

The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church

The United Church of Christ

Arlington, Massachusetts

The Rev. Dr. William Albright, Pastor

September, 2008

Regathering Sunday September 7

On Sunday, September 7th, Park Avenue Church will celebrate "Regathering Sunday." This annual worship event marks the return to active participation in the life of our faith community after vacations and other summertime diversions.

Following the worship service will be our traditional potluck luncheon in the Parish Hall. To assure a reasonably balanced meal, we request that you bring food according to the following plan:

If your last name begins with A-E, bring a dessert;

If your last name begins with F-L, bring a side dish or salad;

If your last name begins with M-Z, bring a main dish.

The Fellowship and Care Ministry will provide bread and butter and beverages.

The Post Office Auction at the lunch will feature small items from summer travels. We have already received packages from Jerusalem, Bermuda, Hong Kong, Gibraltar and England as well as several states. It's not too late to bring your donation to the office.

PACC Gala Auction: September 13, 2008. 7:00 p.m.

Join us for silent and live auctions. Hors d'oeuvres and soft beverages will be served. Place bids on ***Red Sox tickets*** (great seats!), original artwork, quality furniture, voice lessons, dinner parties (including dinner at the parsonage), cooking classes, a photography workshop, ferry tickets to the Boston Harbor Islands, and museum tours. Become a character in a science fiction novel! Spend a weekend at a vacation home! Learn to fly-fish! And lots more. The silent auction begins at 7:00 p.m. followed by a live auction at 9:00 p.m. Questions? Call the church office.

"YOUTH CHOIR WANTS YOU!"

Do you like to sing in the shower? Along with the radio in the car? On bus trips with school friends? If you do, or even if you just like music, PACC's Youth Choir wants you! We are a group of kids who enjoy making music and hanging out together. Children and youth in grade 4 and older can join the Youth Choir, and newcomers are welcome to come and "try it out" during any regular rehearsal time. It is a lively and fun group, and no experience is necessary to join -- just enthusiasm!

The Youth Choir rehearses on the first three Sundays of each month at 11:45 a.m. (after Church and Sunday School) and performs in church services on the third Sunday of every month from September through June. During rehearsals, we have a brief snack and visiting time, then we warm up our voices and our listening ears, and work on our songs. We sing many types of music, including music of classical and contemporary composers, folk songs, rounds, and spirituals, in unison and harmony.

In addition to "third Sundays", the Youth Choir regularly performs as part of the PACC Christmas Concert, Christmas Pageant, and Youth Sunday Service.

Come check it out -- our first rehearsal of the year is September 14! And feel free to call Andy Hart for more information.

Bio: Andrea Hart, Director of Youth Music at PACC, holds a Bachelor of Music from Boston University and a Masters in Education from Harvard University. Andrea teaches piano, flute, and music theory in both private and school settings, and has enjoyed directing numerous school, church, and community-based singing ensembles. In addition, Andrea has worked in professional roles for several cultural organizations, most recently as General Manager and Booking Representative for nationally acclaimed World Music Ensemble *Libana*, and as Program Director and Music Director at Creative Arts, a community school for the arts. She has sung with The Boston Cecilia, under the direction of Donald Teeters, for 15 years.

Housing Corporation of Arlington Fall Events

Outdoor clean-up, Saturday, September 13th, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. There will be a light breakfast at the beginning of the day and sandwiches at the end. Call Joanna Ain to volunteer and for more information.

Annual Meeting, with Former Governor Michael Dukakis as the keynote speaker, Wednesday, October 15th, 6 p.m.

Sarah's Circle to celebrate anniversary with potluck on September 13

This fall marks the seventh Anniversary of our women's book group focused on spirituality! We will meet on Saturday September 13th from 12 noon to 2 p.m. for a celebration - a pot luck luncheon, with cake and bubbly (bought with our dues), talk a bit about what we might want to read in the next year, and just enjoy good conversation and good food. We already have the following foods: Swedish meatballs, vegetarian lasagna, a green salad, cake for dessert, sparkly beverages (champagne and sparkling juices). Please let Merrith Sabo-Jones know what you're bringing so we don't duplicate items. Mariamne Boothby will host the party at her home.

We've already chosen "The Second Journey", a book by Joan Anderson, for our October Meeting on October 11. This is a very small book - to give us a break from the heavy reading we've been doing!

Arlington's Town Day September 20

Town Day will be September 20. Again this year PACC will have a booth to let our neighbors know about the programs that we offer. Town Day is always a fun time of seeing and chatting with friends and neighbors. We'll need help that day -- if you have an hour or two to spare and can help out, that would be great! Look for more information in the Sunday bulletins or speak with Doug Record.

Flower calendar

Would you like to remember a loved one or share a celebration with the PACC community by dedicating the flowers on Sunday morning? You can do that by signing the calendar in the narthex or calling the church office. You can take the flowers home after the service or deliver them to a shut-in. The cost is \$35 or more; you can indicate on the sign-up sheet how much you would like to pay. September 21, October 19 and November 9, 23 and 30 are available.

Get your *Spire* by email.

It arrives as a Word document attached to an email and is reformatted to letter-size paper, so you can print any pages that you wish. You will have it earlier than if it is sent via the postal service. What you will not receive is the clip art. Call the church office to request this change.

Ode to the Church Fair

They are out of hibernation,
Those bears you met last year.
And they're planning more excitement
Which will bring us all some cheer

Teddies. Bunnies. Kitties, too
Are working briskly for me and for you.
So come to the Fair of Arlington fame
November seventh and eighth when those
Bears become tame

They like eating honey,
As well you all know,
But your pies, breads and cookies
Will make them just glow.

If you choose to help out
By something you make,
Then try some ingredients
That turn into cake.

Where else could you go
To meet old friends and new
Plus doing some shopping
With no hassle – that's true.

So tell all your friends.
Spread the news far and near
That the Arlington Fair
Is coming – that's clear.

-- Susan Erickson

Coffee Cans for fall Church Fair Cookie Walk Table

It's time to bring empty coffee cans for the fall Church Fair Cookie Walk Table to church. I use metal cans, tall cans from Trader Joe's, plastic Folger Cans --- all with covers. Please strip off paper, if you can, wash and dry thoroughly, and store in a dry place. Put them in a paper bag with my name on the outside and leave them in the church kitchen. Thanks very much for your time and effort. I appreciate it.

Connie Dugan

What's Happening at PACC

Mon.	Sept. 1		<i>Labor Day</i> ; office closed
Thu.	Sept. 4	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group in the Nicoll Room
		7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room
Sun.	Sept. 7	10:00 a.m.	Regathering Sunday worship service
		11:30 a.m.	Regathering potluck and post-office auction
Mon.	Sept. 8	7:30 p.m.	Board of Deacons in the Nicoll Room
Tue.	Sept. 9	7:30 p.m.	PACC-Men in the Fireplace Room
Wed.	Sept. 10	7:30 p.m.	Evening Bible Group in the Fireplace Room
Thu.	Sept. 11	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Group in the Chapel
		7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room
Sat.	Sept. 13	12:00 noon	Sarah's Circle potluck at the home of Mariamne Boothby
		7:00 p.m.	Gala auction
Sun.	Sept. 14	10:00 a.m.	Worship service including baptism
		11:15 a.m.	Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall
		11:45 a.m.	Youth Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room
Thu.	Sept. 18	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group in the Nicoll Room
		7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room
Sat.	Sept. 20		Town Day
Sun.	Sept. 21	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
Tue.	Sept. 23		Deadline for October <i>Spire</i>
Wed.	Sept. 24	7:30 p.m.	Evening Bible Group in the Fireplace Room
Thu.	Sept. 25	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Group in the Chapel
		7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room
Sun.	Sept. 28	10:00 a.m.	Worship service
		11:15 a.m.	Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

coming later in the year

Fri.	Nov. 7 –		Holiday Fair
Sat.	Nov. 8		
Sun.	Dec. 7	tbd	Christmas Concert in the Sanctuary

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

THE MARKETPLACE

Please contact the seller directly if you are interested in any item. Hurry if you want to be the first!

“Tough Traveler” back pack carrier with metal frame for toddler/small child. Collapses for storage and stands alone for loading. Good condition. \$40.00. Joan Amon

King Headboard, antiqued brass finish, 1980s. Breaks down to four pieces for easy moving and storage. \$30. Hal and Judy Miller.

The buyer will pay the seller for any item purchased, 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 fundraiser fly! And next time plan to include some of your items on the list.

A Message from Music

After a summer of rest and relaxation, September is the beginning of a new church calendar year and all of the many church activities, such as Youth and Senior Choirs, Sunday School, the Gala Church Auction, the Church Fair, Youth Groups, and the Concert Series, to name a few.

Why did we begin a concert series? When the present church was built in 1960, an E.M. Skinner organ was found and purchased. It had been built in 1919 and is considered to be an excellent organ, historic, one to be treasured, and well cared for by its owners. It was installed in the new church and played for the first time on Easter Sunday in 1961. In 1989 our organist, John Cavicchia, and the Music Committee felt that it needed a lot of work and set out to restore it. Dick Lahaise, our organ builder, gave us a list of what all areas of the organ would cost to restore. How to pay for it? We put together a very ambitious concert series and all proceeds went into the Organ Restoration Fund. We received some generous contributions as well. Year by year we found that we were able to cross off the list most of what is located in the pipe loft behind the screen to the tune of over \$66,000. We tried to offer a wide variety of music, which was all well received. We have offered concerts featuring the organ, piano, folk, jazz, coffee houses, college choirs, soloists, small singing groups, the Liberty Bell Chorus, as well as our own annual Christmas Concert, to name a few. At this point the money from the series goes to support the music program generally as well as to maintain the organ, thereby relieving the general budget of this cost.

We want to continue the concert series because we feel that it is a valuable part of our church life as well as a valued offering to the community at large. But we need help. Pulling together a concert is a sizable task and requires several people. Marketing our concerts requires finding artists, a lot of publicity in newspapers and other publications, mailing fliers, tickets, concert programs, baking and serving at the receptions, to name a few tasks. We have a small group of people already in place, but we would really like to find additional help. Anyone having an interest in contributing some time and effort to the concert series, only four a year, please speak to me at church, email me, or phone me. Your help and new ideas will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for listening.

Connie Dugan, Deacon for the Worship and Music Ministry