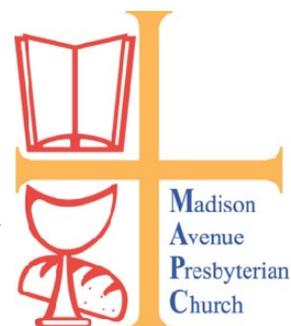


The Pastoral Staff Letter

Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 9 am & 11:15 am
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship: Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt will preach her sermon, "Friendship Can Save Your Life" based on the lectionary texts: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9 and Philemon 1-21.

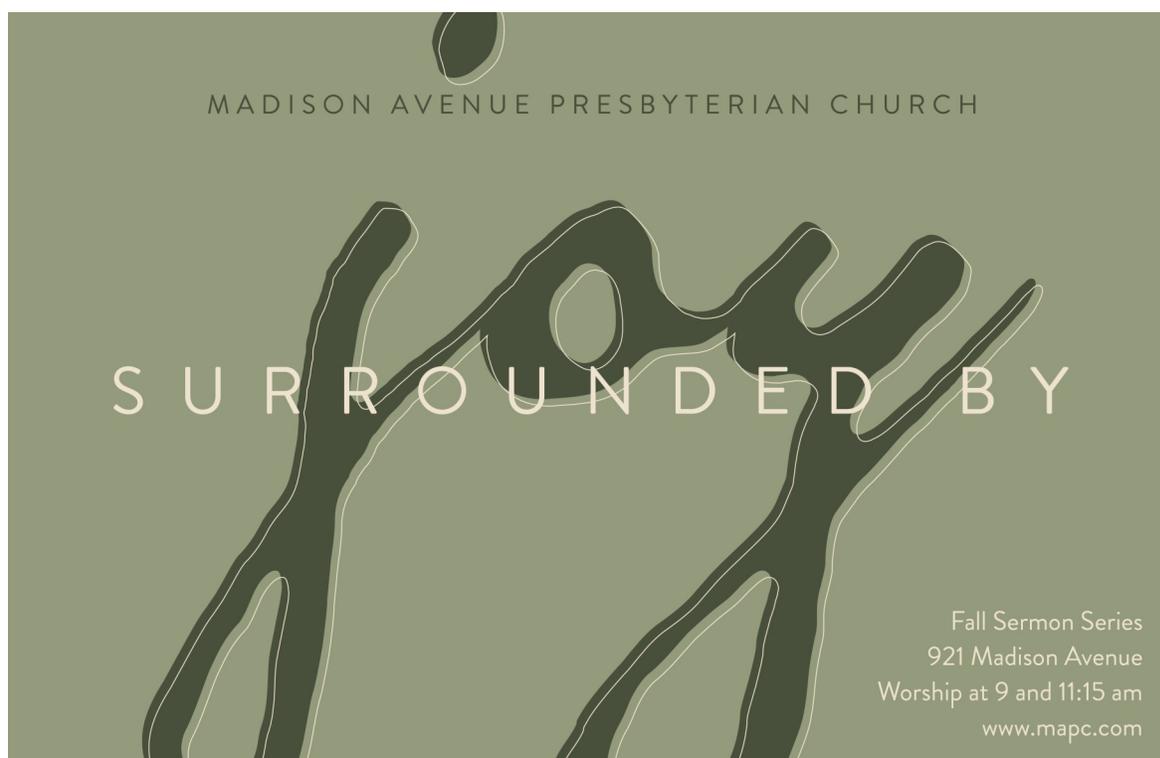


Issue #89

September 19, 2019

Inside this issue:

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	<i>Sunday</i>	1
9:15 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge	<i>Adult Education</i>	2
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Lobby	<i>Peace and Global Witness</i>	3
10:10 am	Adult Education	Parish Hall	<i>Offering</i>	
10:20 am	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	<i>September Events</i>	3
11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary	<i>Worship volunteers</i>	4
11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge	<i>Music at MAPC</i>	5
12:30 pm	Fellowship Hour	Parish Hall	<i>Disaster Assistance</i>	5
1:00 pm	ESL Teachers' Meeting	5th Floor	<i>Bible Studies</i>	6
1:00 pm	Senior Fellowship Lunch	Parish Hall	<i>Hands-on Ministries</i>	6
1:00 pm	Shelter Open House	Shelter Space	<i>MAPC Calendar</i>	7
			<i>Fall 2019 Highlights</i>	8



Sunday, September 22

Shelter Open House

Learn more about the shelter and volunteer opportunities following the 11:15 am worship service on Sunday, September 22. Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com with any questions or concerns.

9/22
1 pm

Senior Fellowship Lunch

MAPC seniors and friends are invited to come downstairs to the Parish Hall to enjoy a light lunch and conversation. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

9/22
1 pm

Sundays 10:10 am Parish Hall

Adult Education - Fall 2019

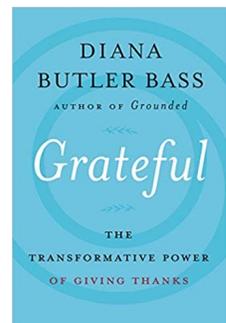
Looking at Luke

September 8—Overview

September 15—Luke and Women with Rev. Beverly Bartlett

September 22—Luke and Money with Rev. Beverly Bartlett

September 29—Luke and Food with Rev. Rebecca Heilman



Faithful Living in Challenging Times

October 6—Act in Hope

October 13—Cultivate Joy

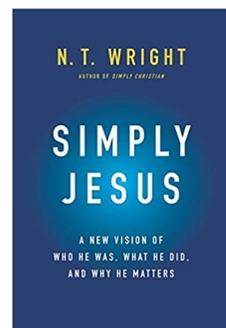
October 20, 27, November 3, & 10—Live in Gratitude

(4-week book discussion of Diana Butler Bass's *Grateful*)

Evening Bible Study

1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7 pm, 8th Floor

We will begin reading N.T. Wright's book, *Simply Jesus: A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did and Why He Matters*, at the **October 7** meeting.



You may order the book on Amazon or from your local bookstore. If you have any questions, please email her at bab@mapc.com.

September Events

2019 Peace and Global Witness Offering September 22 and September 29

The Peace and Global Witness Offering exists to support the holistic and wide-ranging witness of the whole church. This special offering allows the congregation to give twenty-five percent of the money received to a local organization. The remaining donation will be given to the Presbyterian Mission Agency and our mid council.

This year, Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church has chosen to give our 25 percent to International Justice Mission (ijm.org), which is the largest anti-slavery organization in the world. IJM has “rescued more than 49,000 people from slavery and other forms of oppression...helped local authorities arrest more than 3,800 suspected slave owners and other criminals...and are helping justice systems to protect more than 150 million vulnerable people.” MAPC has hosted IJM for adult education events and have supported them financially with past special offerings.

The Outreach Committee hopes you will join us Sunday, September 22 and September 29, by contributing to the Peace and Global Witness Offering during worship as we as a church become more aware of systems of conflict and injustices across the world.

Moms' Night Out

MAPC moms gather periodically at an Upper East Side restaurant for dinner and conversation. The next gathering is Thursday, **September 26** at 7 pm. Please let us know if you are coming, so we can make reservations. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo, lgp@mapc.com.

9/26
6 pm

Give to Communities Affected by Hurricane Dorian

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been in touch with partners in the Bahamas to offer assistance to those affected by the devastating Category 5 hurricane. Donations to support the PDA response in hurricanes, designated to [DR000194](https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000194/), are greatly appreciated. To give by phone, call 800-872-3283.

To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Online donation: <https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000194/>

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 jimm@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. Adults and youth alike are invited to [sign up](#) (link). <https://signup.com/go/jzLorCa>
- **GREETING / USHERING (9 & 11:15 am)** A warm greeting on Sunday morning sets the tone for everything that is to follow. As we have multiple entry points into our sanctuary, we would be glad to add numbers to those willing to help welcome our community into worship. This is a great opportunity for individuals or families. We ask greeters and/or ushers to arrive 20 minutes prior to the start of worship.
- **ACOLYTES (11:15 am service)** Bringing back an older tradition, children and youth are invited to serve as acolytes, indicating the start of worship by lighting the candles on our communion table. Acolytes will receive instruction and practice with one of the pastors in advance of serving.
- **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. Group training will be provided each year; this year’s training will be held Sunday, September 22 at 10:10 am in the Sanctuary.
- **PREPARING COMMUNION (11:15 am service)** Ever wonder how all the communion elements appear in worship? The work of a small but faithful crew prepares the simple meal we share each week. Those prepping the meal arrive roughly 20 minutes prior to the start of worship, and remain afterwards briefly to clean up. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals or families, especially those who prefer working behind the scenes. Training is provided.
- **ASSISTING WITH CHILDREN’S WORSHIP (9 & 11:15 am)** Following the Lesson with Children and Youth, children in second grade and younger are invited to the Phillips Lounge for time together geared specifically for them. Every lesson is planned in advance, and volunteers receive the lesson plan and all materials well in advance. For safety reasons, two adults (age 18+) are needed for each service. No theological training needed — only a love of children and a desire to help them know God. (Per MAPC’s child safety policy, background checks are required for children’s worship volunteers.) Email Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com if you are interested in assisting with this important ministry.



Music at MAPC

Saint Andrew Music Society: 55th Season

Tickets are now available for purchase for the 2019-2020 concert season. Copies of the Saint Andrew Music Society's 55th Season brochure are available in the narthex and Church House Lobby, and you can also peruse all fourteen concerts taking place this season on our website [www.mapc.com/music/sams/concerts]. The concerts range from performances by our very own choral society – the Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra; MAPC's community children's chorus program – the New York City Children's Chorus; students from The Juilliard School, Mannes College, and the Manhattan School of Music; and a host of recitals featuring vocalists and chamber ensembles.

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/](https://www.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](https://www.instagram.com/mapc_nyc) in the app and follow us.

https://www.instagram.com/mapc_nyc

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 (new): See page 2
1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 7 pm.

Reading Through the Bible:

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

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, September 23)

2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 pm, Library

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. Let's put our faith into action!

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

The Shelter will resume at the end of September.

Take this time to consider being a host for 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. 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.

Clothing Donations

If you are looking to donate clothing for men or women, you can bring the items to the Urban Outreach Center at the Church of the Living Hope, 161 E 104th Street. The church is located near the 103rd St. Station on the Lexington Avenue (6) line.

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.

Monday, September 23		
6:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Phillips Lounge
Tuesday, September 24		
7:00 pm	Session	8th Floor
Wednesday, September 25		
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
Thursday, September 26		
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
7:00 pm	Moms' Night Out	offsite
7:00 pm	Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	Sanctuary
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Friday, September 27		
	No events scheduled	
Saturday, September 28		
	No events scheduled	
Sunday, September 29		
9:00 & 11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15 & 11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
10:00 & 12:30 pm	Fellowship Hour	Lobby
10:10 am	Adult Education	Parish Hall
10:20 am	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
1:00 pm	ESL Classes	5th Floor

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-Eraza at lgp@mapc.com or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.

September

Thursday, September 26, 7 pm—Mom's Night Out, Offsite

October

Friday, October 4, 5 pm—Blessing of the Animals, Sanctuary Steps

Friday, October 25, 6 pm—Annual Church Family Night Halloween Bash!, Parish Hall

Sunday, October 27, 3 pm—Organ Masterworks: Andrew Henderson, organ

Thursday, October 31, 4 pm—Halloween on the Sanctuary Steps

November

Saturday, November 2, 10 am-12 pm—Annual Women's Brunch

Thursday, November 14, 7 pm—Moms' Night Out, Offsite

Sunday, November 17—Hood Library Fellowship Annual Book Sale

Sunday, November 24, 3 pm—Choral Concert: Poulenc, Bernstein & Randall Thompson;
Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra

December

Sunday, December 1, 10:30 am—One Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 am.

Sunday, December 1, 11:45 am—Advent Festival

Wednesday, December 4, 7 pm—Company of Deacons

Saturday, December 7, 9 am to 12 noon—Advent Retreat/Quiet Morning

Sunday, December 15, 4 pm—Annual Carol Sing, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 18, 6 pm—Blue Christmas, Dana Chapel