December is World AIDS Month!

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11**
- 3rd Sunday of Advent
- Lighting of the Advent Wreath
- Gaudete Sunday!
- Blessing of Children and Youth
- Gun Violence Prevention Sunday
- Happy Birthday Alexandre Moreira-Dumaine!
- The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching (Is. 35: 1-10 & Mt. 11: 2-11)

  8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am
  9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy** Live-streamed!
  10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am
  11:00 am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!
  9:00 pm Sylvia’s Place Youth Shelter

**Monday, December 12:** Office Closed
- Happy Birthday John Phelps & Walter Maddox!
- Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

  5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)
  9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia’s Place

**Tuesday, December 13**

  1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)
  5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)
  9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia’s Place

**Wednesday, December 14**
- Anniversary of Sandy Hook Massacre (2012)

  1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)
  5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)
  6:00 pm Q Clinic (3rd floor)

**Saturday, Dec. 17**
- **Int’l Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers**

  9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia’s Place

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18**
- 4th Sunday of Advent
- **Hannukah begins**
  - The Rev. Dr. David Williams, preaching (Is. 7: 10-14 & Lk. 1: 26-38)

  8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am
  9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy** Live-streamed!
  10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am
  11:00 am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!
  9:00 pm Sylvia’s Place Youth Shelter

**Leading with Our Legacy**

**Wednesday, December 14 (continued)**
- 6:00 pm Access Forum w/Arnold Mungioli
- 9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia’s Place

**Thursday, December 15:** * Anniversary of U.N. Statement on Rights of Queer People
- 5:00 pm Covenanted Bible/Theology Study w/Rev. Reg via Zoom
- 5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)
- 6:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting
- 7:00 pm Restoration Temple Rehearsal
- 9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia’s Place

**Friday, December 16**
- Happy Birthday Rev. Kristen & Pedro José!
- 12:15 pm Taize Prayer w/Rev. Brett & Tonie Boykin (Facebook)
- 5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)
- 9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia’s Place

**Saturday, Dec. 17**
- **Int’l Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers**

  9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia’s Place

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18**
- **CELEBRATION LIVE-STREAMED EVERY SUNDAY!**
- Pantry and shelter remain open. ☀ For pastoral calls: (212) 629-7440

Please make sure the Church has your cell phone number and email address!
Send to: RvPatMCCNY@aol.com

Provoke Hope
December 11, 2022
MCC globally celebrates “53 Years of Offering Our Light to the World”
✦ 3rd Sunday of Advent/Gaudete Sunday
50th Anniversary Year at MCCNY: Leading with Our Legacy

The Community at Worship 11am
ASL Interpreter (First, second, and third Sundays of the month and special celebrations) Pat Dash

PRELUDE
Evan Swanson, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, soloist

PROCESSION
“How Ven, O Ven, Emmanuel/O Come, O Come Emmanuel” #50/Pink Pages/verses 1-4
Lighting of the Advent Wreath

WELCOME
The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

THE LESSON
La Lección Primera
Isaías 35: 1-10
The First Lesson
Isaiah 35: 1-10

Que se alegre el desierto, tierra seca; que se llene de alegría, que florezca, que produzca flores como el lirio, que se llene de gozo y alegría. Dios lo va a hacer tan bello como el Líbano, tan fértil como el Carmelo y el valle de Sarón. Todos verán la gloria de Dios, la majestad de nuestro Dios. Fortalezcan a los débiles, den valor a los cansados, digan a los tímidos: “¡Ánimo, no tengan miedo! ¡Aquí está su Dios para salvarlos, y a sus enemigos Dios los castigará como merecen!” Entonces todos verán y todos oirán; todos saltarán como venados y todos gritarán. En el desierto, tierra seca, brotará el agua a torrentes. El desierto será un lago, la tierra seca se llenará de manantiales. Donde ahora viven los chacales, crecerán cañas y juncos. Y habrá allí una calzada que se llamará «el camino sagrado. Los que no estén purificados no podrán pasar por él; los necios no andarán por él. Allí no habrá leones ni se acercarán las fieras. Por ese camino volverán los libertados, los que Dios ha redimido; entrarán en Sión con cantos de alegría, y siempre vivirán alegres. Hallarán felicidad y dicha, y desaparecerán el llanto y el dolor.
       + Esta es la Palabra de Dios
TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of God, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. God will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. God will come and save you.” Then all eyes shall be opened, and ears shall be opened; then the everyone shall leap like a deer, and all tongues sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of God shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
       + This is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD

MUSICAL RESPONSE
La Lección Segunda
Mateo 11: 2-11
The Second Lesson
Matthew 11: 2-11

Juan, que estaba en la cárcel, tuvo noticias de lo que Cristo estaba haciendo. Entonces Juan envió algunos de sus seguidores a que le preguntaran si Jesús era de veras la persona que había de venir, o si debían esperar a otro. Jesús les contestó: “Vayan y dígánele a Juan lo que están viendo y oyendo. Cuéntenle que todos ven, todos andan, todos quedan limpios de su enfermedad, todos oyen, los muertos vuelven a la vida y a los pobres se les anuncia la buena noticia. ¡Y dichoso aquel que no encuentre en mí motivo de tropiezo!” Cuando ellos se fueron, Jesús comenzó a hablar a la gente acerca de Juan, diciendo: “¿Qué salieron ustedes a ver al desierto? ¿Una caña sacudida por el viento? Y si no, ¿qué salieron a ver? ¿Una persona vestido lujosamente? Ustedes saben que los que se visten lujosamente están en las casas de la realiz. En fin, ¿a qué salieron? ¿A ver a un profeta?
Sí, de veras, y a uno que es mucho más que profeta. Juan es aquel de quien dice la Escritura: ‘Yo envío mi mensajero delante de ti, para que te prepare el camino.’ Les aseguro que, entre todas las personas, ninguno ha sido más grande que Juan el Bautista; y, sin embargo, el más pequeño en el reino de los cielos es más grande que Juan.”

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios
TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, John sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: everyone receives their sight, everyone walks, everyone is cleansed, everyone hears, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Behold, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the reign of heaven is greater than John.”

+ This is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD

SELECTION
SERMON
The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

SPECIAL MUSIC
THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS
Offering Call
Deacon Brenton Buchannan
Deacon Len Richardson
The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION
God is with you
AND ALSO WITH YOU
Let us open our hearts
WE OPEN THEM TO GOD
Let us give God thanks and praise
IT IS A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING TO DO

MCCNY celebrates an OPEN COMMUNION. Everyone is welcome to share in the Gifts of God for the People of God. (Grape juice is used so that all may freely share in this meal. For those with health concerns, distributors sanitize their hands immediately before the service. Communion wafers for those with wheat or gluten allergies are available upon request. Please let your server know if you need this service.) A prayer of blessing will be offered, unless you request the sacrament only.

PLEASE OBSERVE THE SACREDNESS OF THIS SACRAMENT by praying silently or by joining in the singing of hymns.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

“Abranse los Cielos” #1/Pink Pages
“Comfort, Comfort Now, My People” #15/Pink Pages
“Love Came Down at Christmas” #42/Pink Pages

CLOSING SONG
“I’ve Got a Feelin’”
“I’ve got a feelin’ everything’s gonna’ be alright, Oh, Oh, Oh—
“I’ve got a feelin’ everything’s gonna’ be alright, Oh, Oh, Oh—
“I’ve got a feelin’ everything’s gonna’ be alright, be alright, be alright . . .
God whispered to me . . .

BENEDICTION
✦ Stained Glass by Jackson Hall
SPIRITUAL DIRECTION PROGRAM: Spiritual Direction is a process in which a mentor accompanies one person - the directee - for an extended period of time. Through conversation, prayer, and spiritual exercises, the mentor helps the directee clarify spiritual issues so that s/he can move toward a deeper experience with the Divine. To seek Direction, contact Bishop Reg at 212-629-7440.

LIVE-STREAMING at MCCNY: Beginning October 2nd, all worship celebrations (9am Traditional and 11am Celebration) will be live-streamed. Go to facebook.com/mccny and celebrate with your family of faith!

BIBLE STUDY & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: The Queer Life & Faith religious education program is led by Bishop Reg Richburg every Thursday at 5 pm. Our discussions connect the Scriptures, our faith, and queer Life. We use educational materials and methodologies that will help look at life from different perspectives: art, videos, and dialogue, among others. Come to one session, some sessions, or all sessions on Zoom. Contact: lambseeker@hotmail.com

MCCNY E-Prayer Ministry: If you would like to participate or send prayer requests, please contact prayers@mccny.org. You will receive a weekly list of prayer concerns about members and friends of our congregation, the wider MCC community, and social justice issues.

MCCNY E-Newsletter: This e-newsletter provides reflections, news and information for members and friends of MCC New York. If you want to subscribe, email Mike Easterling at Mike@mccny.org or text MCCNY to 22828.

PLEASE REMEMBER to list the Church and our phone number among those to be contacted in case of illness or an emergency. Church Pastors will contact and visit you. Please send your information to Mike at Mike@mccny.org

FIND MCCNY ON THE WEB

Website: www.mccny.org
Facebook: /MCCNY
Youtube: /MCCNYC
Twitter: MCCNewYork
iTunes: mccny
Vimeo: /MCCNY

SUPPORT MCCNY!

Options abound!

➤ Sign up for one time or recurring giving at www.easytithe.com/mccny
➤ Donate by text message by sending any numerical amount to 646-681-7445
➤ Email Mike (mike.mccny@gmail.com) to have credit giving set up for you
### Holiday Schedule at MCCNY!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Preacher Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 27th</td>
<td>1st Sunday of Advent: Lighting of the Advent Wreath</td>
<td>The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 4th</td>
<td>2nd Sunday of Advent: Lighting of the Advent Wreath</td>
<td>Candidate Mike Easterling, preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 9th–11th</td>
<td>Queer Holiday Market (see flyer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 11th</td>
<td>Gaudete Sunday: Lighting of the Advent Wreath, Blessing of Children and Youth</td>
<td>The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 18th</td>
<td>4th Sunday of Advent: Lighting of the Advent Wreath</td>
<td>The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 24th</td>
<td>Christmas Eve: 7pm Candlelight Service, Gala Holiday Party!</td>
<td>The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 25th</td>
<td>Christmas Day: 11am Service of Lessons and Carols</td>
<td>The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi, preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 1st</td>
<td>New Year’s Day—11am Celebration only: Lighting of the Kwanzaa Candles</td>
<td>The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 8th</td>
<td>Feast of the Epiphany: 51st Anniversary of MCCNY!</td>
<td>The Rev. Dr. William Knight, preaching</td>
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**SMALL GROUPS at MCCNY**

Do you have an interest in organizing a small group? In-person or virtual?
Submit your idea to Casey Easterling at casey.mccny@gmail.com
MCCNY is a member of Metropolitan Community Churches, a global movement of faith with congregations in 40 nations.
The Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, Founder

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner .................................................... Pastor
Michael Easterling ................................................................ Pastoral Operations Manager
The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi .......................................................... Staff Clergy
The Rev. Reg Richburg ............................................................... Staff Clergy
The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt ............................................................... Staff Clergy
Evan Swanson ........................................................................ Staff Clergy
Carolyn Eufrasio-Traore .......................................................... Director of Music
The Little Big Band

MCCNY Charities
LaDedra Brown ........................................................................ HYS Program Manager
Kailiah Hayes ........................................................................... Food Pantry Manager

LAY DELEGATES

Deacon Brenton Buchannan  Mike Easterling
John Fischer  Deacon Jen Heyward
Casey Easterling  Mary Jane Gibney, alternate

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bp. Pat Bumgardner ......................................................... Moderator
Jessie Daniels ................................................................. Member at Large
Matthew Dempsey ......................................................... Special Events
Mike Easterling ............................................................... Fiscal Manager/Strategic Growth
Howard Herrera ............................................................ Scribe
Lyndsey Jones-McAdams ................................................ Member at Large
Theresa Pascoe ............................................................... Member at Large
Rob Franek ................................................................. Member at Large

BOARD OF DEACONS

Deacon Brenton Buchannan  Deacon Philip Pares
Deacon Tressie Carter  Deacon Len Richardson
Deacon Jen Heyward  Deacon Frances Wood
Deacon Les LaRue

PROGRAMMING

Religious Education/Membership
Bishop Reg Richburg ............................................................... Facilitator
Michael Easterling ........................................................ Membership
Deacon Tressie Carter ........................................................ Membership

Christians of African Descent
Deacon Brenton Buchannan ........................................ Facilitator

E-Prayer Group
Deacon Jen Heyward ......................................................... Facilitator

Hospitality ................................................................. Esmerelda and Camilla

Newsletter/Bulletin
Deacon Frances Wood ................................................... The Query Editor
Deacon Les LaRue ......................................................... The Query/Bulletin Design

Audio & Virtual Ministries
John Phelps
Live-streaming 9am. ........................................ Bob Ferrara, audio
Live-streaming 11am. ........................................ Shelby Sparks
Virtual Worship Leader ................................................ Casey Easterling

Web Sites .................................................................. John Phelps

ASL Interpreter .............................................................. Pat Dash

Instagram and Facebook ............................................... Casey Easterling