

The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church

The United Church of Christ

Arlington, Massachusetts

The Rev. Leah Lyman Waldron, Minister

May 2019

May at PACC

PACC Music Director and Organist **Jeffrey Brody** is pleased to announce that there will be a playback of his six-minute orchestration of Ludwig Thuille's *Urschlamm Idyll* in the Fellowship Room **during the coffee hour following the morning worship service on May 5**. As the work is in German, Jeffrey will provide text, translation and some verbal music notes. All are most cordially invited to take a few minutes out of coffee hour to hear the Berlin Symphony perform this brief piece in the *Philharmonie*, the Carnegie Hall of Germany.

Project Bread's 51st Walk for Hunger

May 5, 2019 - Boston Common

Hunger is silent, so we speak up - <http://www.projectbread.org/walk-for-hunger/>

We'll have a PACC team for the Walk for Hunger. We'll meet at **6:45 am** on the front steps of PACC and walk from church to Lexington center and back to church in time for our morning worship service. Talk to Jill Lewis or Kate Lindheim if you'd like to join us or make a donation.

Sunday, May 26, PACC will observe its annual **Anniversary Sunday**, recognizing those who have been members for 25 years or more. Please join us to celebrate the wonderful witness and gifts of longtime members!

*Happy Mother's Day to all the amazing
PACC moms out there!*

Greetings from our Pastor!

For her preschool unit on nature, my 5-year-old daughter Davie has been keeping an eye out for "signs of spring." On the way to and from school each morning, we've marveled over snow glories and crocuses; tulips and daffodils; new leaves on trees; and an uptick in robins snagging worms.

But our favorite neighborhood nature sighting can be seen all year long: a rare "piebald" Easter cottontail rabbit. The piebald coloring is mostly white, with a few brownish-grey patches - due to a genetic mutation and can make piebald rabbits easy prey for hawks and owls. But our Piebald Bunny, as we call it, is pretty good at hiding in the bushes; we play a game on the way to school to see who can spot it first.

From pill bugs to red tailed hawks, it's such a thrill to see Davie sharing my sense of awe and wonder at God's creation. But I particularly love sharing our rabbit friend with her, because just like the freckles that pop out on her cheeks this time of year, Piebald Bunny is a reminder of God's creativity - and that difference can be special.

In honor of Piebald Bunny and of God's tendency to show off in spring and summer, I invite you to read this poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins celebrating all manner of spotted, mottled, and strange creations giving glory to their Maker by the very fact of their juxtaposition:

"Pied Beauty"

*Glory be to God for dappled things –
For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.*

*All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him.*

Blessings,



Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor

Groups at PACC

Sarah's Circle

For our May meeting, we have decided to choose a topic and let everyone read their own book on that topic. The topic is "Native American Spirituality" and our book club list includes some books on that topic. The list is available at <http://www.pacc-ucc.org/home/fellowship/sarahscircle/sarahs-circle-book-list/>

We will meet on **Saturday, May 4**, in the Fellowship Room at **10:00 am** (Those who wish to meditate may come at 9:30 am). Vicki has offered to bring some goodies.

Women's Guild

We will meet on **May 16 at 11:30 am**. We will be going out for lunch (probably the Concord Inn) but all those who would like to carpool should meet at the front of the church at 11:30 am. Watch the Sunday bulletin for any change in destination. We look forward to a lovely spring lunch, together. All women of the church are invited and if you need a ride to church contact *Beverly at (781) 646-0030 or Diane at (978) 776-6963*.

Knitting Group

Bring your knitting or handcrafts and join us in the Fellowship room on **Tuesday, May 14**, from **7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**.

PACC Men

PACC Men will meet for dinner at Ariana Restaurant located at 384 Western Avenue, Brighton on **Tuesday, May 7, at 6:30 pm**. Ariana's features cuisine from Afghanistan. Street parking is available or you can park in the nearby Stop and Shop parking lot. Please let Mike Rich (mrich3478@comcast.net) or Dave Morrissette (drmorriss@comcast.net) know by Monday evening, May 6th if you plan on attending or if you need a ride.

CRAIGVILLE RETREAT - VACATION TIME!

Several church members have been taking advantage of our denomination's Craigville Retreat Center's off-season rates. It offers a great opportunity to explore Cape Cod and stay in a lovely setting just two blocks from the ocean.

It's a great deal for retirees and others with flexible work schedules. The dates are September 2 - 6. The cost is \$339.43 for four nights and includes all meals. Application forms are available in the church office or can be obtained by calling the center at (508) 775-1265. You can also go online info@craigvilleretreats.org and see photos of the area.

All-Ages Choir

Would you like to join our impromptu "All-Ages Choir" in May? Andy Hart will be leading a group to sing in church on **May 19**. WATCH the "CHAT" email for an official invitation early in May! This will involve one or two rehearsals (AFTER church on May 12, and BEFORE church on May 19). More details coming soon via "CHAT"!

PACC Concert Series – 2019

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

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



Dances with Words

Sunday, May 5, at 3:00 pm

A global musical love adventure in dance rhythms presented by coloratura soprano Sara Michale Smith and pianist Jeffrey Brody. Love blooms everywhere, featuring familiar arias by composers Georges Bizet, Jacques

Offenbach, Gian Carlo Menotti, along with some surprises. Sara will be joined by special guest Giliana Norkunas, mezzo-soprano. The concert will take place in the PACC Sanctuary. An artist's reception in the Parish Hall will follow the concert.

Curious about membership at PACC?

We're planning a membership orientation for early summer. If you're interested in exploring what membership might mean for you, or just curious, please contact Cindy Manson (cynthia.manson@gmail.com, or 617-800-5694) or Betty Rich (bgr642@gmail.com), or Pastor Leah, and we'll include you in our scheduling - and answer your questions!

thank
YOU

A huge THANK YOU to all who worked long and hard to make the Rummage Sale a success!

Christian Education



Sunday school

Our theme for the weeks after Easter is Enough for All. We'll be learning stories about having enough to meet our needs, even when it might not seem that way at first. Stories in May include: Enough food in the wilderness (Exodus 15:22-16:36), Elijah and the miracle of enough (1 Kings 17:1-16), Jesus and the wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11) and Enough food by the sea (Mark 6:30-44).

We'll have one multi-age class on Sunday, May 26 (Memorial Day weekend).

Confirmation

Our confirmation group will meet on

Sunday, May 5, and Sunday, May 19, from 5-6:30 pm in the Fellowship room.

May 5-- Holy Spirit/ Sacraments

May 19-- UCC and social justice

Confirmation will be on June 9 during the Youth Sunday worship service.



Mark your calendars for confirmand **Ella Ford's baptism on Saturday, June 8 at 9:30am at Walden Pond.** Bring a dish to share for brunch and help us celebrate this wonderful moment in Ella's life! Parking is \$8 per vehicle with MA license plate; carpooling encouraged. Walking on path to baptism site required.

Looking Ahead

June 8-- Youth Sunday rehearsal in the afternoon

June 9 --Youth Sunday and Confirmation

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. **Bible Study will resume on May 8.**

Announcing the Search Committee for CE Director

As Leah and Valerie shared with the congregation, “after 14 years as our Christian Education Director, Kate Lindheim is moving on to pursue preschool teaching full time. We are so excited for her new adventure, but also so sad for Park Avenue. From teaching our children about Jesus to guiding our youth to equipping our Sunday school teachers to leading us in outreach to the homeless and hungry to starting our knitting group, Kate has touched so many hearts during her time here. She has made so many families, new and old, feel welcome and experience God's love at church. Her shoes will be hard to fill!”

We have formed the Search Committee that will seek Kate’s successor as CE Director. Please keep us in your prayers in this process. We are delighted that this group represents folks who have kids of all ages who are now or who have been in the CE program, people who have been at Park Avenue for varying lengths of time, and we are especially grateful to have two of our youth -- Ella Ford and Lane Hogan -- serving on the committee!

We hope to have a job description posted in the next few weeks and, ideally, to have the new CE Director in place by the beginning of the summer. We’ll soon have a group email list, but for now, feel free to contact Marianne McPherson (Chair), with any questions or feedback (marianne.mcp@gmail.com, 617-501-6884).

Thank you! The CE Director Search Committee:

Marianne McPherson, Chair (2019 Deacon for Christian Education)

Valerie Censabella, Katie Colello, Sarah Baldwin, Ella Ford, Lane Hogan, Josh Young, Leah Lyman Waldron (Ex Officio), Andy Hart (Ex Officio)

MAY BIRTHDAYS

2 - Charlene Belden
Judy Miller
4 - Maria Yunis
5 - Gary Kane
9 - Jerri Newman
11 - Joanne Jordan
12 - Edith Burge
15 - Kristin Lynch
17 - Connie Lindquist
20 - Ethan Brush
21 - Donna Smith
Andrew D’Eon



23 - Timothy Evans
Leah Lyman Waldron
27 - Doris Wilson
28 - Karen Davies
29 - Abby McNulty
Robert Willey
30 - Jennie Wyman
31 - Karla Clarke-Palou
Ted Dokos
Elaina Evans

Mission and Justice Matters at PACC



Mission and Justice Spotlight



Open and Affirming – ONA

At a special congregational meeting on May 6, 2007 we became covenanted members of the UCC ONA Coalition by adopting the following declaration:

We, the members of Park Avenue Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, as an expression of our Christian love for all God's people, declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation. Open and Affirming is the UCC designation for congregations that make public statements of welcome into their full life, leadership and ministries to persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We welcome all people into our community of faith, embracing differences of sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, race, ethnicity, mental or physical ability, age and socio-economic background.

In our calling to express the love and welcome of Christ, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person.

We celebrate our commitment each year on the first Sunday in May. Join us for our 12th Anniversary remembrance on May 5, 2019. Wear a nametag with your pronouns, ask others theirs instead of presuming to know, and go to <https://www.mypronouns.org> to find out the what, why, and how of personal pronouns.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING® (OGHS)

In March we collected **\$1,833.00** for **One Great Hour of Sharing® (OGHS)**, which is more than 128% of last year's total. THANK YOU for your generosity. Stay updated about OGHS at www.ucc.org/oghs and www.facebook.com/onegreathourofsharingucc.

Immigration, Asylum, and Refugee Issues

Mass. Conference UCC Immigration, Refugee and Asylum Task Team -
<https://www.macucc.org/immigration>

Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network (BIJAN / Beyond)

Several members of our Immigration working group have taken training to answer telephone hotline calls and are getting ready to take their first shifts answering calls from home from folks caught up in the immigration system asking for assistance. See <https://beyondbondboston.org/> for more about what they do. Talk to Cindy Manson if you are not yet on her email distribution list and wish to participate or merely be informed.

Immigrant Rights Sunday

The first Sunday in May has been designated Immigrant Rights Sunday within the United Church of Christ. Justice and Witness Ministries and Wider Church Ministries are urging congregations to lift up immigrants on this day: to learn about their concerns, honor their contributions to our country and communities, hear their pain, pray for their well-being, and listen to hear where God is leading us regarding issues of immigration. For the most current issues on immigration with potential ways to get involved see [http://www.ucc.org/justice immigration immigrantrightssunday](http://www.ucc.org/justice_immigration_immigrantrightssunday).

Local

Arlington Food Pantry

Bring non-perishable food items and household goods to church by **Sunday, May 2**. 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, May 18**, 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!

Housing Corporation of Arlington's 18th Annual Walk for Affordable Housing – The

Walk will be on Sunday, June 9 this year. See more info about the Walk here:

www.housingcorporarlington.org/events/walk/

Open and Affirming (ONA) LGBTQIA++ Issues

Mystic LGBTQ+ Youth Support Network – Sign up for *Queer Mystic's* Newsletter here:

<https://www.queermystic.org/contact.html>.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Asylum Task Force is a ministry of Hadwen Park Church and a community-based organization dedicated to supporting and empowering LGBTQI individuals who are seeking asylum in the United States. Asylum seekers who file for asylum in the United States are not permitted to work until they are granted a work permit and social security number, a process which can take more than a year. During that time, we strive to provide housing and financial support. Our goal is to educate the public in an effort to change policy around the globe so that someday no LGBTQI person will need to seek asylum because of their sexual orientation or gender identity and the need to find a safe place. <http://www.lgbtasylum.org/>

Pride Morning Worship

Old South Church UCC – Copley Square Boston, June 8, 2019 - 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Pride Morning Worship is a high-energy, joyous annual service celebrating the LGBTQ community.

Boston Pride 2019: Looking Back, Loving Forward

We invite you to march with the Mass Conference ONA churches in Boston Pride in the 49th annual Boston Pride on **Saturday, June 8, 2019, 12:00 pm**. Spectators enjoy cheering for our marching group, with our 100 participants, rhythm instruments, chanting and dancing. Our message of Extravagant Welcome for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions is always well received. Our presence makes a real difference. *Please see Jill Lewis or email her at jelewi@gmail.com if you have any questions.*

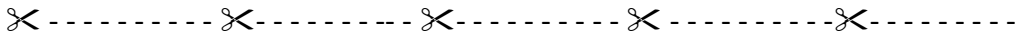
PACC Family and Friends Spring Creative Arts and Crafts Exhibit

The Spring Arts and Crafts Exhibit for members and friends of PACC is on two Sundays, **June 9th and June 16th**, after church in the Fellowship Room. We welcome submissions from children and adults. We are looking for creative work, using all different types of media, painting, charcoal, mixed media, watercolor, collages, pencil drawings, poetry, stenciling, quilting, origami, photography, as well as crafts, such as yarn projects, woodworking, sculptures, ceramics, pottery or any other type of craft which you are working on.

Submissions may be turned in to Gwen Phelps or Karen Stark at church on Sunday, June 2, or at some other time or place as arranged with Gwen or Karen.

Attached is a submission form which Gwen would like to have ASAP so she will know the amount and scope of what is being submitted. There will be a box on the table in the Narthex to place your forms, or you may include the information in an email to Gwen at Gwendy646@aol.com or Karen at kastark@rcn.com

If you have any questions, please see Gwen or Karen, or you can contact her at (617) 966-2670 or Gwendy646@aol.com.



Submission form for PACC Creative Arts and Crafts Exhibit

Name: _____

Type of Art Work being submitted: _____

Medium used in piece submitted: _____ Size: _____

Date Work will be ready for submission: _____

Name of Art Piece: _____

Church Family News

Happy birthday to **Connie Lindquist** who will celebrate a milestone birthday, her **90th**, on **May 17th**!

Happy birthday to **Jennie Wyman** who will celebrate her **103rd** birthday on **May 30th**!

Congratulations to **Merrith Sabo-Jones** after the birth of her great-grandniece, **Olivia Nicole Junkins**, on March 26th.

In our prayers:

Debbie Lewis and **Bonnie Hayner** and their families, after the death of their sister, **Evelyn (Evie) Lewis**, on April 22nd. Evie grew up at PACC and, after moving back to Arlington, was active at church before she experienced health issues. An informal gathering will be held on **May 19th** after worship in the Fellowship Room to share memories of Evie with her family and friends.

The family and friends of **Zoila Flores-Quesada**, a PACC member for over 60 years who died on April 22nd. Her service was held in our sanctuary on April 26th.

Jennifer Carbone and her family, a friend of **Sharon Kabelitz**, whose 19-year-old son, Max, died recently in an accident.

Peg Kyle, after the death of her friend, **Margaret**, in early April.

Norm Niven, who currently has an infection and will have more surgery in May.

Liz Ramras, who hopes to finish treatment for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in May.

Susan O'Rourke, who is recovering from surgery and was diagnosed with shingles.

Mark Bell, who had knee surgery on April 22nd.

Julie Chung, a friend of **Jill Janssen**, who suffered a head injury and a stroke in a skiing accident. She is now in rehab.

Also, please keep in your prayers: **Carol Barker, Linda Brinkman, Karen Davies, Janet Doe, Marilyn Janssen, Anne Jordan, Florence Marshall, Dick Phelps, Linda Jarvis Randall, Marcia Rieth, Alicia Russell, Dorothy Sexton, Joan Sorensen, Skip Symonds, Doris Wilson, Timothy Young, and Claire Zia.**

MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 1:30 PM FAC/Scandi Series, PH	29 7:00 PM Chorale-PH 8:00 PM Chorale-N	30 6:30 PM Art Group, FR 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH	1 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH	2 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM FAC PH	3 2:00 PM Jay Lane-N 8:00 PM FAC-PH	4 9:00 AM Movement class, PH 9:30 AM Sarah's Circle, FR
5 Food Pantry Collection O&A Anniversary 10:00 AM Worship Service, S Presentation of Jeffrey Brody's Orchestration, FR 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 11:15 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, NR 1:30 PM concert series, s & ph	6 7:00 PM Chorale-PH 7:30 PM Finance-FR 8:00 PM Chorale-N	7 6:30 PM PACC Men, FR 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH	8 5:00 PM APTG Function, PH 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Bible Study, FR	9 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM FAC PH	10 2:00 PM Jay Lane-N 8:00 PM FAC-PH	11 9:00 AM Movement class, PH 3:00 PM Girl Scouts 69203-N&FPR
12 Mother's Day 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 11:15 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, NR	13 7:00 PM Chorale-PH 7:30 PM Council of Deacons, FR 8:00 PM Chorale-N	14 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH 7:30 PM Knitting Group, FR	15 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH	16 11:30 AM Women's Guild, FR 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM FAC PH	17 2:00 PM Jay Lane-N 8:00 PM FAC-PH	18 9:00 AM Movement class, PH
19 Youth Choir Sunday 9:00 AM Learning to Pray, FR 9:20 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, S 10:00 AM Worship Service, S Concert Series meeting, FPR 11:00 AM Evie Lewis Memorial, FR 11:00 AM mid-month Communion, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 4:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 62571, FPR	20 7:00 PM Chorale-PH 8:00 PM Chorale-N	21 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH	22 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Bible Study, FR	23 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM FAC PH	24 2:00 PM Jay Lane-N 8:00 PM FAC-PH	25 9:00 AM Movement class, PH 5:00 PM NEAT Dinner, St. John's
26 Anniversary Sunday 10:00 AM Worship Service, S 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH	27 7:00 PM Chorale-PH 8:00 PM Chorale-N	28 7:00 PM Rising Star Quilting Group, PH 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH	29 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH	30 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM FAC PH	31 2:00 PM Jay Lane-N 8:00 PM FAC-PH	1 9:00 AM Movement class, PH 9:30 AM Sarah's Circle, FR

Sundays in May at PACC

Worship begins at 10:00 am

- May 5** - Worship Service with communion, Food Pantry collection, Jeffrey Brody's orchestration presentation
- May 12** - Worship Service, Mother's Day
- May 19** - Learning to Pray, Worship Service with mid-month communion, Memorial for Evie Lewis
- May 26** - Worship Service, Anniversary Sunday

The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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Arlington, MA 02476

Address Correction Requested

TO:

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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Staff

Leah Lyman Waldron, Minister
Kate Lindheim, Christian Education Director
Jeffrey Brody, Music Director and Organist
Andrea Hart, Youth Music Director
Victor and Sue McNary, Sextons
Christine Roehon, Office Administrator

Officers

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