

Advent

Advent is a time of joyful anticipation of the incarnation of Christ, God's love made visible. It is a time of waiting, during which we prepare ourselves to welcome the Christ child into our hearts and homes. It is a time to celebrate light in the midst of darkness.

The candles we light on each of the four Sundays in Advent remind us of the light that came into the world at Christmas. They represent the hope, love, joy and peace that come through Jesus Christ.

During this busy season, when our lives are filled with shopping and cooking and social events, let us all take time to prepare our hearts, minds and spirits for the coming of the Christ child. The opportunities presented here offer many ways for you and your family to worship, serve, and share with others during this special time of year.

If you would like more information or would like to volunteer for one of the opportunities to serve, please call the church office (781-643-8680), or send e-mail to paccinarl@aol.com.

Advent Services, 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday: November 27 (Hope)

Second Sunday: December 4 (Love)

Third Sunday: December 11 (Joy)

Children's Christmas Pageant

Fourth Sunday: December 18 (Peace)

Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 4, at 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services

Saturday, December 24

4:00 p.m. – Candlelight Service followed by birthday cake for Jesus

10:00 p.m. – Candlelight Service with Communion

Christmas Day Service

Sunday, December 25, at 10:00 a.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Park Avenue Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
50 Paul Revere Road,
Arlington, MA 02476
781-643-8680, paccinarl@aol.com

Experience the

Joy

of the Season

**Park Avenue
Congregational Church**

2011 Advent Guide

Worship Service Schedule,
Special Events,
Service and Giving Opportunities

Also available online:
www.pacc-ucc.org/advent

Events

Choir Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 4, at 3:00 p.m.
Hear joyful music from classical to popular by our Festival and Youth Choirs, and sing traditional carols. A reception will follow the concert.

PACC-Men

Tuesday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m.
Dinner and Fellowship at Patou Thai Restaurant in Belmont Center

Sarah's Circle Book Club

Saturday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m.
Discussion of *The Note*, by Angela Hunt

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 11, at 10:00 a.m.
All children and youth are invited to participate in the pageant. Rehearsal is Saturday, December 10, at 9:30 a.m.

Evening Bible Group

Wednesday, December 14, at 7:30 p.m.
Discussion of the Christmas stories in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke

Women's Guild Christmas Program

Thursday, December 15, at 11:00 a.m.
All women are invited.

Youth Group

Sunday, December 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Sort gifts for the City Mission Society at First Congregational Church in Winchester

Serving Opportunities

- Help decorate our sanctuary and narthex at the Hanging of the Greens on November 26 at 9:00 a.m.
- Dedicate a poinsettia for our Christmas services in memory or in honor of a loved one
- Provide an extra treat for coffee hour on any Sunday in Advent and especially on Christmas morning
- Provide some goodies or help with set-up and clean-up for the reception after the Christmas concert.
- Help with the costumes and rehearsal for the Christmas pageant
- Participate in the Christmas Day Service of Lessons and Carols as a reader
- Send cards to those of our members who can't get to church very often

Year-End Financial Gifts

Despite the difficult economy, we at PACC have much to be thankful for. We ask you to pray that God will entrust PACC with the resources to do the work we feel called to do here and beyond these walls. Your year-end financial gifts will help.

Sharing Opportunities

Somerville Homeless Coalition Community Supper

Monday, November 28
Help prepare and/or serve food for approximately 30 people.

Adopt-A-Family

This is organized by the Town of Arlington. Gifts go to Arlington families. Sign up in Parish Hall after Coffee Hour to purchase a gift. Please bring **wrapped** gifts to church by December 4.

Gifts for the City Mission Society Christmas Shops

Please bring new, **unwrapped** gifts for children or adults to church by December 18. Gifts may be left under the Christmas tree in the narthex.

Adopt-A-Vet

We provide gifts for two veterans at the New England Center for Homeless Veterans. Sign up in Parish Hall if you would like to provide a **wrapped** gift for one of them this Christmas.

Special Offering

At our Christmas Eve services you can make a donation to the Christmas Fund to help retired UCC ministers and staff who are in need.