
Thursday, February 20		
1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing Group	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 21		
6:00 am	Young Adult Gathering	Manse
7:30 pm	Music on Madison Concert: Manhattan School of Music	Sanctuary
Saturday, February 22	No MAPC events scheduled.	

Sunday, February 23

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	Parish Hall
10:10 am	Youth Fellowship (6th-12th Graders)	2nd Floor Gym
1:00 pm	Shelter Open House	Basement Shelter
1:00 pm	Confirmation Class (Faith & Science)	Parish Hall
1:00 pm	ESL Classes	5th Floor

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 February 13, we have received **129** pledges totaling **\$695,562**. 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

