

JANUARY

2024 ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT

The Annual Meeting of the Park Avenue Congregational Church, United Church of Christ of Arlington Heights, Massachusetts, is called for **Sunday, January 28, 2024, at 11:00 am, in the Sanctuary** directly following morning worship. The meeting will also be broadcast live on Zoom to consider the following:

1. To receive the report of the treasurer and vote on the annual budget;
2. To receive the reports of the minister, officers, ministries, and other organizations;
3. To approve the Council of Deacons' selection for moderator, vice moderator, clerk, treasurer, and financial secretary;
4. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

If for any reason a quorum should not be present on January 28, the meeting will be adjourned to Sunday, February 4, 2024, at 11:00 am.

ZOOM INVITATION FOR: Park Avenue Congregational Church - Annual Meeting

To participate in the meeting via Zoom from your **computer/ smartphone**:
Remain on the Zoom call after worship on Sunday, January 28, OR use this link just before 11:00 am: <https://zoom.us/j/742148863>

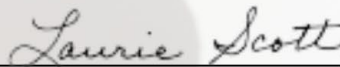
To participate via Zoom from your **phone (audio only)**:

Call this number: (929) 205 6099. If asked for a meeting ID, enter: 742 148 863

[This meeting will NOT be broadcast on FACEBOOK LIVE]



Mike Rich, Moderator



Laurie Scott, Acting Clerk



The SPIRE

Park Avenue Congregational Church, Arlington, Massachusetts
The Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor

JANUARY 2024



Greetings from our Pastor

Happy New Year, Park Avenue Friends!

January is here, with a sense of freshness and renewal as we enter a new year - one in which we will celebrate our 125th anniversary! Those celebrations will gear up a little later in the year; this month we'll kick off the new year by revisiting a few fun traditions and preparing for our annual meeting.



- **Sunday, January 7:** Join us for ***Epiphany Worship*** to receive your **Star Word**!

These unique words, printed on stars and handed out at random, will guide us through the year as we keep an eye out for how God is speaking to us through them.

We'll also celebrate communion, and commemorate Jesus' baptism with our **3rd annual Winter Dip** in a local body of water after worship. **Dippers and spectators welcome!** If you'd like to dip, contact me for dipping tips and to sign a waiver.

The dip will be at Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts at 1:00 pm. Parking is \$8 for MA license plates or free if you have a DCR pass; consider carpooling. Meet at the main beach.

- **Sunday, January 14:** Stay after worship to go through the proposed **budget** for 2024 before we vote on it at the Annual Meeting.

- **Sunday, January 28:** At the **Annual Meeting** we'll approve the budget and officers for the upcoming year. Join in person or online directly following worship.

Looking forward to seeing what God has in store for us in this special anniversary year!

Blessings,

Leah

Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor

Annual Appeal for the Southern New England Conference

Each year we invite members to make a special donation to cover the cost of our support for the Southern New England Conference and for the Metropolitan Boston Association. Please consider making a special gift of \$20 - \$25 per member in your family. The Southern New England Conference is the vehicle for our denominational involvement, including CE curriculum, mission and justice matters, and educational sessions on Super Saturdays.

Join Us For Sunday Worship

10:00 am



You can join us in person OR virtually!

Pastor Leah sends out an e-mail weekly with a link to Zoom.
Contact office@pacc-ucc.org to sign up.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY

To participate in worship via Zoom

Use this link just before 10:00 am:

<https://zoom.us/j/742148863>

To participate from your phone (audio only): Call this number: (929) 205 6099
If asked for a **meeting ID: 742 148 863**

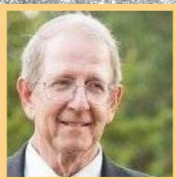
To participate via Facebook:

Go to our Facebook page on Sunday to watch live,
or visit the video part of our page to watch a recording.

Did you miss live worship?

Visit: www.pacc-ucc.org/sermons
for a video and an audio recording of the sermon.

Thanks, Nick Dokos, for making this possible!



Mike Rich
(Pronouns: he/him/his)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MODERATOR

All friends of PACC are invited to attend the Council of Deacons meetings.

**The next meeting will be on Zoom
Monday, January 8, at 7:30 pm.**

This meeting will include outgoing, incoming, and continuing members of the Council. In addition to regular monthly business, this month's agenda will include electing church officers (*Moderator, Vice Moderator, Treasurer, and clerk*), putting together the slate of personnel (*Financial Secretary, Asst. Financial Secretary, Collector, Assistant Collectors, Asst. Treasurers, Head Usher, Head Streaming Tech, and Historian*) for the Congregation to approve at the Annual Meeting, and collecting 2024 COD members' requests for ministry assignments. Let Mike know if you want to address the Council or have any agenda items.



Christian Ed. / Youth Choir

Greetings, PACC families, and Happy New Year!

What fun it has been to celebrate Advent and Christmas with you all - with the Pageant, Caroling, Christmas Eve music, our "Helpful Deeds" chains, and more! I hope you've been enjoying some relaxation and fun during this holiday season.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I'm looking forward to the new year, and to sharing more fun activities with you in Sunday School. In January, we'll begin our 2024 Confirmation Class with a wonderful group of High School students. Curious about what our young PACC peeps are up to? As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions, or if you'd like to join our team of Sunday School Teachers, or help with Youth Activities! Watch for more news soon about a First Friday Gathering and Youth Event!

YOUTH CHOIR

Thanks to all for your beautiful singing in December!

January schedule is as follows: Rehearsals **January 7** and **14** after church, and early (9:20 am) rehearsal and singing in church on **January 21**.

General schedule for Youth Choir: Rehearsals on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of each month, in the Nicoll Room (after Church/Sunday School, usually 11:30-12:15). On the 3rd Sunday of the month, we have an early rehearsal at 9:20 am to get ready to sing in the church service during All Ages time. This schedule is from September through June. We sing all kinds of beautiful things: contemporary and classical music, songs from other countries, folk songs, rounds, and spirituals, in unison and harmony. **Newcomers welcome!** If you would like to sing in this fun and lively group, come give it a try! (3rd grade and older).

THANK YOU, Andy Hart
Youth Music Director and Acting CE Director



Church Family News

In celebration:

The **D'Eon family** in celebration that their son, **Andrew D'Eon** is cancer free.

Congratulations to **Nolan Miller**, grandson of **Hal and Judy Miller**, who graduated from Clemson University in December with a Bachelor of Science degree. He is employed at Pinehurst Golf Course working in tournament organization.

In our prayers:

Linda Cohn, who continues to recover after being hit by a car and is moving to a rehab facility. Prayers also for **Don Cohn** and their sons and daughters-in-law, **Henry, Rachel, Ed** and **Susan**.

Debbie Douglas and her extended family, at the passing of her Aunt Doris.

Pam Lepri's mother, **Donna Lepri**, who is hospitalized at Beth Israel and trying to determine next steps in treatment. Also, for her cousin, **Cheryl Kelly**, who was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Peggy Kyle, who is back home at AVIVA Country Club Heights recuperating.

Jane Flores' aunt, Beatrice Lee, who is in the hospital recovering after being in a car accident.

Mike Rich, for his brother, **Jeff Rich**, who is back in the hospital with a flare up of his ongoing medical condition.

Jeffrey Brody's partner, **Richard Sizensky**, who is home recovering from a recent hospitalization. Prayers also for **Jeffrey**.

Please continue to keep in your prayers: **Linda Brinkman, Anita Clarke, Connie Dugan, Yvonne Crockett, Linda Fenner, Forté Family, Jim Gibbons, Janet Hoffman, Nancy Jacobo, Tom Janssen, Kate Lindheim, Chickie Olson, Gwen Phelps, Jane Puopolo, and Maria Zakaria.**

If you or someone you know at PACC is celebrating a milestone birthday please tell Scott Jones or Pam Lepri, our Care Ministry Deacons.

Messages from our PACC friends and family

Jim and I thank everyone for the many wonderful greetings and best wishes during the Christmas Season. We, in turn, send our Best Wishes to everyone for a wonderful New Year. Our friends at Park Avenue have been very busy and we appreciate all the notes, cards and phone calls during this busy time.

Jim and Claire Gibbons



PACC Ministries

FELLOWSHIP AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

We are in need of hosts for coffee hour. Please speak to Hong if you can help set up/clean up one Sunday a month OR if you can provide some goodies once a month OR both!

MISSION AND JUSTICE MINISTRY

While 2023 is coming to a close, it is the perfect time to start thinking about 2024! Please put the following dates in your calendar:

FOOD DRIVES: January 7, April 7, July 7, October 6

Supplies go to [Arlington EATS!](#)

HYGIENE SUPPLIES DRIVES: February 4, May 5, August 4, November 3

First three are for [Church World Services Period Kits](#)

November drive is for the [Somerville Homeless Coalition](#)

If you want to help even more, you can volunteer to deliver the donated items. Food supplies go down the hill on Park Ave and hygiene supplies go to the post office or Davis Square depending on the month. Contact Damon for more details.

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

GET READY FOR GAME NIGHTS!

There will be three game nights this coming Winter/Spring. The dates are Saturday, January 27, February 24 and March 30. This is a family-friendly event. Contact Betty Rich or Cindy Manson for questions.



MEET YOUR PACC NEIGHBORS

Join us **January 10 at 7:30 pm** for our next Zoom Meet Your PACC Neighbors Night. We will start the new year with a sneak peek at plans for PACC's year-long quasquicentennial celebration! **Cindy Manson, Travis Woodward, and Marianne McPherson** will tantalize us with plans for the coming year.

Merrith Sabo-Jones will talk about holistic medicine. How can we integrate all facets of ourselves -- psychological, spiritual, environmental, and biological -- to achieve balance and overall health? Sounds like the perfect topic for the new year.

Bring your New Year's resolutions to share if you'd like!

IN PREPARATION FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 28, 2024

Annual reports: The deadline to submit annual reports is **January 4**.

There will be copies of the combined reports of staff, officers and ministries along with financial information e-mailed to the congregation beginning January 22. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call the office, (781)643-8680.

Important Budget Meeting – PACC needs your input!

In order to prepare a balanced budget for 2024, some choices need to be made.

The budget meeting will be held on **January 14** after the Worship Service at **11:30 am** in the **Fellowship Room**.

Childcare will be available during the Annual Meeting.

Speak to Andy Hart for more information.

February SPIRE deadline - 1/27

If you have an article or a note you'd like us to run in next month's SPIRE, please send it into Christine in the office by January 27 at office@pacc-ucc.org

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 
- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 · Jane Flores | 16 · Kate Lindheim |
| 2 · Noel Forté | 21 · Yvonne Crockett |
| Kathy Richardson | 22 · Victor McNary |
| 5 · Valerie Censabella | 23 · Maureen Gormley |
| 7 · Jim Gibbons | Polly Ford |
| 8 · Diane Wells | 25 · Bonnie Hayner |
| 9 · Joscelyn Moore | 37 · Margaret Sherwood |
| 12 · Linda Anderson | 28 · Peter Domenichella |
| Mike Rich | 29 · Cameron French |
| 13 · Becky Jones | |
| Milo O'Rourke | |



PACC Groups

PACC MEN

No meeting this month. See e-mails form more information.

WOMEN'S GUILD

On **Thursday, January 18, at 11:30 am** in the **Fellowship Room**. It will be a regular bag lunch with coffee, tea and dessert provided. As always in the winter months our meetings are weather dependent. If it is snowy or icy, we will cancel the meeting.

We want everyone to be safe!

Happy New Year, Diane Wells and Beverly Miller

DE-hanging of the greens
January 6 at 9:00 am

Volunteers needed to help remove greens

On **Saturday, January 6, beginning at 9:00 am** we will remove the greens from the Sanctuary and Narthex. If you have questions, speak with Bonnie Hayner. Many thanks to those who assisted with Hanging the Greens and decorating the church for Christmas.

Happy
New Year
2024



**PACC's
3rd Annual**

WINTER DIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 AT 1:00 PM
WALDEN POND, CONCORD, MA

Park Avenue Congregational Church
50 Paul Revere Rd., Arlington MA 02476
www.pacc-succ.org • (781) 643-8660



You received holiday greetings through the PACC Christmas tree from these friends:

Hong and Susan Chin and family

Nick and Liz Dokos and family

Barbara Wagner, Tim, Gretchen
and Rachel Durning

The Forté Family

Jane Flores

Norma Gormley

Tina Gramm and Bryan Mau

Andy Hart, Tony, Hannah, and
Aaron Colonnese

Bonnie and Bill Hayner

Tom and Jill Jannsen

The Jones family

The Kane family

Debbie Lewis

Buck and Nadine Lombard

The McPherson/Sidel family

Judy and Hal Miller

The Nihan/Morrisette family

Roger Nicoll

Gwen Phelps and Stephen

Mike and Betty Rich

The Rochon family

Ella and Ralph Sexton

Meredythe Schober

Laurie and Steve Scott

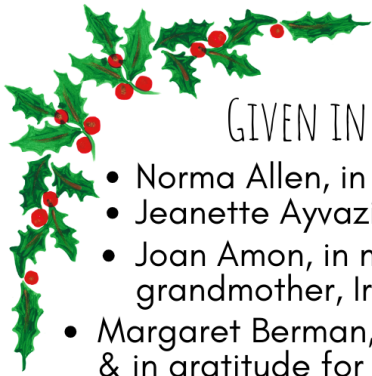
Karen Stark, Helen and
Owen Record

The Steinheider family

Claudia and Keith Truesdale

Diane Wells

Brenda Wesinger



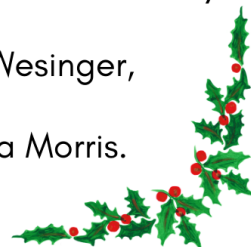
Christmas Flowers

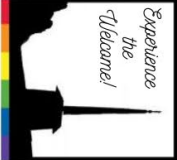
GIVEN IN MEMORY AND IN HONOR OF THOSE WE LOVE.

- Norma Allen, in memory of loved ones.
- Jeanette Ayvazian, in memory of loved ones.
- Joan Amon, in memory of her father, Richard Amon, and grandmother, Irene Langer.
- Margaret Berman, in loving memory of her husband, David Berman, & in gratitude for the love of Jesus as He guides us through each day.
- The Bell, Berman, Olson, & O'Rourke families, in loving memory of Mark Bell, Peter MacDougall, and Vera Kistiakowsky.
- Susan O'Rourke, Chickie Olson, and Margaret Berman, in loving memory of Uncle Dick Powers and Auntie Barbara.
- The Barreto-Pichette families, in loving memory of Kate and Dugald MacCallum, Susan (MacCallum) and Richard Erickson. Their love for all at PACC will forever live on.
- Bob and Edith Burge, in memory of Beth Doty.
- Cheryl and David Craigie, in memory of loved ones.
- Maurice Celosse and Patti Sampson, in loving memory of Richard Sampson. In remembrance of loved ones nearer to God.
- Paul and Linda Carew, in memory of Alvira and John Gardner.
- Valerie Censabella and family, in memory of loved ones.
- Don and Linda Cohn, Henry & Rachel, Ed & Susan, in memory of Don's parents, Lee and Garnette Cohn; Linda's parents, Henry and Dorothy Parsons; and Arlene Brown and her sister, Helen Kendall.
- Amy Dugan and Jen Agne, in loving memory of their father, Robert Dugan, and in honor of their mother, Connie Dugan.
- Tim Durning and Barbara Wagner, in memory of Harry and Judy Durning, Carl and Emma Belle Wagner, and Betsy Wagner.
- Debbie Douglas, in honor of Ken and Doris Pierce.
- The Elias family, in honor of Linda Fenner.
- The Ford family, in memory of James Macgregor and Ann Ford, and Lemuel Ford and Bob Goodrich.
- Norma Gormley, in memory of loved ones.
- Tina Gramm and Bryan Mau, in memory of Irmgard and Hans Gramm and Carol and Bill Mau.

- Betsy and Glenn Hale, in loving memory of Betsy's parents, Ron and Peg McCall.
- Sharon Hamilton, in memory of her mother Rose Saros, and Mother-in-law Dallas Hamilton.
- Bonnie and Bill Hayner and Debbie Lewis, in memory of Stan and Betty Lewis. Evelyn and Clinton Kidder. Betty Lewis Pacheco, Evelyn Lewis, and Bob Gonser.
- Julia Lee, in memory of her parents, Saul and Vera Satulsky.
- Jill Lewis, in memory of loved ones.
- Leanne Marden, in memory of her parents LeRoy and Lois Lind.
- McPherson/Sidel family, in loving memory of our family's angels, Anita McPherson, Roger and Lincoln Westcott, Luke Kerbeshian, Steve Williams, and John Topjian.
- The Mary Martha Fellowship, in memory of Linda Orf Branham and Ann Bruhn.
- Angela Meehan, in loving memory of Elizabeth D. Meehan.
- Ken and Beverly Miller, in memory of loved ones.
- Hal and Judy Miller, in memory of loved ones.
- Dave Morrisette and Christine Nihan, in memory of Loretta Daley and Muriel Nihan.
- Gwen Phelps, the Moore and Ferreira families, in loving memory of Dick and Judith Phelps.
- Mary Rogers, in honor and memory of loved ones, past and present.
- Meredythe Schober, in memory of her husband, Dick Schober.
- Steve and Laurie Scott, in memory of their parents.
- Karen Stark, in loving memory of Doug Record and her parents Keith and Faith Stark.
- Holly Stumpf, in loving memory of her brother Gordon and her parents Louise and C.C.
- Brenda Wesinger and Deborah Daigle, in memory of Helena, Buddy, and David Oland.
- Brenda and Danny Wesinger, in memory of Leonard Wesinger, Marion and Daniel Beaton, and Carole Errico.
- The Youngblood Murphy family, in memory of Barbara Morris.

Merry Christmas!





Park Avenue Congregational Church

The United Church of Christ

50 Paul Revere Road

Arlington, Massachusetts 02476

An Open and Affirming Congregation

(781)643-8680

E-mail: Office@pac-ucc.org

www.pac-ucc.org

STAFF

Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor

Christine Rochon, Office Administrator

Jeffrey Brody, Music Director/Organist

Andrea Hart, Youth Music Director & Int. CE Dir.

Victor and Sue McNary, Sextons

OFFICERS

Mike Rich, Moderator

Valerie Censabella, Vice Moderator

Linda Cohn, Clerk

Mark Tuttle, Treasurer