



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

The Rev. Leah Lyman Waldron, Minister

November 2018



**WARRANT**

**Special Congregational Meeting**

A **Special Meeting** of the Park Avenue Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Arlington Heights, Massachusetts, is called for **Sunday, November 4, 2018**, immediately after morning worship (i.e., approximately 11:00 a.m.), in the Sanctuary, for the following purposes:

1. To consider the proposal of the PSCC Legacy Grant Working Group for the use of the legacy grant given to us by the Pleasant Street Congregational Church when it closed.
2. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

In case of lack of a quorum due to inclement weather or some other circumstance, the meeting will be convened on Sunday, November 11, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

  
Valerie L. Censabella, Moderator

  
Linda Cohn, Clerk

# Greetings from our Pastor!

PACC members and friends,

Recently I walked into the sacristy, newly de-cluttered in preparation for our big all-church clean up. (For those wondering, the sacristy is located behind and to the left of the choir loft; it's home to all of our worship accoutrement.)

I was struck by two things: first, how easy it was to find the important things. Communion ware, candle supplies, acolyte garb, and the colorful silks that help us differentiate between church seasons were all easily accessible. And second, I was struck by how spacious the sacristy now feels. With all the "extras" cleared away, there's both perspective and room to move.

It got me thinking about what happens when we do a good clean-out of our lives. When we de-clutter our stuff, schedules, and commitments, the priorities easily pop to the forefront and we can feel ourselves breathe.

Worship and prayer can be excellent ways to accomplish this re-ordering of our lives. When we set aside time to let all the "extras" go so that we can focus on God and sustaining ourselves spiritually, what's truly important comes into focus and life becomes a little clearer, a little easier to handle.

As we gear up for the holidays and some big events here at church, I encourage you to start spending just five minutes a day sitting quietly. You can read scripture, pray, listen to music - or just stare out the window with your morning cup of caffeine until all the nagging to-dos subside and you feel a sense of peace. Take a moment to thank God for meeting you in the cleared-out space, and ask for that peaceful feeling to go with you the rest of the day.

Try it, and let me know how it goes. And be sure to take a peek in the sacristy if you need a little inspiration!

Blessings,



Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor

P.S. A huge thank you to all who organized and participated in our big fall clean-up! The church looks fantastic - cleaned up and cleared out so that we can keep focusing on our priorities: *to practice deep and fulfilling connection with God and each other, so that we can live as true neighbors, belonging to and caring for others as our own.*

# The Holiday Fair is on the horizon – How can you help?

*Celebrate* <sup>THE</sup> *Season*

**November 17, 2018, 10:00 am to 4:00pm**

Preparations are at full throttle. Folks are busily crafting, creating, baking, and planning.

**THANKS** to all who are working on items for the Fair. If you are creating something we DON'T know about and will need space for display in the Gift Shop, please leave a message at the church office.

**Regarding DELIVERY:** Please bring **NON-PERISHABLE** items to the church for pricing by noon on **Thursday, Nov. 15**. There will be someone available in the Fellowship room to receive items from 7-9 p.m. on Wednesday evening, Nov 14 and from 8 am-12 noon on Thursday, Nov 15. The side door to the Fellowship room will be unlocked during that time.

**PERISHABLE** items (cookies, baked goods, candies, jellies etc.) should be delivered to the Parish Hall by noon on Friday for pricing. **Please be sure to label the item you are contributing including the ingredients, particularly wheat, nuts, eggs, or other common allergens.** Please put your name on containers you want returned.

The fair is the biggest fundraiser of the year. To make it a success, **VOLUNTEERS** are needed on Friday November 16 for set up, during the fair on Saturday November 17 to man the tables, serve food, collect money and assist with children's activities including Photos with Santa, or wherever else needed, and after 4:30pm for clean-up. If you can spare an hour, or two, or three on either date, your help would be greatly appreciated.

**Monetary donations** are also accepted and appreciated to defray some of the costs of the fair.

**To volunteer**, there are sign-up sheets in the Narthex, or use the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a45aea929a5f58-holiday>

**If you have questions and/or would like to contribute/participate, please contact:**

Tina Gramm ([acg@grammau.net](mailto:acg@grammau.net)) (781)646-7852), Gwen Phelps ([gwendy646@aol.com](mailto:gwendy646@aol.com)) (617)996-2670), or Christine Rochon ([cebbyrochon@hotmail.com](mailto:cebbyrochon@hotmail.com)) (781)643-8680).

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*Possibilities for Growing in Faith, Enjoying Fellowship, and Serving Park Avenue Congregational Church and the World*



Many times, people are looking for opportunities to serve PACC or the greater world. Wouldn't it be nice if it was condensed into one easy list? We hope to provide that for you every month. Please take a look at some of the current opportunities available.

## **Opportunity to participate in the Christian Education Ministry**

Would you like to learn more about Christian Education at PACC? We're looking for a few more people to join the CE working group to meet quarterly to discuss all things CE, help support our Sunday school, volunteer to help out at the Christmas pageant and Youth Sunday/church picnic and other special events. Questions? Please speak to Marianne McPherson or Kate Lindheim.

## **Opportunities to Participate in the Holiday Fair**

Please use the following link to let us know the ways you can help contribute to the fair: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a45aea929a5f58-holiday>

## **Opportunities to Participate in the Mission and Justice Ministry**

M&J will be looking for helpers for upcoming projects: deciding funds distribution to assorted charities, helping with announcements and collections for Christmas Shops, Arlington Family assistance, and Veterans gift cards. Speak to Mike Rich or Jill Lewis for questions or more information.

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## **CONNECT Community Series - Upcoming Events**

On **November 10, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**, we're hosting a **Better Angels Skills Workshop**. Come learn how to re-humanize people on the other side of the political divide - just in time for sitting down to holiday meals with that relative with whom you can never seem to agree! The Better Angels mission is to depolarize America - learn more at <https://www.better-angels.org>.

### **Our Sermons are online!**

Couldn't make it to worship? Want to share a sermon with a friend? Curious about a book or other resource mentioned during a sermon? Written versions of Pastor Leah's sermons are regularly posted online a day or two after worship, with audio versions following soon after, at [www.pacc-ucc.org/sermons](http://www.pacc-ucc.org/sermons).

# Groups at PACC

## Sarah's Circle

We will meet on **Saturday, November 10, at 10:00 am** in the Fellowship Room. We will discuss Spymistress: The True Story of the Greatest Female Secret Agent of World War II. A warning: some readers found it a difficult book to get through. Those who wish to meditate may come at 9:30am. We will need volunteers for milk/cream. Please join us!

## Knitting Group

Bring your handcrafts and join us on **Tuesday, November 13, from 7:30 pm - 9 pm** in the Fireplace room!

## Women's Guild

Women's Guild will meet on **Thursday, November 15 at 10:00 am**. Please bring a bag lunch as this will be a working meeting and the reason we are starting earlier than usual. We will be receiving and pricing items for the Fair so that they will be ready for set up and display on Friday, Nov.16. Fellowship and fun are promised and as always, all women of the church are welcome!

## PACC Men

The PACC-Men will be dining at Town Tavern in East Arlington on Tuesday evening, **November 6, at 6:30 pm**. Please email Dave Morrissette at [drmorriss@comcast.net](mailto:drmorriss@comcast.net) if you plan on attending.

## Learning to Pray

Learning to Pray is an informal gathering both for those who are brand new to prayer to become familiar with it *and* for folks who want to add to their prayer tool box while reinvigorating their faith. Just as important will be the chance to grow in our relationships with one another - a vital component of a healthy and vibrant church! We meet on **the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 9 am** (ending by 9:45 am) and on **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 7:30 pm**. Both groups are led by Pastor Leah, and you are free to attend either or both, and to come when you can.

## PACC Art Group

We have started an Open Studio Art Group that is lots of fun. The art groups benefit is to help encourage and support one another in our creative natures. We work individually on our own artwork and share in group interactions. Both beginners and advanced artists join. Everyone is welcome! Children need to be accompanied by an

adult. The Art Group meets Mondays or Tuesdays weekly (you don't need to attend every session.) Our meeting calendar for 2 months: November - 13, 20, 26 and December- 4, 11, 17. We meet in the Fellowship Room. Please use the side door on Paul Revere Rd. The group runs from 6:30 pm- 9:00 pm. Please bring your art supplies with you. If you need any help getting supplies, or have any questions feel free to contact: Gwen Phelps [gwendy646@aol.com](mailto:gwendy646@aol.com) (617)966- 2670 or Karen Stark [kastark@rcn.com](mailto:kastark@rcn.com) (781)290 -7905.

## 2019 Council of Deacons Election

The PACC Council of Deacons is the general administrative body of the church. Deacons are considered the spiritual leaders of the church. Deacons are elected each fall by direct congregational vote. A full term of service is two years. After a deacon has served two consecutive terms or part thereof on the Council, he or she is ineligible for election for one year. The ballot contains the names of all members of the church except those who are ineligible.

If you'd like to know more, ask a current or past Deacon. It's a rewarding job. If you are called to join the Council, I hope you will prayerfully consider it.

Ballots for the 2019 election for new members of the Council of Deacons have been distributed.

**Ballots should be returned to the box in the narthex no later than Sunday, November 11, or delivered or mailed to the church office so that they are received by Tuesday, November 13.** The Election Committee will meet on the evening of Tuesday, November 13, to tabulate the votes and then begin contacting the top vote getters to determine who is able and willing to serve on the church's governing board beginning in January 2019.



## Stewardship

As you consider how you would like to support PACC in the coming year, we invite you to think about what you love about PACC and how your financial gifts might support the church to provide that same ministry to others.

Pledge cards will be handed out on **November 4**, (any not picked up will be mailed on the 5<sup>th</sup>). We encourage you to bring in your pledge on **November 18<sup>th</sup>** and place it in the offering plate along with your offering for that day as a celebration of all that God is doing in and through PACC!

# Christian Education



## Sunday School

We'll continue to learn stories about Moses in November. We'll also start talking about the Christmas pageant and learning some music for the pageant in November.

We'll have music with Andy on **November 11**.

## Youth Groups

We'll make sandwiches and join Outdoor Church staff to give food and meet with people experiencing homelessness on well-established routes through Harvard and Central Squares. On **November 3**, we'll meet at PACC at 1:00 pm and return to PACC at about 5:15 pm. We'll need another adult to accompany us and possibly someone to help drive us to Harvard Epworth Church (1555 Mass Ave) and pick us up. Look for an email with more details as we get closer to the date.

## Looking Ahead

Our Christmas pageant will be on **Sunday, December 9**, during the worship service. Our one and only rehearsal with everyone will be on **Saturday, December 8** from 9:30-11 am in the sanctuary. Look for an email with many more details as we get closer to the date!

## Youth Choir – Let's Get Back Into the "Sing"!

**General schedule for Youth Choir:** We rehearse on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays of each month, in the Nicoll Room (after Church/Sunday School, usually around 11:15 am -12:00 pm). On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, we have an early rehearsal at 9:20 am, and on that Sunday, we sing in the church service during the "All Ages" time. This schedule is from September through June, and we also prepare for the Pageant, Christmas Concert, and other special events. We sing all kinds of beautiful things: contemporary and classical music, **Andy Hart** ([hartandrea@comcast.net](mailto:hartandrea@comcast.net)). Thank you very much, and see you soon!

# Mission and Justice Matters at PACC



## Mission and Justice Spotlight



### Federal and State Election - November 6th

Don't forget to vote - Polls open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

If you are new to Arlington or Massachusetts, you can fill in your address at <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/> to find out where you vote and what candidates are on the various ballots.

See the League of Women MA Voters Guide about the candidates around the state at <https://lwvma.org/candidate-forums-and-debates/>.

See ACMI video of the Middlesex County District Attorney and Governor's Council Candidates Forum at <http://acmi.tv/videos/middlesex-county-district-attorney-governers-council-candidate-debate/>.

### Local

#### **Arlington Food Pantry**

Bring non-perishable food items and household goods to church by **Sunday, November 4**. Find a list of high-need items at [arlingtonfoodpantry.org/donate-food](http://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, November 24**, 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!

### ISSUES

#### **Freedom for all Massachusetts**

In November, Massachusetts will vote for respect and dignity. Here's what you need to know. On Election Day, Massachusetts voters will face the first-ever statewide popular vote on protections for transgender people from discrimination. The referendum would repeal our state law that protects transgender people from discrimination in public places, including restaurants, stores, and doctors' offices. A "yes" vote keeps the current law as it is. See <https://www.freedommassachusetts.org/> for more information.

# Church Family News

*In our prayers:*

The family of **Connie MacGillivray**, a longtime PACC member, who died on 9/28. She was an active member of the church in years past.

**Christie Getto Young** and **her family**, after the death of her mother, **Peggy Getto**, on 10/14 because of complications from cancer.

**Alicia Tapper** and **her family**, after her uncle, **Frank Gigliotti**, recently died from lung cancer.

**Jennifer German** and **Michael German**, whose mother, **Marjory German**, died on 10/4 after a long illness. She was a former church member and a friend of many at PACC.

**John Cavicchia**, PACC's former organist, after the recent deaths of both his mother and father.

The family of **John Shumaker**, after his sudden death on 9/27. He was the son of **Marion Shumaker**, a PACC member, who died in January this year.

**John Gardner**, who is home from the hospital and rehab and is under hospice care.

**Karen Stark**, who is home recovering with a broken leg.

**Skip Symonds**, who returned home after a stay in rehab.

**Taryn Hogan's** cousin, **David**, who continues treatment for esophageal cancer.

**Margaret Bell-Berman**, who is at home after tearing ligaments in her ankle.

**Evelyn Lewis**, who has moved to Presentation Rehab & Skilled Care Center in Brighton and is being treated for pneumonia.

**Darryl, Michael Williams's** brother, who will be making the transition from incarceration to a new life in freedom.

**Steve Russell**, a cousin of **Ethan Brush**, who was diagnosed with chronic leukemia will be monitored for possible future treatment. Steve's mother and Ethan's aunt, **Alicia Russell**, recently started chemotherapy for inoperable liver cancer.

*Also, please keep in your prayers:* **Carol Barker, Karen Davies, Janet Doe, Zoila Flores-Quesada, Marilyn Jansen, Jane Puopolo, Linda Jarvis Randall, Marcia Rieth, Joan Sorenson, Annabelle Williams, Marty Woodin, Timothy Young, and Claire Zia.**

# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1- Michael Morrisette                   | 11- Scott Jones                           |
| 2- William Gibbons, Elena Lombard Hogan | 13- Kayla Woodin                          |
| 3- Beverly Miller                       | 15- Ken Miller, Bob Forte                 |
| 5- Sue McNary                           | 17- Evelyn Lewis                          |
| 6- Joey Daniels, Mark Ewen, Judy Fox    | 18- Nadine Lombard                        |
| 8- Evan Brush                           | 21- Lauren Evans                          |
| 9- Doris Hill                           | 24- Norma Sherwood, Taryn Hogan, Peg Kyle |

## Annual Appeal for Mass Conference Dues

Each fall we invite members to make a special donation to cover the cost of our dues for the Massachusetts Conference of the UCC and for the Metropolitan Boston Association. This year the amount is \$23.00. Please consider making a special gift of \$20 - \$25 per member in your family. The Mass Conference is the vehicle for our denominational involvement, including CE curriculum, mission and justice matters, and educational sessions on Super Saturdays. It also provides service to the 400+ UCC churches in Massachusetts. Checks should be made out to PACC, and envelopes should be marked "Mass Conference Dues." Thank you to those who have already contributed.

## Church Office Hours

### Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor

*Drop in office hours (subject to change):* Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Please contact Leah for additional meeting days/times - she is happy to meet with you!

*Days off:* Friday & Saturday

Pastoral Emergencies: Call or email any day or time: (781)281-9523 or [pastorleah@pacc-ucc.org](mailto:pastorleah@pacc-ucc.org)

### Kate Lindheim, Christian Education Director

Please call the office to arrange an appointment.

### Christine Rochon, Office Administrator

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm, Phone: (781)643-8680

## NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> 10:00 AM <b>Worship Service, S</b> 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 11:15 AM Fair Working Group Meeting, FPR 3:00 PM Music to Cure MS concert, PH 4:00 PM Youth Group, Kitchen	<b>29</b> 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	<b>30</b> 6:00 PM Art Group, FR 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH 7:00 PM Vox Lucens, N 7:30 PM Mission and Justice Meeting, FPR	<b>31</b> 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH	<b>1</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	<b>2</b> 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	<b>3</b> 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC/TNR, PH</i>
<b>4</b> Food Pantry Collection Memorial Sunday 10:00 AM <b>Worship Service, S</b> 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting, S 11:15 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, NR 11:30 AM Coffee Hour, PH 1:30 PM Concert Series - S & PH	<b>5</b> 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 7:30 PM Finance-FR 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	<b>6</b> ELECTION DAY 6:30 PM PACC Men, Town Tavern in Arlington 7:00 PM Thai Chi, FR 7:00 PM Vox Lucens, N	<b>7</b> 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Learning to Pray, FR	<b>8</b> 1:00 PM Staff Meeting - FPR 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	<b>9</b> 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	<b>10</b> 10:00 AM <b>CONNECT</b> Event: Better Angels, PH 10:00 AM Sara's Circle, FR 2:00 PM <i>Girl Scouts 69203-N</i>
<b>11</b> 10:00 AM <b>Worship Service, S</b> 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH 11:15 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, NR	<b>12</b> 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 7:30 PM Council of Deacons, FR 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	<b>13</b> Deacon Election Ballots due by 5pm to church office 6:00 PM Art Group, FR 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH 7:00 PM Vox Lucens, N	<b>14</b> 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Bible Study, FR	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM Women's Guild, FR 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N	<b>16</b> 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	<b>17</b> 10:00 AM Holiday Fair, PH, FR
<b>18</b> Youth Choir Sunday 9:00 AM Learning to Pray, FR 9:20 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal, S 10:00 AM <b>Worship Service, S</b> 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 <i>Girl Scout Troop 62571, FPR</i>	<b>19</b> 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	<b>20</b> 6:00 PM Art Group, FR 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH 7:00 PM Vox Lucens, N	<b>21</b> 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Learning to Pray, FR	<b>22</b> Church Office Closed THANKSGIVING DAY 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	<b>23</b> Church Office Closed THANKSGIVING DAY 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	<b>24</b> 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i> 5:00 PM NEAT Dinner, St. John's
<b>25</b> 10:00 AM <b>Worship Service, S</b> 11:15 AM Coffee Hour, PH	<b>26</b> 4:30 PM Homeless Coalition Supper 6:00 PM Art Group, FR 7:00 PM <i>Chorale-PH</i> 8:00 PM <i>Chorale-N</i>	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Rising Star Quilting Group, PH 7:00 PM Thai Chi, FR 7:00 PM Thai Chi, PH 7:00 PM Vox Lucens, N	<b>28</b> 6:50 PM English Country Dance, PH 7:30 PM Bible Study, FR	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-N 8:00 PM <i>FAC PH</i>	<b>30</b> 2:00 PM <i>Jay Lane-N</i> 8:00 PM <i>FAC-PH</i>	<b>1</b> Christmas Concert Rehearsal, S Hanging of the greens 8:00 AM Advent Event, FR 9:00 AM <i>Movement class, PH</i> 10:00 AM Quilters Workshop, PH 8:00 PM <i>FAC/TNR, PH</i>

## Sundays in November at PACC

*Worship begins at 10:00 am*

- November 4** - Worship Service with communion, Congregational Meeting, Concert Series concert, Food Pantry collection
- November 11** - Worship Service
- November 18** - Learning to Pray, Pledge Sunday, Youth Choir Sunday, Worship Service followed by mid-month communion by intinction
- November 25** - Worship Service

**The office will be closed November 22 & 23 for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday**



# The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
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Address Correction Requested

TO:

*In Open and Affirming Congregation*  
Tel.: 781-643-8680  
Email: [Office@pacc-ucc.org](mailto:Office@pacc-ucc.org)  
Website: [www.pacc-ucc.org](http://www.pacc-ucc.org)

*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  
Mike Rich, Vice Moderator  
Linda Cohn, Clerk  
Mark Tuttle, Treasurer