



The SPIRE
Park Avenue Congregational Church
The United Church of Christ
Arlington, Massachusetts

The Rev. Heike Werder, Interim Minister

March 2019

March at PACC

Drum Circle

Please come to a community drum circle **on Saturday, March 2, from 4 pm - 5 pm** in the Fellowship Room. No musical or percussion skills are needed! You don't even need a drum. We'll listen to each other and make music. This drum circle is suitable for middle school students through adults. Please let Holly Stumpf or Betty Rich know if you can come.

Winter Karneval

Saturday, March 2, at 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall. See page 3 for more details.

Ash Wednesday, March 6, The first day of LENT

"Ashes to Go!" on the Sanctuary Porch, 6:30 am – 8:30 am

Stop by before you start your day to receive ashes and a blessing from Pastor Leah.

Evening "Taizé" Worship Service in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm

See Reverend Heike's description of the service on page 2.

Family Game Night

Please join us March 30, from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Please bring an appetizer to share and games you would like to play with others. Bring a friend too! This is a really fun family-friendly event. Contact Betty Rich bgr642@gmail.com or Cindy Manson cynthia.manson@gmail.com for questions.

Greetings from our Interim Pastor!

Dear Friends of Park Avenue Congregational Church,

We are only two weeks away from starting a new church season: Lent. The season of Lent prepares us for the journey Jesus takes toward the cross.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (March 6, 2019) and lasts for 6 weeks. In the morning, Rev. Leah will be available for “Ashes on the Go.”

In the evening you are invited to an Ash Wednesday worship service in the tradition of Taizé. The Taizé community is an ecumenical monastic order with a strong devotion to peace and justice through prayer and meditation. The 100-strong community of Roman Catholic and Protestant monks is drawn from 30 countries across the world.

It was founded in 1940 by Roger Louis Schutz-Marsauche (known as 'Brother Roger'), a native of Switzerland who came to France to help those whose lives were devastated by the conflict raging across Europe. He settled in Taizé and began sheltering Jews and others fleeing from the Nazis, but in 1942 was forced to flee because his activities were discovered by the authorities. In 1944 he returned to Taizé and continued ministering to those in need, helped by a small group of brothers who had joined the ecumenical religious community he had founded.

Today, young people from every corner of the globe come to Taizé. Ecumenism (a movement promoting Christian unity among Churches) is the key to Taizé's appeal, making it a magnet for people of many different cultures and traditions.

What sets Taizé apart from other religious communities is its worship style, particularly the music. The singing of distinctive and much-repeated prayer chants during candlelit prayer services is one of its trademarks. Taizé music highlights simple phrases, usually lines from the Psalms or other pieces of scripture, repeated or sung in canon. The repetition is designed to help meditation and prayer.

I have grown up with Taizé music in East Germany and visited the community when on Sabbatical in 2007. I would love to share this special worship experience with you. (For more information, check out **Taizé Brothers Promotional Video** on YouTube.)

Our worship service begins at 7:30 pm in our sanctuary and will last about an hour.

My time serving you is almost over. Rev. Leah is about ready to come back after her maternity leave. I am so grateful to all of you for welcoming me into your midst for the past three months. Your generosity, kindness, and willingness to go along with some of my “crazy” ideas have been my delight. Before I go, we have the chance to be together for a nice “German” dinner and some fun time. Join us for our “**Winter Karneval**” on March 2.

Wishing you all the best on your journey of ministry together. Gratefully yours, *Heike*



Winter Karneval

Saturday, March 2, 2019 - 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Inspired by our interim Minister Heike, PACC will hold a “Fasching Karneval” fellowship event. Similar to Fat Tuesday during Mardi Gras, in Germany this event is traditionally celebrated the week prior to Ash Wednesday and in some regions includes parades and parties. Celebrants often perform dance, comedy and songs in festive costumes.

We will serve traditional German fare including Sauerkraut, Bavarian Bratwurst, Smoked Bockwurst, German-style potato and cucumber salads with Apple Cake for dessert.

There will be an open microphone for stories, jokes, or music. Whatever you want to share to lift our spirits.

Please join us for this fun family event!

***\$10 for adults, \$5 for kids (3 and under free) \$25 cap per family.
Tickets on sale during Coffee Hour or call/e-mail the office to reserve your ticket!***



PACC Concert Series – 2019

www.pacc-ucc.org/events/concertseries/

Tickets in advance - \$18 adults & \$12 seniors/students; at the door - \$23 & \$15



The Voice of the Cello

Kate Kayaian will bring her expressive solo cello playing to PACC on **Sunday, March 31, at 3:00 pm**. She will play works by Bach, Gianopoulos, Hovhannes, and Cassadó that will showcase how they each convey a sense of place, time and wonder.

The concert will take place in the PACC Sanctuary.

An artist's reception in the Parish Hall will follow the concert.

Looking Ahead – RUMMAGE SALE – APRIL 27

Save the date! Mark your calendar now and plan to join us for fellowship and fun at this all-church event. We need lots of help to make the sale a success.

Save your stuff! We are looking for donations of clothing for men, women and children that are clean and in good condition. We are also looking for housewares, linens, books, CDs, DVDs, toys, sports equipment, small furniture and all manner of white elephants, again, clean and in good condition. We don't want junk!

Save the hassle! Do you really want to organize a yard sale, or do you just want to get all those extra household items out of your life? Donate them to the Rummage Sale and support PACC. We are always happy to accept donations from your friends and neighbors as well. Due to space limitations, we are unable to accept donations at church until the week before the sale. If in doubt about the suitability of any item or you must move things earlier or you have other questions, contact one of the committee members below. This year we will NOT be accepting stuffed animals. As in the past, we also cannot accept TVs, computer monitors or large items.

Save us the trouble of tracking you down -- volunteer! There will be sign-up sheets at church in April, but why not call one of the people listed below so we know we can count on you to help make the sale run smoothly. We always need people to sort and price on Thursday and Friday (April 25 and 26) as well as clerks to sell merchandise on Saturday. An energetic clean-up crew following the sale is a must! Friends are welcome to join us too. Plan to join us and make this important fund raiser a rousing success!

Judy Miller (781)643-9877, Diane Wells (978)776-6963, Barbara Wagner (781)648-8228 (home) or (781) 929-1466 (cell)

Groups at PACC

Sarah's Circle

For March we have selected a book on women's history and spirituality called ***Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History*** by **Laurel Thatcher Ulrich**. This is an often-quoted seminal work on women's contributions to history and religion. We will meet on **Saturday, March 2** in the Fellowship Room at **10:00 am** (Those who wish to meditate may come at 9:30 am). We need a volunteer for a baked good and milk/cream.

Women's Guild

We will meet on **March 21, 2019, at 11:30 am**. Hot coffee and tea will be provided to go with your brown bag lunch. We always enjoy being together and all women of the church family are welcome no matter how many times you are able to attend. If you are in need of a ride call Beverly Miller or Diane Wells.

Knitting Group

Bring your knitting or handcrafts and join us in the Fellowship room on **Tuesday, March 12**, from **7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**.

PACC Men

We will meet on **Tuesday, March 5, at 6:30 pm**, at Oasis Brazilian Restaurant, 373 Main St., Medford, MA. Please let Dave Morrissette (drmorriss@comcast.net or 617 835-6060) know by Noon on Monday, March 4th if you would like to join us. In addition, please let Dave know if you may need a ride.

MARCH



BIRTHDAYS

- 1- Olivia Jones
- 2- Thomas Willey
- 3- Jackson Boonstra
- 4- Ellen Contini
Fiona Manson
Anna Olson
Jim Williams

- 6- Todd Ferreira
- 7- Jeanne Woodin
- 8- Damon Sidel
- 11- Sonia Boonstra
Mark Tuttle
- 21- Ken Woodin
- 22- Glenn Hale

- 23- Hal Miller
- 24- Janet Gormley
- 26- Christie Getto Young
- 28- Sally Rogers
- 30- Reyna Gontaruk
- 31- Norma Allen
Katie Colello

Christian Education



Sunday school

This month, we're continuing to learn stories about Jesus' ministry from the Gospel of Luke.

March 3 - Healing on the Sabbath (Luke 6:1-11) This is a Communion Sunday, but we'll start in church for a baptism and then Preschool-3rd grade will go downstairs for Sunday school. Older kids will stay in church for Communion.

March 10 - Lent workshop (Luke 19:1-10) This is the first Sunday in Lent. We'll be talking about Lent in Sunday school and bringing home some materials to help observe Lent at home.

March 17 - Zacchaeus responds (Luke 19:1-10)

March 24 - Jesus in the temple (Luke 19:45-48)

Evening Bible Study

Evening Bible Group typically meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month in the Fellowship Room from 7:30 pm-9:00 pm. March dates are **March 13 and 27**. Join us for a lively discussion! All are welcome.

Lenten Study Series

Wednesdays, March 13 - April 10 (The Wednesday of Holy Week will be a flex week for make up), **7:30-9pm in the Fellowship Room, led by Pastor Leah.**

Is your mind constantly going? Do you long for peace? Do you have nagging question, doubts, and worries that make it hard to be present and peaceful?

Learn a powerful new way to pray this Lent by discovering your Inner Voice - the always-accessible voice of joy, peace, and answers. God has planted within each of us this wise and compassionate presence - all we have to do is practice listening to it! Bring a notebook, something to write with, and an openness to God's powerful transformation of our lives.

Mission and Justice Matters at PACC



Mission and Justice Spotlight



One Great Hour of Sharing® (OGHS) “MORE THAN WE CAN IMAGINE”

OGHS is the Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports disaster, refugee, and development activities in the U.S. and around the world. We will be collecting OGHS donations throughout the month of March and dedicating them during the service on Sunday, March 31. For much more information including about Matching Gift programs, donating to a specific natural disaster or refugee emergency, staying updated, go to www.ucc.org/oghs.

End of Year Spending

We have received additional “Thank you” cards and letters from Youth Villages (the parent agency that operated the former Germaine Lawrence Treatment Center on Claremont Avenue), The Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance Committee of Arlington, the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ for our Neighbors in Need, Our Church’s Wider Mission Basic Support, and UCC Christmas Fund, the Mystic Valley LGBTQ+ Youth Support Network (Queer Mystic), and the LGBT Asylum Task Force for our donations. See the Mission and Justice Ministry bulletin board in Parish Hall for the programs’ descriptions of what they do.

Immigration, Asylum, and Refugee Issues

PACC has organized a group that is interested in helping local refugees. We are working with Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network AKA (BIJAN / Beyond). BIJAN is a network of faith communities, individuals and other activist groups working to reduce the escalating harm of our immigration system in the current political context.

It is made up of all volunteers that work closely with immigrant communities and immigrant-led organizations to support those impacted by our racist immigration system. **Please speak to Cindy Manson or Mike Rich if you are interested in getting involved.**

Multi-Faith Prayer Vigil - Suffolk County House of Corrections, 20 Bradston Street, Boston, **Sunday, March 17**, 2:00 - 3:00 PM. These monthly prayer vigils provide an important opportunity to join with immigrants detained at the House of Corrections in prayer and in expression of immigrants’ rights. The prayer vigils are conducted by faith

communities under the auspices of the Massachusetts Community Action Network (MCAN). The immigrants held at the House of Corrections are waiting for court dates related to immigration.

UCC / Mass. Conference news – www.macucc.org

Super Saturday – a full day of worship, workshops, and networking. All are welcome! Saturday, **March 16**, 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM, at Minnechaug Regional High School, 621 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA. **Registration Deadline: March 2, 2019.**

Registration Fee: \$54.00 Financial assistance is available from PACC. More details including the choices and lunchtime activities, and the link to the registration form at <https://www.macucc.org/eventdetail/super-saturday-11156586>

Local

Arlington Food Pantry

Bring non-perishable food items and household goods to church by **Sunday, March 3**. Find a list of high-need items at arlingtonfoodpantry.org/donate-food. You may also donate by check or cash noting that the funds are for AFP. Thanks for your generosity and thanks to Bryan Mau for delivering our items to the AFP.

NEAT (Neighbors Eating All Together)

The next **NEAT dinner** at St. John's Church (74 Pleasant St.) is **Saturday, March 23**, from **5:00 pm-6:00 pm**. This dinner is a community dinner, open to all and free of charge. Look for an email to chat if you'd like to help set up, serve, help in the kitchen or clean up. Thanks!

4th Beats for EATS

Arlington EATS (Eats All Through Summer) has scheduled its fourth annual fundraiser for **Saturday, March 23, from 7:00pm to 11:00 pm**, in Arlington Town Hall. Get ready for an evening of live music and dancing, because beats for EATS is back. PACC is one of the Bronze level sponsors of this event. Jam to the fabulous sounds of Soul City, feast on amazing hors d'oeuvres, and bid on a marvelous array of silent auction items--all to ensure that kids and families have the food they need for success.

Let Mike Rich know if you want to join him when he watches the UCC Creation Justice Webinar on **Climate Change and Forced Migration**.

Let Jill Lewis know if you want to join her when she watches the online webinar **Dismantling White Feminism Masterclass with Layla F. Saad**
How white woman can become allies to BIWOC* (*Black, Indigenous, Woman of Color)

Open and Affirming (ONA) LGBTQIA++ Issues

The Arlington LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission presents Crafts & Community, on March 4 from 1-4 pm, [Robbins Library](#) Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave. Come hang out with other LGBTQIA+ folx of all ages! Bring your crafts project from home or use the coloring books, crayons, markers, nail polish, and crochet materials the [Rainbow Commission](#) will provide. If you are able to and feel so moved, you are invited to bring a donation for the [Arlington Food Pantry](#) . The event is child-friendly and open to all.

Let Mike Rich know if you would like to receive a forwarded copy of the **February 2019 LGBT Asylum Newsletter**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sunday Volunteers for Worship

If you would like to serve as Liturgist, Greeter or Usher, please contact Don Cohn at dlc@cohnarlington.net or Dave Morrissette at drmorriss@comcast.net.

Church Office Hours

Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor

Pastor Leah's maternity leave: December 12- March 12. New office hours TBD.

Reverend Heike Werder, Interim Pastor

Office hours: M – W 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. Please call the office to make an appointment.

Pastoral Emergencies: Call or email any day or time: (617)827-4610 or revheike@gmail.com

Kate Lindheim, Christian Education Director

Please call the office to arrange an appointment.

Christine Rochon, Office Administrator

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Phone: (781)643-8680

Church Family News

Belated (our apologies) birthday wishes to **Jim Gibbons** who celebrated a milestone birthday, his **90th**, on January 7!

Belated (our apologies again) birthday wishes to **Diane Wells** who celebrated her **80th** birthday on January 8!

Congratulations to **Michelle O'Rourke** on the birth of **Landon Kevin** on February 7. He was 7.9 lbs. and 20 inches long. His grandmother is **Susan O'Rourke** and his great-grandmother is **Margaret Bell-Berman**. Landon's older siblings are **Ava, Elijah** and **Milo**.

Congratulations to **Peter Domenichella**, who has achieved his goal of becoming a certified flight instructor!

In our prayers:

Sally Rogers, after the death of her brother, **Malcolm Steck**, who died on January 26.

Jim Williams, after the death of his mother, **Annabelle Williams**, who died on Feb. 5.

Connie Dugan, after the death of her sister-in law, **Meridith Beaman**, on February 16.

Norm Niven, who was diagnosed with bladder cancer. He is doing well after surgery in February and will have more surgery in March.

Liz Ramras, who is being treated for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Laurie, Debbie Douglas' cousin and goddaughter, who is recovering from a severe leg fracture after being hit by a car. She fortunately did not need surgery on her leg.

Dorothy Sexton, who is in rehab after a fall.

Karen Stark, who is receiving physical therapy as she recovers from a broken leg.

Doris Wilson, who is home after a stay in rehab.

Also, please keep in your prayers: **Carol Barker, Linda Brinkman, Karen Davies, Janet Doe, Zoila Flores-Quesada, Marilyn Janssen, Anne Jordan, Evelyn Lewis, Florence Marshall, Dick Phelps, Jane Puopolo, Linda Jarvis Randall, Marcia Rieth, Alicia Russell, Joan Sorensen, Skip Symonds, David Whitney, Timothy Young, and Claire Zia.**

Notes from our church family:

I want to thank the Church for their thoughts and concern, also for the poinsettia at Christmas time. It has been a long while since I have felt such caring.

~ Bless you all, Clara (Nan) Enos

MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 11:30 AM Art Group, FR 2:00 PM Phelps Event, PH	25 4:30 PM Homeless Coalition Supper 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	26 7:00 PM Rising Star Quilting Group, PH	27 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Bible Study, FR	28 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	1 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	2 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i> 9:30 AM Sarah's Circle, FR 4:00 PM Drumming Circle, FR 5:30 PM Winter Karneval, PH
3 Food Pantry Collection 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 11:15 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, NR 1:30 PM <i>FAC/Scandi Series, PH</i>	4 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 7:30 PM Finance-FR 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	5	6 Ash Wednesday 6:30 AM Ashes to go!, Sanctuary Porch 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service, S	7 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	8 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	9 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i> 3:00 PM <i>Girl Scouts 69203-N&FPR</i>
10 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 11:15 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, NR	11 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 7:30 PM Council of Deacons, FR 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	12 7:00 PM Knitting Group, FR	13 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Bible Study, FR	14 1:00 PM Staff Meeting - FPR 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	15 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	16 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i>
17 Youth Choir Sunday 9:20 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, S 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:00 AM mid-month Communion, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 1:30 PM <i>FAC/Scandi Series, PH</i> 4:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 62571, FPR	18 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	19 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH	20 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH	21 11:30 AM Women's Guild, FR 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	22 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	23 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i>
24 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 2:00 PM yoga workshop, ph	25 4:30 PM Homeless Coalition Supper 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	26 7:00 PM Rising Star Quilting Group, PH 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH	27 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Bible Study, FR	28 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	29 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	30 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i> 5:30 PM Game Night, PH
31 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 2:00 PM concert series, s & ph	1 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 7:30 PM Finance-FR 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	2 6:30 PM PACC Men, FR 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH	3 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Learning to Pray, FR	4 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	5 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	6 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i> 9:30 AM Sarah's Circle, FR

Sundays in March at PACC

Worship begins at 10:00 am

- March 3** - Worship Service with communion and baptism, Food Pantry collection
- March 10** - Worship Service, Rev. Heike's last Sunday with PACC
- March 17** - Youth Choir Sunday, Worship Service followed by mid-month communion by intinction, Pastor Leah returns!
- March 24** - Worship Service
- March 31** - Worship Service, Concert Series: The Voice of the Cello



The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
50 Paul Revere Road
Arlington, MA 02476

Address Correction Requested

TO:

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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Staff

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Kate Lindheim, Christian Education Director
Jeffrey Brody, Music Director and Organist
Andrea Hart, Youth Music Director
Victor and Sue McNary, Sextons
Christine Rochon, Office Administrator

Officers

Valerie Censabella, Moderator
Tim Durning, Vice Moderator
Linda Cohn, Clerk
Mark Tuttle, Treasurer