

# The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church

The United Church of Christ

Arlington, Massachusetts

The Rev. Dr. William Albright, Pastor

February, 2009

## at PACC in February

You are cordially invited to join us in worship every Sunday morning at 10 a.m.  
Children participate in the first portion of the service, then go to classes.

In addition, check out these special events this month:

**“Milk”** February 1: A trip to Waltham to see the acclaimed movie.

**Women’s Guild** February 5: potluck brunch and discussion of books and travel

**“Piano for Four Hands”** February 8: Margaret Cheng Tuttle and Yilin You perform

**Youth Groups** February 8: making and decorating valentine cookies to distribute

**PACC-Men** February 10: an introduction to genealogy

**Sarah’s Circle** February 21: discussion of *Annette Vallon*, by James Tipton

**“African-American Lives”** February 22: from the Henry Louis Gates documentary

**“An Afternoon of Song”** February 22: Janice Edwards and Meegan Gagnon  
accompanied by Jeffrey Brody

**Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner** February 24

**Ash Wednesday worship service** February 25: Lent begins

*See inside for more details on these events as well as a report on the annual meeting.*

## Christian Education News

### Sunday School

We'll have a combined Sunday School class on February 15. We'll learn about the story of Jesus using five loaves of bread and two fish to feed many people. This story is about sharing and reaching out to others. When we share, we find that everyone has enough. One way that we can put this story into practice is by donating food to the Arlington Food Pantry. Items for the Food Pantry will be collected through February 15 this month. On Sunday, February 22, there will be materials available to take home to help observe Lent and talk about Lent and Easter with your children. The February

Sunday School newsletter was emailed home. Paper copies are available on the bulletin board in the downstairs Sunday School hallway.

### **Youth Groups**

Both Youth Groups will meet on February 8 in the Nicoll Room from 4-5:30. We'll bake and decorate valentine cookies to distribute.

Youth Group Prayer Shawl knitters will meet on Sunday, February 15. We'll check our progress on the prayer shawls and also distribute hat patterns to knit for Ecclesia Ministries who will give the hats to homeless people in Boston.

### **Women's Guild to recommend books, trips**

Have you read a good book lately? Have you taken a special trip? Would you like to hear recommendations from others? Come to the Women's Guild meeting on Thursday, February 5, and join the discussion! If you have pictures or mementoes from your travels, bring them. We will gather in the Chapel at 11:00 a.m. and begin the meeting with a potluck brunch. Meredythe Schober will lead the discussion; Beverly Miller and Doris Wilson will be our hostesses. All women are cordially invited.

### **Sarah's Circle to discuss *Annette Vallon***

Sarah's Circle women's book discussion group will meet Saturday, February 21, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon in the Fireplace Room. Those who wish to meditate may come at 9:30 a.m. In keeping with Valentine's month, the book is *Annette Vallon*, by James Tipton, a novel of the French Revolution based on a true relationship between Annette Vallon and William Wordsworth. It depicts a woman of incredible courage and selflessness in the face of continual danger. If you have questions, contact Merrith Sabo-Jones.

### **PACC-Men to hear presentation on genealogy February 10**

Robert Willey will present An Introduction to Genealogy when PACC-Men get together on February 10. Also on the agenda will be a discussion of future scheduling and planning the March social / fellowship event.

At our January 13th get together a two-person, two-game chess tournament resulted in a draw between Robert Willey and Hong Chin. In our 4-man Risk game, Robert ended up dominating the globe with Gary Kane putting up a good fight. Mike Rich and Hong who were the first two (not-so-) super powers eliminated from the Risk game, battled out a side game of Othello, with Hong clearly dominating.

PACC-Men meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Fireplace Room unless otherwise announced. Odd numbered months will be for social activities and even numbered months for presentations. All adult male members and friends of PACC are invited to PACC-Men events. For more information contact Mike Rich.

### **THE RUMMAGE SALE . . . it will be here before you know it . . .**

Is it too early to start thinking about the Rummage Sale? No! This is a great time of year to clean out those closets, cupboards and drawers and start putting aside items for the sale. We are seeking all manner of household goods, clean and in good condition, clothes

that have been gently worn, and books, linens, jewelry, pretty much anything around your house that you no longer use but that somebody else might. We don't want junk, things that don't work or are grubby. We also do not want TVs or computers and can only handle small items of furniture. The "if one medium size woman can pick it up by herself" rule is a good one to apply. If she can, we want it; if she can't, we don't. But remember, for those items that are too large (or too fragile or for whatever reason are not suitable for the sale,) information may be sent to The Marketplace, a printed list of available merchandise (contact the church office,) and we can try to sell them there.

The sale will be **SATURDAY, APRIL 25, from 9 to 2**. Along with donations of your things, we are also seeking donations of your time, energy and good humor. So, please plan to join us! We also need lots of help sorting and pricing the Thursday and Friday before the sale. This is a huge undertaking and simply can't be done without a lot of church support.

**Please mark your calendars now** and plan to help us on this fun fundraiser! If you have any questions or want to be among the first to volunteer, please call Judy Miller. Thanks!!

## **Two February Concert Series Events**

### **“Piano for Four Hands”**

The PACC concert series offers Margaret Cheng Tuttle and Yilin You, two tremendously talented pianists in concert, playing “Piano for Four Hands” on Sunday, February 8, at 3:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. The program promises to be very entertaining: four movements from *Petite Suite* by Claude Debussy; *Ma Mere L'Oye (Mother Goose Suite)* by Maurice Ravel should appeal to young people; and finally, *Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Mozart, Op. 132*, by Max Reger. Both women have studied extensively and hold numerous honors in concert competition, having performed as soloists and chamber musicians in the Boston area as well as throughout the United States and China. Come and enjoy an exciting and entertaining afternoon for all ages, followed by a dessert reception in the Parish Hall, offering a chance to meet the musicians.

### **An Afternoon of Song**

The PACC concert series offers Janice Edwards and Meegan Gagnon in "An Afternoon of Song", accompanied by Jeffrey Brody, on Sunday, February 22 at 3:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. Both women have studied and traveled extensively, appearing frequently with opera companies and orchestras throughout New England, as well as the United States. Jeffrey Brody is currently the Music Director of Longwood Opera (and Principal Accompanist of the Paul Madore Chorale, and is active as a composer, conductor, vocal coach, collaborative pianist and organist). This concert offers pieces from a wide variety of composers from the earliest, Purcell and Handel, to Bellini, Tosti, and Verdi, to Dvorak, finishing up with Barber, Brody, and ending with Elgar, Vaughn-Williams and Herbert Howells, This outstanding concert is followed by a dessert reception in the Parish Hall, offering a chance to meet the musicians.

Wheelchair accessible. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Advance Tickets: Seniors & Students \$8; Adults \$12. At Performance: Seniors & Students \$10, Adults \$15. For

more information, please visit our website at [www.pacc-ucc.org](http://www.pacc-ucc.org), or call our church office M--F between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

**Singers wanted & needed:** We are beginning to prepare music for Easter Sunday. We would really love having some additional singers for this short term commitment. Come and give it a try; if you can hum a tune, you are golden. We rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:30, and if you are working on Easter music, you would probably be finished by 8:30, with Easter Sunday being your only Sunday commitment. Can't beat those hours. Do try.

With hope, the Choir

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner**

Come have Pancakes for dinner at church on Tuesday, February 24, from 5:30-7 p.m. in Parish Hall. Pancakes, bacon, sausage and fruit will be served. \$5/adults, \$3/child, \$15/family. Proceeds benefit the General Fund.

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday and traditionally is the day when fats and oils are used up before the simpler days of Lent. We'll have beads for kids to make Mardi Gras necklaces.

If you'd like to help out with food preparation, serving or clean-up, please speak to Barbara Wagner, Betty Rich, or Kate Lindheim.

### **Ash Wednesday Service February 25**

Our Ash Wednesday service will be February 25 at 7:30 p.m. It will include hymns, prayers, scripture readings, a brief meditation, and the "imposition of ashes" for those who wish. Traditionally, the ashes used in the service are made from palm leaves from last Palm Sunday which are burned, crushed, and mixed with olive oil. The ashes have a twofold meaning: a visible "confession" of our need for forgiveness, as in "sackcloth and ashes," and the recognition of our mortal and finite nature as human beings, as in "ashes to ashes and dust to dust." We hope you will join us for this time of reflection.

## *What's Happening at PACC*

- |      |        |            |   |
|------|--------|------------|---|
| Sun. | Feb. 1 | 10:00 a.m. | Worship service with dedication of Deacons, Communion |
|      |        | 11:30 a.m. | Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall                        |
|      |        | 11:30 a.m. | Concert series organizers in the Fireplace Room       |
|      |        | 11:45 a.m. | Youth Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room              |
|      |        | afternoon  | Trip to see "Milk" in Waltham                         |
| Thu. | Feb. 5 | 11:00 a.m. | Women's Guild potluck brunch in the Chapel            |
|      |        | 7:30 p.m.  | Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room                    |
| Sun. | Feb. 8 | 8:45 a.m.  | Teachers' breakfast in the Fireplace Room             |
|      |        | 10:00 a.m. | Worship service includes reception of new members     |
|      |        | 11:15 a.m. | Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall                        |
|      |        | 11:45 a.m. | Youth Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room              |
|      |        | 3:00 p.m.  | Tuttle/You Concert in the Sanctuary                   |
|      |        | 4:00 p.m.  | Combined Youth Groups in the Nicoll Room              |
| Mon. | Feb. 9 | 7:30 p.m.  | Capital Campaign Committee in the Nicoll Room         |

Tue. Feb. 10 7:30 p.m. PACC-Men in the Fireplace Room  
 Wed. Feb. 11 10:00 a.m. Staff meeting in the Fireplace Room  
 7:30 p.m. Evening Bible Group in the Fireplace Room  
 Thu. Feb. 12 10:00 a.m. Craft Group in the Chapel  
 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room  
 Sun. Feb. 15 9:20 a.m. Youth Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary  
 10:00 a.m. Worship service  
 11:15 a.m. Communion in the Sanctuary  
 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall  
 11:30 a.m. Youth prayer shawl knitters in the Fireplace Room  
 Mon. Feb. 16 *Presidents' Day*; office closed  
 Tue. Feb. 17 1:30 p.m. Bible Study at Sunrise Assisted Living Center  
 Thu. Feb. 19 10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee in the Chapel  
 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room  
 Sun. Feb. 22 10:00 a.m. Worship service  
 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall  
 11:45 a.m. "African-American Lives" documentary in the Chapel  
 3:00 p.m. Edwards/Brody Concert in the Sanctuary  
 Tue. Feb. 24 Deadline for March *Spire*  
 5:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner in the Parish Hall  
 Wed. Feb. 25 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday worship service in the Sanctuary  
 Thu. Feb. 26 10:00 a.m. Craft Group in the Chapel  
 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room

*coming later in the year*

Sat. Apr. 25 Rummage Sale  
 Sat. May 9 Craft Fair

**THE MARKETPLACE**

**Mad Magazines** - 50+ copies dating from 1957 to 1988 including several oversize issues. All have covers and are in quite good condition for their age. \$50 Judy Miller

Please contact the seller directly if you are interested in any item. The buyer will pay the seller, and the seller will donate at least 50% of the purchase price to the church. The seller may accept a lower bid if the asking price is not met. So, start bidding and let's make this new fundraiser fly! Next month plan to include some of your items on the list.

**Orange and Grapefruit Fundraiser - order by Sunday, February 1**

For the last time this season we will be taking orders. Folks have been very happy with the fruit. This time they will be temple oranges (thus easier for peeling), and pink grapefruit (same as before). Cost is \$13 for 1/2 a box, \$26 for a whole box, cash or check (made out to PACC and notated for orange/grapefruit fundraiser). Pick-up of orders will be Saturday, February 7th at Jill Lewis's house. Volunteers needed to help unload the truck and help with contacting folks that day. Contact Jill Lewis, or see her after

church to order or volunteer. Order must be received by 8 p.m. Sunday, February 1st. There are forms on the table in the narthex.

## **Mission and Justice News**

### **Valentine's Day – Food from the Heart**

Although we normally collect food for the Arlington Food Pantry on Communion Sunday (which is usually the first Sunday of the month), due to the dire straits of many in Arlington, we are asking folks to honor Valentine's Day by giving from the heart, and make an effort to bring in donations for the Food Pantry through Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>. The AFP has made requests for: canned fruit (peaches, pears, fruit cocktail), canned juice concentrate (NOT frozen), cereal, and mayonnaise & mustard. If you wish to make a monetary donation instead, please make the check payable to PACC, but notate that it's for the AFP. A big Thank You from your Mission & Justice Ministry.

### **Black History Month**

To help celebrate this month, Mission & Justice will be showing segments of the documentary, "African-American Lives" (2003), on Sunday, February 22, at 11:45 a.m. in the Chapel. In the film Harvard University Prof. Henry Louis Gates Jr. leads several successful African-Americans -- including Whoopi Goldberg, Quincy Jones and Oprah Winfrey -- on a journey to discover their roots. While following their stories through oral histories and genealogy, Gates explores African-American history starting with the 20th century and backtracking to the Civil War and early slave-trade period. We'll order lunch and ask for donations to cover the cost, or you may bring your own. Contact Jill Lewis or Kate Lindheim with questions, or to reserve your spot (and so we can decide what we're going to order food-wise).

### **Office hours:**

Minister Bill Albright:

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tuesday & Wednesday or by appointment

Christian Education Director Kate Lindheim:

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Administrative Assistant Kathy Richardson:

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

## **Deacons' ministry assignments for 2009**

Administration: Valerie Censabella and Don Cohn

Christian Education: Barbara Wagner

Fellowship and Care: Margaret Bell, Hong Chin, and Bev Miller

Finance and Property: Gary Kane and Jeff Steinheider

Membership: Anita Clarke and Doug Record

Mission and Justice: Lauren Evans and Karen Friedman

Worship and Music: Linda Cohn and Jeanne Woodin

There is an e-mail address that reaches all of the deacons plus Bill Albright, Kate Lindheim, and Kathy Richardson.

## Church Family News

*Please pray for*

**Sharon Hawkins**, recovering from surgery;

**Catherine Deardon**, Sue Erickson's cousin who participates enthusiastically in PACC activities when she is visiting, recovering from hip surgery.

*In loving memory*

**Marguerite Muirhead**, an associate member of PACC since 2004, died January 5. Bill Albright delivered the eulogy at her memorial service.

**Harriet Newton**, who joined PACC in 1960, died January 9. When her health permitted, she was a faithful worshiper and member of the Women's Guild. Her life was celebrated in our sanctuary in a service on January 14.

**Sylvia Amon**, mother of **Joan** and grandmother of **Jonathan** and **Joey Daniels**, passed away January 14.

**Eleanor Young**, grandmother of **Josh**, died recently at age 99.

**Joyce Rogers** writes that she is a grandmother. **Jenelle** and **Jay** welcomed **Collin James Carrien** on December 30. He weighed 5 pound, 8 ounces. He is doing well after treatment for a lung problem.

*Thank you!*

I want to thank friends at PACC for cards and the beautiful poinsettia delivered to me by Hong Chin. I wish everyone a Happy New Year.

*Christine Avery*

Thank you all so much for your kind words and sympathy for our mother [Harriet Newton]. It was deeply appreciated.

Gratefully yours,

*Jerry Durand and Joyce LaMarre*

10 - Liz McNenny

Roger Nicoll

Jeffrey Steinheider

11 - Steven Colello

13 - Rachel Sexton

14 - Mark Sexton

Gordon Sherburne

20 - Julia Welter

22 - Jack Breslin

25 - Barbara Wilson

27 - Jaime Malone

28 - Allysen Carver