



Life's Search for True Treasures

December is World AIDS Month

2025: Safe & Sound—Hold Your Ground!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

+ 4th Sunday of Advent

+ Global Day of Prayer to End Famine

+ Ms. Tonie Boykin, preaching

(II Samuel 7: 1-11, 16 & Luke 1: 26-33)

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

11:00 am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!

12:30 am Bengali Group (3rd floor)

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

Monday, December 22: Office Closed

❖ DOMA repealed 2010

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Tuesday, December 23

♥ Happy Birthday Pat Ballinger, James T. Lane, and Aaron Lee Battle!

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 24: Christmas Eve!

♥ Happy Birthday Deacon Len!

♥ Happy Legal Anniv. Bradley Curry & Mel Bryant!

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)

Wednesday, December 24: (continued)

7:00 pm **Candlelight Service! Gala Christmas Party!**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Thursday, December 25: Christmas Day!

9:00 am Food Pantry

11:00 am **Service of Lessons & Carols! Gala Brunch!**

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

6:00 pm Covenanted Bible/Theology Study w/Rev. Reg via Zoom

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Friday, December 26: Kwanzaa begins!

12:15 pm Taize Prayer w/Rev. Brett (Facebook)

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Saturday, December 27

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

+ KWANZAA SUNDAY!

+ Lighting of Kwanzaa Candles

+ Feast of the Holy Family

+ Deacon Len Richardson, preaching

(Jer. 29: 11-14 & John 6: 5-15)

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

11:00 am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

*** 11am CELEBRATION LIVE-STREAMED EVERY SUNDAY!**

*** Pantry and shelter remain open. + For pastoral calls: 332-400-7488**

Please make sure the Church has your cell phone number and email address!

Send to: RvPatMCCNY@aol.com

MCCNY 
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK

December 21, 2025
+ Advent IV

MCC globally celebrates “57 Years of Offering Our Light to the World”
53rd Anniversary Year at MCCNY: Safe & Sound—Hold Your Ground!

The Community at Worship 11am

ASL Interpreter (First, second, and third Sundays of the month and special celebrations)

Pat Dash

PRELUDE

John Fischer, Music Director
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader
Heidi Siegell, Soloist

PROCESSION

“O Ven, O Ven Emanuel/O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

#50/Pink Pages (verses 1-5)

Please stand as able

WELCOME

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

+ The Sign of Peace

THE LESSON

La Lección Primera

The First Lesson

II Samuel 7: 1-11,16

II Samuel 7: 1-11,16

Cuando David estuvo ya instalado en la palacio, y Dios le había concedido la paz con todos los enemigos de alrededor, David le dijo a Natán, el profeta: “Como puedes ver, yo habito en un palacio de cedro, mientras que el arca de Dios habita bajo simples cortinas.” Y Natán le contestó a David: “Pues haz todo lo que te has propuesto, porque cuentas con el apoyo de Dios.” Pero aquella misma noche, Dios se dirigió a Natán y le dijo: “Ve y habla con mi siervo David, y comunícale que yo, Dios, he dicho: ‘No serás tú quien me construya un templo para que habite en él. Desde el día en que saqué de Egipto a los israelitas, hasta el presente, nunca he habitado en templos, sino que he andado en simples tiendas de campaña. En todo el tiempo que anduve con ellos, jamás le pedí a ninguno de sus caudillos, a quienes puse para que gobernarán a mi pueblo Israel, que me construyera un templo de madera de cedro.’ Por lo tanto, dile a mi siervo David que yo, Dios todopoderoso, le digo: ‘Yo te saqué del redil, y te quité de andar tras el rebaño, para que fueras el jefe de mi pueblo Israel; te he acompañado por dondequiera que has ido, he acabado con todos los enemigos que se te enfrentaron, y te he dado gran fama, como la que tienen las personas importantes de este mundo. Además he preparado un lugar para mi pueblo Israel, y allí los he instalado para que vivan en un sitio propio, donde nadie los moleste ni los malhechores los opriman como al principio, cuando puse caudillos que gobernarán a mi pueblo Israel. Yo haré que te veas libre de todos tus enemigos. Y te hago saber que te daré descendientes, Tu dinastía y tu reino estarán para siempre seguros bajo mi protección, y también tu trono quedará establecido para siempre.’”

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios

TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

Now when David was settled in his house and God had given him rest from all the enemies around, David said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” Nathan said to David, “Go, do all that you have in mind, for God is with you.” But that same night the word of God came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David: Thus says God: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’ Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the God of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be ruler over my people Israel, and I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place and be disturbed no more, and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel, and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, God declares to you that God will make you a house. Your house and your reign shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.”

+ This is the Word of God

THANKS BE TO GOD

MUSICAL RESPONSE

MCCNY Choir

La Lección Segunda

The Second Lesson

Lucas 1: 26-33

Luke 1: 26-33

A los seis meses, Dios mandó al ángel Gabriel a un pueblo de Galilea llamado Nazaret, donde vivía una joven llamada María; era virgen, pero estaba comprometida para casarse con un hombre llamado José, descendiente del rey David. El ángel entró en el lugar donde ella estaba, y le dijo: —¡Salve, llena de gracia! El Señor está contigo. María se sorprendió de estas palabras, y se preguntaba qué significaría aquel saludo. El ángel le dijo: —María, no tengas miedo, pues tú gozas del favor de Dios. Ahora vas a quedar encinta: tendrás un hijo, y le pondrás por nombre Jesús. Será un gran hombre, al que llamarán Hijo del Dios altísimo, y Dios el Señor lo hará Rey, como a su antepasado David, para que reine por siempre sobre el pueblo de Jacob. Su reinado no tendrá fin.

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios

TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

**+ This is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD**

SELECTION

SERMON

Ms. Tonie Boykin, Lay Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offering Call

✚ Please consider an extra gift to the Global Justice Institute!

~ Please prayerfully consider direct donations through your bank or credit card giving.

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

Deacon Brenton Buchanon
Deacon Len Richardson
The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner

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

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

#3/Pink Pages

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing!"

#28/Pink Pages

CLOSING SONG

"Keep Hope Alive"

Please stand as able

Keep hope alive, keep hope alive—

Don't let the dream die

Got to keep hope alive . . .

BENEDICTION



❖ *Everyone is welcome to a reception following the service!*

✚ *Stained Glass by Jackson Hall*



PROGRAMMING at MCCNY

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 332-400-7488.

LIVE-STREAMING at MCCNY: All worship celebrations (9am Traditional and 11am Celebration) are now 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 in the prayer ministry 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.

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.

MCCNY has a new phone number! 332-400-7488

**TRANSGENDER
SUICIDE HOTLINE
(Trans Lifeline):
877-565-8860**

**NEW Special Toll Free
Suicide & Mental Health Hotline
for LGBTQ+ Community:**

1-877-330-6366

Thank you, Canada!



MCCNY
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK

CONNECT with MCCNY

Website: www.mccny.org
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Youtube: @MCCNewYork

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**GIVE TO
MCCNY →**

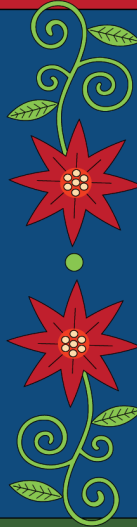


Christmas Eve by Candlelight

December 24 at 7pm

Gala Holiday Party to follow!

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching



Christmas Day with Lessons & Carols

December 25 at 11am

Sumptuous Holiday Brunch to follow!

The Rev. Dr. Robin Gorsline, preaching



To give a gift to a shelter resident or food pantry client,
mark the memo of your donation "FP Gift or "Shelter Gift."



SUGARCANE, the award-winning debut feature documentary from Julian Brave NoiseCat and Emily Kassie, is a groundbreaking investigation into an Indian residential school, shedding light on years of forced separation, assimilation and abuse that Indigenous children experienced at the hands of Church and government. This urgent and timely film brings the hidden story of cultural genocide to audiences worldwide while celebrating the resilience of Native people as they work to overcome cycles of intergenerational trauma.

Join

Rev. Dr. Robin Hawley Gorsline
Mary Elizabeth Poole
Deacon Len Richardson

Sunday, January 11
12:45 pm

Metropolitan Community
Church of New York
446 W. 36th Street
New York, NY 10018



Background about Sugarcane Film

by Rev. Dr. Robin Hawley Gorsline

One group of Americans whose painful history is often ignored are those identified as Native or Indigenous people, also known as Indians. These first human inhabitants in North America (both Canada and U.S.) were subjected to massive violence to clear them from the land—according to historians, when European settlers arrived in the Americas there were over 10 million Native Americans living here. By 1900, their estimated population was under 300,000. One of the most horrific practices in the 19th and 20th centuries was the establishment of “Indian Residential Schools” mostly operated by religious institutions. Youth were forced to leave their tribal communities and families and live in dormitories, be punished for using their tribal language and spiritual ways, and forced to learn “how to become Americans/ Canadians.” There was much violence, sexual violation and other ugliness. This film records the stories of some native residents of Canada and their descendants as they struggle to build new lives.

SUGARCANEFILM.COM

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner	Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Reg Richburg	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt	Staff Clergy
John Fischer	Director of Music
Heidi Siegel	Music Ministry
The Little Big Band	

MCCNY Charities

LaDedra Brown	HYS Program Manager
Kailiah Hayes	Food Pantry Manager

LAY DELEGATES

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

BOARD OF DEACONS

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bp. Pat Bumgardner	Moderator
Lyndsey Jones-McAdams	Special Events
Rob Franek	Public Relations/Outreach
Sam Davis	Scribe
Montel Cherry-Holmes	Member at Large

PROGRAMMING

Religious Education/Membership

Bishop Reg Richburg	Facilitator
Deacon Tressie Carter	Membership

Christians of African Descent

Deacon Brenton Buchannan	Facilitator
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E-Prayer Group

Deacon Jen Heyward	Facilitator
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Hospitality	Deacon Brenton Buchannan
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Newsletter/Bulletin

Deacon Frances Wood	<i>The Query</i> Editor
Deacon Les LaRue	<i>The Query</i> /Bulletin Design

Audio & Virtual Ministries

Live-streaming	John Phelps
Virtual Worship Leader	Bob Ferrara

Web Sites

	John Phelps
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ASL Interpreter

	Pat Dash
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Instagram and Facebook