

# The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church

The United Church of Christ

Arlington, Massachusetts

The Rev. Dr. William Albright, Pastor

November, 2008

## Holiday Fair

Friday, November 7, 6 – 9 pm

Lasagna Dinner, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Pie Shoppe, 6 – 8:30 pm

Saturday, November 8, 9 am–2 pm

Coffee & Donuts, 9 – 10:30 am

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon, 11:30 am – 1 pm

Holiday Crafts ~ Baby & Toddler Boutique

Baked Goods ~ Cookie Walk

Outfit a Critter Friend

Silent Auction ~ Photos & Silhouettes

Books ~ Country Store ~ Jewelry

## **Christian Education News**

### **Sunday School**

Our first Sunday School potluck will be Friday, November 21 at 6:30 in the Fireplace and Nicoll Rooms. We'll all have dinner together and then we'll have an activity based on what we've been doing in Sunday School these last several weeks. Come socialize with other Sunday School families. Potluck sign up will be on the kitchen door in Parish Hall.

Our Advent workshop will be on Sunday, November 30 during Sunday School. We'll make a variety of Advent crafts and do some other Advent activities. Kids will bring home materials to use at home during Advent. All Advent materials for children and adults will be available on the table in the narthex that Sunday.

### **Youth Groups**

Youth Groups I (fifth and sixth graders) and II (seventh grade and up) are invited to attend a U2charist at Pleasant Street Congregational Church on Sunday, November 2. This is a worship event with music from U2. Look on the permission slip for more details. We'll meet at PACC at 4:30 and drive over to Pleasant Street. Permission slips will go home on Sunday, October 26.

Youth Group I will meet on Sunday, November 16 from 4-5:30 in the Nicoll Room.

Youth Group prayer shawl knitters will meet on Sunday, November 16 from 11:30-12:30 in the Fireplace Room.

### **Youth Group Fair Help**

All youth group members are invited to help serve at the lasagna dinner on Friday, November 7. Youth Group II is invited to help at the pie shop on Friday, November 7. A more detailed note about this will go home. Please talk to Kate Lindheim about helping at the lasagna dinner or Lauren Evans about helping at the pie shop if you have any questions. Thanks!

### **Sarah's Circle to discuss *Women Who Run with the Wolves***

Sarah's Circle women's book group will meet Saturday, November 15th, 10 AM to 12 Noon in the Fireplace Room. Anyone who wants to join in the meditation circle should arrive at 9:30 AM. We will discuss two chapters from *Women Who Run with the Wolves* by Clarissa Pinkola Estes: chapter 12 which deals with the boundaries of rage and forgiveness, and chapter 13 which is the story of the Handless Maiden - a look at the bargains we make in our lives. For December the group will read *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy* by Donald B. Kraybill, Steven M. Nolt, David L. Weaver-Zercher. Call Merrith Sabo-Jones for more information.

### **Election of 2009 Council of Deacons**

All active and associate members of the church should have received ballots for the election of seven members to the 2009 Council of Deacons, the governing board of the church. Eight members who were elected last year will continue on the board through

next year. If you did not receive one, call the office. The deadline for returning them is November 10.

### **GoodSearch – another way to help PACC**

If you begin your internet searches at GoodSearch.com ([www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)) and enter Park Avenue Congregational Church in field labeled “Who do you Goodsearch for?”, a small amount of money is credited to our church.

### **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. Contact the church office to request this change.

### **Report on the Metropolitan Boston Association Fall Meeting**

The Fall business meeting of the MBA was held on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Brighton-Allston Congregational United Church of Christ. In attendance from PACC were clergy Bill Albright, Richard Hunter, Tom Howard, and Richard Phelps, along with Judie Phelps, lay delegate. The meeting was called to order by MBA Moderator Bradford Harding and greetings were extended from Rev. Karen Fritz (wife of Rev. Tony Kill who was former pastor at PACC). The minutes of the MBA Spring meeting, written by the MBA Scribe, our own Rev. Bill Albright, were approved. With the resignation over the summer of Rev. Evan Hinds, vice-moderator, Rev. Kenneth Bailey’s nomination to fill the post was affirmed by the delegates.

After Roslindale Congregational Church members and pastor spoke, requesting that their church be received as a New Church in the UCC, a motion to accept the new church prevailed and they were welcomed into the MBA.

Rev. Wendy Vander Hart, acting associate conference minister reported on the actions within the MBA since the Spring meeting including the transitions that have taken place in clergy within the churches. Reports were received and approved from the Committee on Ministerial Standing, Committee on Ministry, Treasurer, Just Peace Players, and City Mission Report. These reports are on file in the PACC office if you wish to read them.

The main part of the meeting was devoted to a workshop on “Sacred Conversations on Race” led by Rev. Dr. Karin Case, associate minister at Trinitarian Congregational Church in Concord and co-founder of the MACUCC Race and Justice Task Force, and Meck Groot, former co-director of the Woman’s Theological Center in Boston with 15 years of experience leading workshops on white privilege and the structure of racism. The two presenters made a short presentation after which the ABC video “Traffic Accident in Buffalo” was shown. This video was one claiming that when a black mother from Buffalo was killed crossing the street after alighting from a bus in order to walk to her job in a mall where buses were not allowed for fear they would bring undesirables into the mall to shop, the death on the highway was a result of racism. Watching this video encouraged much small group sharing and discussion on race and racism.

Also discussed in the workshop were the multidimensional reality of systemic racism, and how within a church, unwittingly, racism can be lurking. PACC will be having discussion on “Sacred Conversations about Race” with the next meeting scheduled for Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel, and all are encouraged to participate in these discussions.

The Fall Meeting of MBA closed with Worship and Communion.

Respectively submitted;  
Judie Phelps, lay delegate to MBA

### **Dick Schober Retires from PACC Choir**

Dick Schober has decided to hang up his choir robe after serving as a soloist and member of the PACC choir since 1961. Prior to that he was a choir member, as well as quartet member and soloist for 19 years at the North Congregational Church in Cambridge, making a total of 66 years. His lengthy choir life stretches back to World War II, when Dick was stationed in New Delhi, India, and sang in the chapel choir at the headquarters of the China-Burma-India Theatre. Even farther back, Dick was a member of the chapel choir and choral society at Northeastern University in Boston, where he was elected president of the Northeastern University Glee Club. He has had a long and happy life of choir music, and we appreciate his longevity, his faithfulness, and his 47 years of contribution both to the PACC choir and to our church's music program. We all thank you so very much for your contribution of music talents, and for you as a good friend to us all.

Dick says that although his tenure in choir has been very long, it nevertheless, has been a most enjoyable and rewarding experience. He highly recommends joining the choir to anyone who likes to sing, and he extends best wishes to Jeff Brody and his choir for continued success in providing beautiful sacred music for Park Avenue Congregational Church. We all wish Dick many happy years ahead with family, travel, and perhaps he will now have time to paint his "masterpiece". Dick joins Sue Erickson, Dorothy Gibson, and Phyllis Roberts, other long-time choir members who have retired before him. Being a member of the choir is a wonderfully fulfilling, rewarding, and fun way to contribute to our worship service at PACC. Dick, we wish you years of happiness. Thanks so very much.

Your Choir Friends

### **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. November 23 and 30 and December 14 and 28 are available. The cost is \$35 or more; you can indicate on the sign-up sheet how much you would like to pay.

## Hanging of the Greens

Please join us on Saturday, November 29, at 10:00 a.m. as we decorate the church for Advent. This traditional time of work and fellowship is the perfect way to begin the holiday season. If you have questions, call the office.

## *What's Happening at PACC*

**Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday, November 2.  
Turn clocks BACK one hour before going to bed.**

- |        |          |             |  |
|--------|----------|-------------|--|
| Sun.   | Nov. 2   | 10:00 a.m.  | Memorial Sunday worship service includes Communion                     |
|        |          | 11:30 a.m.  | Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall   |
|        |          | 11:45 a.m.  | Sacred Conversations on Race in the Chapel                             |
|        |          | 11:45 a.m.  | Youth Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room                               |
|        |          | 1:00 p.m.   | Youth Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary [tentative]                     |
|        |          | 4:30 p.m.   | Youth Groups meet to go to U2Charist                                   |
| Wed.   | Nov. 5   | 7:30 p.m.   | Fellowship & Care Ministry at the parsonage                            |
| Thu.   | Nov. 6   | all day     | Fair set-up  |
|        |          | 7:30 p.m.   | Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary                                       |
| Fri.   | Nov. 7 – | 6 – 9 pm    | Holiday Fair   |
| & Sat. | Nov. 8   | 9 am – 2 pm |  |
| Sun.   | Nov. 9   | 10:00 a.m.  | Worship service; combined Sunday School classes                        |
|        |          | 11:15 a.m.  | Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall   |
|        |          | 11:45 a.m.  | Youth Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room                               |
|        |          | 1:00 p.m.   | Youth Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary [tentative]                     |
|        |          | 8:00 p.m.   | Deadline to order oranges & grapefruit                                 |
| Mon.   | Nov. 10  |             | <b>Deadline to return ballots for 2009 Council of Deacons election</b> |
|        |          | 7:30 p.m.   | Council of Deacons in the Nicoll Room                                  |
| Tue.   | Nov. 11  |             | <i>Veterans' Day</i> ; office closed                                   |
| Wed.   | Nov. 12  | 10:00 a.m.  | Staff meeting in the Fireplace Room                                    |
|        |          | 7:30 p.m.   | Evening Bible Group in the Fireplace Room                              |
| Thu.   | Nov. 13  | 7:30 p.m.   | Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room                                     |
| Sat.   | Nov. 15  | tba         | Orange/grapefruit pick-up, location tba                                |
|        |          | 9:30 a.m.   | Sarah's Circle in the Fireplace Room                                   |

Sun.	Nov. 16	9:20 a.m.	Youth Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary
		10:00 a.m.	Worship service includes baptism of Ella Steinheider
		11:15 a.m.	Communion in the Sanctuary
		11:15 a.m.	Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall
		11:30 a.m.	Youth knitters in the Fireplace Room
		4:00 p.m.	Youth Group I in the Nicoll Room
Tue.	Nov. 18	1:30 p.m.	Bible Study at Sunrise Assisted Living Center
Wed.	Nov. 19	7:30 p.m.	Evening Bible Group in the Fireplace Room
Thu.	Nov. 20	7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room
Fri.	Nov. 21	6:30 p.m.	Sunday School family potluck, Fireplace & Nicoll Rooms
Sun.	Nov. 23	10:00 a.m.	Ingathering Sunday worship service
		11:15 a.m.	Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall
Mon.	Nov. 24		Deadline for December <i>Spire</i>
Tue.	Nov. 25	7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in the Nicoll Room
Thu.	Nov. 27		<i>Thanksgiving Day</i> ; office closed
Fri.	Nov. 28		Office closed
Sat.	Nov. 29	10:00 a.m.	Hanging of the Greens
Sun.	Nov. 30	10:00 a.m.	Worship service
			Sunday School Advent workshop
		11:15 a.m.	Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

*coming later in the year*

Sun.	Dec. 7	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Concert in the Sanctuary
Sun.	Feb. 8	3:00 p.m.	Tuttle/You Concert in the Sanctuary
Sun.	Feb. 22	3:00 p.m.	Edwards/Brody Concert in the Sanctuary
Sun.	Apr. 5	3:00 p.m.	Handbell Chorus Concert in the Sanctuary
Sat.	Apr. 25		Rummage Sale
Sat.	May 9		Craft Fair

### The Orange/Grapefruit Fundraising Project

The Philharmonic Society of Arlington (P.S.A.), which rents space at PACC, suggested that we join them in their fund raiser in November, December and/or February. Council voted to try the November event, then decide if we wish to try the other month(s) also.

Here's how it will work and how you can help:

- 1) You and/or your friends will buy a box or two. *Or, you may even order ½ a box of fruit.* Order forms are available on the table in the narthex. **The deadline for ordering is Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM**
- 2) You will help us spread the word that we are selling boxes of delicious fruit, and collect the money, or direct folks to others who are collecting payment.
- 3) Several of you will help in the coordination of this project, answering questions, collecting payment at church, during the Fair, or wherever needed.
- 4) **Fruit arrives Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.**

- 5) Several strong volunteers will sign up to help unload the big truck on Saturday, November 15 (breakfast provided), then help load up our orders and bring them to a central place for distribution to PACC purchasers.
- 6) Help at the PACC distribution site to hand out the orders on November 15.

**The Fruit:** The fruit comes in 20 lb. boxes (2/5 bushel) which contain 30 to 40 oranges or 15 to 20 grapefruit. In November the oranges are big navels, incredibly good for juice, and sweet pink grapefruit. It is literally picked two days before it is delivered, put on refrigerated trucks and sent. The difference is like the difference between really good wine and grape koolaid. (Well, almost!) Furthermore, it is about the same price as the supermarket. It is much less expensive than those gift boxes from catalogues.

**The cost is \$26 a box or \$13 for half a box, due with the order.**

**Checks should be made out to PACC.** Please note that the money is for the "Orange/Grapefruit Fundraiser"

Questions? Contact Jill Lewis.

## **Annual PACC Holiday Fair**

**Friday, November 7 & Saturday, November 8**

**Help get the word out!** There are brightly-colored flyers (half-sheet size) on the table in the narthex. Take some to give to friends. Post them on bulletin boards. Tuck them in treat-or-treat bags on Halloween. If you would like more, call Kathy in the office, and she will get them to you.

This is very important to our church, both as a much-needed fundraiser and as an event that combines fun and fellowship with meaningful work for the good of the church. It will be successful if everyone participates in some way. Look over the following list of ideas and see if there is something you can do to make this year's fair one of our best.

### **Photos and Silhouettes: Plan ahead for Christmas gifts and cards!**

Mary Caisley, Linda Cohn's sister, who is a talented amateur photographer, will be at the fair with her background and lights to take portraits of children, individuals, families, even pets! You'll get your photos on a CD, so you can make get your own prints and enlargements made. Mary and her husband Don also do beautiful silhouettes, which would make great Christmas gifts. (They also do pet silhouettes. See Linda Cohn if you'd like to see a sample of a pet silhouette and talk about how that could be done.)

### **New this year at the fair: Adopt me – Dress me – Take me home!**

We have many cute stuffed animals (bears and monkeys and a few lions, lambs, and pandas) and the clothes to fit them (dresses, shorts and shirts, jackets, nightgowns, shoes, hats, etc.), plus colorful canvas bags to store it all. Little girls will love dressing their stuffed friend in the ballerina/fairy outfit that includes leotard, tutu, and fairy wings. The clothes will also fit Cabbage Patch dolls and other dolls or animals of about that size.

**Cookie Walk needs cookies:** It is time to open up your cook books and look for your recipes, because we need dozens and dozens of delicious cookies for the Cookie Walk Table at the Fair. There is a sign-up sheet on the kitchen door in the Parish Hall. I have

received many coffee cans and will be happy for more if anyone still has a collection. Thank you so much for your help with this popular money maker.

Connie Dugan

**Other ways to help now:**

- Bake and freeze cookies for the cookie walk or items for the bake table
- Sort jewelry to donate to the jewelry table
- Set aside used books in good condition to donate to the book table
- Think about special items to donate to the silent auction

If you have questions about the fair or would like to volunteer to help, please call the office.

**YES! I would like to volunteer to help**

**with the**

**2008 PACC HOLIDAY FAIR!**

Friday, November 7 and Saturday, November 8

- I will bake a pie or pies for the Friday night pie room
- I will bake cookies for the Cookie Walk
- I will bake items to be sold at the baked goods table
- I will make sauce, jam, candy, pickles, fudge
- I will bring leftover Halloween candy or \_\_\_\_\_ for the Country Store
- I will save and bring to the church books and jewelry in good condition
- I will help decorate
- I will work at a sales table. Table preference, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday evening (6 to 9)  
 Saturday (Fair is from 9 to 2) Hours I am able to work Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_
- I will help set-up \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_\_ Friday
- I will help clean -up  
 Friday after the dinner  
 Saturday at 2:00  
 Sunday after coffee hour
- I will help with the advertising (contact newspapers, distribute flyers, web site)
- I will give a monetary donation to defray the costs of the fair  
(food for making lasagna dinner, supplies etc.)
- I have another idea (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING.** Please fill out the form and leave it in the box provided in the Narthex (by November 2 at the latest).

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Speak with Linda Cohn or Bev Miller.

**Complete a Silent Auction form. Return to the table in the Narthex.**

## **GOING! GOING!! GONE!!!**

PACC will hold a silent auction in conjunction with the Holiday Fair. We're hoping that EVERY PACC family will contribute an item to our auction, whether it be a talent, a service, or a donated item.

EVERYONE has a talent or service that they can donate to our auction. Here are a few possibilities ...

Are you a terrific cook? How about a big batch of homemade cookies delivered to the high bidder's home every month for six months? one birthday cake for each member of the lucky bidder's immediate family during the next twelve months? a complete dinner for four delivered to the high bidder's home? a dinner party for six hosted by you in your home?

Are you an accountant, artist, computer whiz, florist, furniture refinisher, plumber, electrician, wallpaper hanger, painter, window washer, auto mechanic, seamstress, hairdresser, typist, or tutor who can donate your services?

Could you provide lesson(s) in art? origami? music? singing? sewing? computer programming?

Are you a reliable plant sitter? house sitter? baby sitter? pet sitter?

Do you have a condo or summer cottage that you could offer as a weekend getaway or vacation package?

How about dressing as a clown and face painting at a child's birthday party? How about delivering a balloon bouquet or singing telegram? How about videotaping a special event for the high bidder?

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS!!!!

We will also most gratefully accept new items to be auctioned off. Or how about gift certificates to local gift shops, supermarkets, department stores, malls, restaurants, book stores, beauty salons, etc.? How about donating movie passes, concert tickets, or tickets to sporting events?

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE AND RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE OR SPECIALLY-DESIGNATED BOX IN THE NARTHEX NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2. WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR SUPPORTING THIS IMPORTANT PACC FUNDRAISER.

***Holiday Fair Silent Auction***  
***November 7 and 8, 2008***

Please return this form to the church office or specially designated box in the narthex  
**no later than Sunday, November 2.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Talent/service/item(s)/approximate value of each item donated:

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

Restrictions/special instructions on donations (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- I will deliver to church on Thursday, November 6
- I will deliver to church on Friday, November 7 by 3 p.m.
- Please pick up my donation. Call me at \_\_\_\_\_  
Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

It will not be possible to accept late donations for the Silent Auction Table, but we will gladly accept them and place them for sale at other Fair tables.

If you have questions, please call Nadine Lombard.