

# PARK AVENUE

## Congregational Church

**Sunday Worship 10:00 am**



### Recurring Events



#### **DIGITAL PRAYER**

Wednesdays at 10:30 am

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

#### **YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE**

1st and 2nd Sundays at 11:30 am,  
3rd Sundays at 9:20 am

#### **CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICE**

Thursdays at 7:30 pm

### This Month

#### **Blessing of the Pets**

October 3, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

#### **Ice Cream Social**

October 4, after Sunday Worship

#### **PACC Men**

October 6, 6:30 pm, Fellowship Room

**N.E.A.T. Dinner** - October 10, 5:30 pm, in the Parish Hall

**Deacon Election Ballots Available** - October 11, in the Narthex

#### **Council of Deacons Meeting**

October 12, 7:30 pm

#### **PACC Photo Directory Appointments**

October 13 & October 14 - More details inside!

**Women's Guild** : October 15, 11:30 am, Fellowship Room

**AI and Faith Workshop**: October 25, 11:15 am in the Sanctuary

**Halloween Bash** : October 30, 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall

**SAVE THE DATE**

**PACC's FALL FAIR**

November 15 • 11AM-2PM



**Coat Boston Drive** : Now through Nov. 8!



**The SPIRE**

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

**OCTOBER 2026**

# Join us for Sunday Worship



You can join us in person OR virtually at 10:00 am.  
An e-mail is sent weekly with a link to Zoom.  
Contact [office@pacc-ucc.org](mailto:office@pacc-ucc.org) to sign up.

## HOW TO ATTEND VIRTUALLY

Use this link just before 10:00 am: <https://zoom.us/j/742148863>

**To participate from your phone** (audio only): (929) 205 6099  
Meeting ID: 742 148 863

### **To participate via Facebook:**

Go to our Facebook page on Sunday to watch live.

**Did you miss live worship? Visit:** [www.pacc-ucc.org/sermons](http://www.pacc-ucc.org/sermons)  
for a video and an audio recording of the sermon.

**THANKS, NICK DOKOS, FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE!**

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR MODERATOR TIM DURNING



You are invited to attend and participate in the discussions at the Council of Deacons meetings. Let Tim know if you would like to address the Council or have agenda items to suggest.

**THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**  
WILL BE ON ZOOM,  
**OCTOBER 12, 2026 AT 7:30 PM.**

### ***A Pledge Reminder***

Please take a moment to **check in on your 2026 pledge** and catch up if you've fallen behind. Every gift helps support the ministries, programs, and mission of our church, and we are grateful for your continued generosity and commitment to PACC.





# Greetings from our Pastor



**Hello Park Avenue Friends,**

AI is everywhere now, including both places we are glaringly aware of it and places we don't even know it is shaping our worldview. It consumes vast amounts of water, gets "trained" on the work of writers and creators without their consent or compensation, and generates fake videos and false citations. *And*, it saves ordinary people time on tedious tasks, creates chat bots that help people who cannot afford or access therapy, and helps research scientists process data as they work to solve pressing problems. So how do we, as people of faith, navigate this complex and ever-developing technology in ways that are true to our values?

Come learn about it at our next CONNECT event, **AI & Our Faith**, on **Sunday, October 25 at 11:15 am**, both **in person and online**. We'll finish worship, take a short break for coffee, then come back together (*on the same Zoom stream*) for learning and discussion led by **Weijia Cheng**. Weijia, a former Silicon Valley software engineer and current student at the Boston University School of Theology, will walk us through the basic idea of artificial intelligence and introduce concepts from the Christian tradition that might help us establish a responsible relationship with this emerging technology. The workshop will provide an opportunity to build AI literacy and practice individual and collective reflection on the ethics of artificial intelligence.

In a world where so much can feel out of our control, I'm excited for us to gain some tools that will help us make informed decisions about such a big topic.

Looking forward to learning and growing together with you, *Leah*

**Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron**



**A free public workshop on AI literacy** and Christian ethics facilitated by **Weijia Cheng**, seminarian and former software engineer.

**October 25, 11:15 am at**  
**Park Avenue Congregational Church**  
in the Sanctuary.



# Christian Ed / Youth Choir



## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Sunday school has gotten off to a great start! This year we have two classes - the Elementary class which meets every week and the Middle School Meetup which has scheduled meetings on the first and third Sundays of the month. Both classes are very active and engaged in learning.

Best of all is seeing the caring the children show to each other and to the church. The youth have a real sense of community and caring for each other and for everyone in the congregation. Hopefully this year will only strengthen these feelings as well as grow them to other places and people in their lives.

It is a privilege to be able to see the spiritual growth in the children and to see, through their actions, the level of care the children hold for the church community. The church is definitely doing something right!

Please contact me if you would like to take part in growing the children's faith and strengthening the good feelings they already hold for God, Jesus and the church, consider teaching in the Sunday school.

*Jude Martowska, [judemartowska@pacc-ucc.org](mailto:judemartowska@pacc-ucc.org)*

## **YOUTH CHOIR**

Hello and Happy Autumn, Youth Choir singers and families. Wonderful to reconnect with many of you last week - we had an impromptu but very lovely rehearsing and singing time in church, and I look forward to more time singing with you.

We've got some fun new music to learn together - we'll meet on Sunday, October 4, (11:30) and Sunday, October 11 (11:30). We'll sing in church on Sunday, October 18 and have our usual "early rehearsal" beforehand, at 9:20am!

**Newcomers welcome!** Youth in **3rd grade and older** are invited to join this fun and lively group. We sing a variety of music and perform throughout the year, including the Christmas Pageant, Christmas Concert, and Youth Sunday. **General schedule:** Rehearsals are the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays after church, with an early rehearsal and worship participation on the 3rd Sunday.

*Andy Hart, [hartandrea@comcast.net](mailto:hartandrea@comcast.net)*

## **NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING – OCTOBER 4, 2026**

On October 4, 2026, PACC will collect offerings for Neighbors in Need. You can use our online options ([www.pacc-ucc.org/give](http://www.pacc-ucc.org/give)) to donate to this cause or bring an offering to Sunday Worship that day to be dedicated during the service.



# Church Family News



## IN CELEBRATION

Congratulations to **Laurie and Steve Scott**, celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Malcolm Gormley**, who was cleared to return to work after major surgery.

**Bob and Edith Burge**, back in the sanctuary after some time away for Bob's health.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

**Polly and Aaron Ford**, and family, as they mourn the recent loss of his father and the unexpected passing of his sister in June.

**Ken Miller and his wife Beverly**, after his return home from rehab.

**Norma Allen and David Sameiro**, as they support family members and friends with declining memory issues.

**Jill Lewis**, who is welcoming phone calls and visits. Please call her daughter Michelle to arrange a call or visit.

**Dave Morrisette**, as he recovers from his second knee replacement surgery.

**Jane Flores**, as she works to regain full range of motion after her second knee procedure.

**Tanya Ozbey**, as she continues cancer treatment and healing from a broken ankle.

**Nick Reynolds and his mother**, who is scheduled for a serious back surgery.

**Bonnie and Bill Hayner**, for relief and recovery after her upcoming neck procedure and his cataract surgeries.

**Debbie Lewis**, who is now resting at home after a trip to the emergency room.

**Cindy Manson and Tim LaVallée**, as he recovers from heart issues and medication adjustments.

**Meredythe Schober**, for her granddaughter who is hiking in Guatemala and will head to Costa Rico for a semester abroad.

**Bonnie Hayner**, for her granddaughter who is heading to York, England for college.

*Please continue to keep in your prayers: Bill Albright and Karen Friedman, Margaret Berman, Linda and Jim Brinkman, Anita Clarke, Linda & Don Cohn, Cheryl Craigie, Marilyn Janssen, the Lindheim family, Chickie Olson, Gwen Phelps, Jody Pickrahn, Betty Rich, Jim Saros, Meredythe Schober, Libby & Jesse Victor and Diane Wells. If you or someone you know at PACC is celebrating a milestone birthday, let us know: [careministry@pacc-ucc.org](mailto:careministry@pacc-ucc.org)*



# PACC Groups & Ministries



## PACC MEN

We will meet on **Tuesday, October 6, at 6:30pm**, at a location to be determined, for dinner and conversation. Let Mike Rich know if you'll be attending.

[kidlaw.rich@gmail.com](mailto:kidlaw.rich@gmail.com) or (781)975-0184.

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## PACC to host October NEAT dinner

**Saturday, October 10, 5:30 pm, Parish Hall**

NEAT (Neighbors Eating All Together) is an all-volunteer organization in Arlington.

Gather and share a nourishing free meal, this month at PACC! If you have questions on attending or are interested in volunteering contact Tina Gramm [acg@grammau.net](mailto:acg@grammau.net).

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## New PACC Photo Directory – Schedule your appointment now!

A photographer from Universal Church Directories will be at PACC on **Tuesday, October 13, and Wednesday, October 14, from 2–8:30 PM**. Each family will receive a free 8x10 portrait, with additional photos and gifts available for purchase.

*Sign up online Monday – Saturday or in person on Sundays.*

To schedule online, visit <https://ucdir.com/> Church Code: **ma106**

Password: **arlington1**

Questions? Email Laurie Scott at [laurielscott@gmail.com](mailto:laurielscott@gmail.com).

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## WOMENS GUILD

All women of the church are warmly invited! We meet on the third Thursday of each month. **We will meet on October 15, at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Room**. Please **bring a bag lunch**; coffee and tea will be provided. We will discuss helping with PACC's fall activities such as Connie's Cookie Walk. Mark your calendar! **Need a ride?** Call Beverly at 781-646-0030 or Linda at 781-646-3317.

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## Looking for More Liturgists

Have you thought about being a liturgist, but aren't sure? It is a great way to be a part of the service. The readings and directions are delivered ahead of time and if you are new or uncertain, we provide training. If you feel you are ready, we can add you to the liturgist pool email distribution where you can sign up for a future Sunday, and remember, as Pastor Leah says, participation, not perfection. If you are interested you can talk to Dave Morrisette after service or email him at [drmorris@comcast.net](mailto:drmorris@comcast.net).

### Concerned About a Loved One's Mental Health?

NAMI Family Support Groups are **free support groups** for family members, friends, and caregivers of people living with mental health conditions. Led by NAMI-trained facilitators who are also family members, these groups offer support, hope, community, and an opportunity to share experiences, learn from others, and discover local resources.

**PACC hosts a monthly meeting in our Fellowship Room at 7:00 PM.**

The next meeting is **Tuesday, October 27**, with subsequent meetings held on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month**. *Questions? Contact Janet Forté at [forte.janet@gmail.com](mailto:forte.janet@gmail.com).*

### COAT BOSTON

#### COAT BOSTON - 2026 Drive

PACC is excited to partner with *Coat Boston* again this year to collect new coats for children and families in need throughout Boston! This year, Coat Boston has set a goal of collecting 2,500 new coats to help keep everyone warm this

winter. While they are accepting other items, PACC will focus on providing new coats.

**LAST DAY TO DONATE: November 8, 2026.** There is a collection box in the Narthex, or you can donate via check, cash, or our online giving option (VANCO). Donations will be used to purchase coats through Coat Boston's Amazon wish list.

**We are collecting:** New coats, sizes infant to XXXL adult

For more information, visit [www.coatboston.org](http://www.coatboston.org) or contact Christine Rochon in the PACC office: [office@pacc-ucc.org](mailto:office@pacc-ucc.org).

### PROPERTY MINISTRY



#### Fall Church Clean-Up – Saturday, November 14, 8:00 am–Noon

Grab your gloves, grab a rake, and come help us tidy up the church grounds for fall! We need lots of helping hands to make the work light—and fun. It's a great way to enjoy crisp autumn air, laughter, and fellowship while giving our church a seasonal shine. Contact Eric Rochon at [Ericrochon\\_11@hotmail.com](mailto:Ericrochon_11@hotmail.com) to let him know you can join in.



**November 15, 2026**  
**11:00 am – 2:00 pm**  
**COOKIE WALK, CARDS,  
 USED BOOKS, PUZZLES, & GAMES**



Mark your calendars for PACC’s Fall Sale! Come browse a great selection of gently used books for all ages, stock up on puzzles and games, satisfy your sweet tooth at **Connie’s Cookie Walk**, and get a jump on your holiday shopping. We’ll also have **beautiful greeting cards featuring Linda Cohn’s photography** and a **caricaturist** on hand to create fun, personalized drawings during the sale!

**Donations Welcome:** Please ask your family and friends to donate books, games, and puzzles, too! **Books:** Recently published titles and popular authors are especially appreciated. Please, no bulk donations, textbooks, reference books, study guides, or workbooks. **Games & Puzzles:** New or gently used, with all pieces intact.

**Donation Drop-Off:** If possible, please bring donations in boxes.

**Sun., Nov. 1:** 9–10 am and 11 am–1 pm, **Sun., Nov. 8:** 9–10 am and 11 am–1 pm, and **Sat., Nov. 14:** 9 am–5 pm

### Connie’s Cookie Walk

We’ll be looking for donations of delicious homemade cookies in November. **Details coming soon!** We’re also collecting empty coffee cans to use for the cookie walk. Please bring them to **PACC by Sat., Nov. 14.**

### Volunteers Needed!

**Setup:** Sat., Nov. 14, 9 am–5 pm

**Day-of Help:** Sun., Nov. 15, during the sale and for cleanup afterward

Remaining items will be picked up by the Epilepsy Foundation.

**Spread the Word!** The sale is open to the public, so please invite family and friends, post online, hang posters (*coming soon to the Narthex*), and share with your communities.

**Thank you for helping make PACC’s Fall Sale a success!**

— The Fall Sale Team

Barbara Wagner • Tina Gramm • Pam Lepri • Laurie Scott • Linda Cohn

## STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY - *Seeking, Becoming, and Sharing Our Gifts*

The year 2026 has been a year of **seeking and becoming** for our PACC community.

We began the year **Seeking God together**. In the spring, we turned our hearts toward **Seeking Justice**, following Jesus' teachings and challenging ourselves to be brave and bold. Over the summer, our ***Becoming Theologians series*** invited members of our community to share how God shows up in their lives. These stories reminded us that each of us has a unique and meaningful faith journey.

Now, as we enter our final series of the year, we are **Seeking Peace together**—trusting in God's vision for peace in the Kingdom and considering how each of us can help bring that peace into the world -- And that is just what has happened on Sundays!

Throughout the year, our PACC community has come together for game nights, the Rummage Sale, NEAT dinners, Porchfest, Regathering Sunday, Town Day, music events, ICE awareness training, church grounds clean-up, the Cookie Walk, book sales, and fellowship after worship. We have supported one another through Ministry Moments, prayers, visits, cards, financial support, meals, hugs, shared laughter, and shared tears.

**Our PACC community is strong—and that strength comes from all of us.**

Autumn is a wonderful time to pause, reflect on our many blessings, and consider how we would like to continue supporting this community that we care about so deeply. As we enter stewardship season, we invite you to prayerfully consider how you might share your **Time, Talent, and Treasure**.

**Talent:** Sharing the gifts and abilities we have been given, for our own benefit and for the benefit of others.

**Time:** Sharing our time and presence to help nurture our community and support one another.

**Treasure:** Sharing our financial resources joyfully and generously, helping sustain the ministries and mission of PACC.

As we are reminded in **1 Peter 4:10**, *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

May this autumn be a season of gratitude, inspiration, and cozy moments—and may we continue to seek, become, and share our gifts together. *Sharon Kabelitz, Stewardship Deacon*

### **2026- 2027 PACC Concert Series - Save the Dates**

❖ **Sunday, November 15, 2 PM - A Journey of Musical Stories**

with singers Sara Michale Smith, Lesley Jacobson Kaye & Joanna Porackova.

❖ **Sunday, December 6, 3 PM - PACC's 36<sup>th</sup> Christmas Concert - Heavenly Light**

with the PACC Festival & Youth Choirs and special guests.

❖ **Saturday, April 3, 3 PM - Lo Que Traigo Conmigo (The Things I Carry)**

with Carlos Vargas on piano.



Park Avenue Congregational Church  
50 Paul Revere Rd., Arlington MA 02476  
*an open & affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ*  
[www.pacc-ucc.org](http://www.pacc-ucc.org) - (781)643-8680

# HALLOWEEN

# BASH

All Ages  
welcome!

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30**

**Park Avenue Congregational Church  
Parish Hall 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**DJ Victor will be bringing all the "Spooky Dance" fun!  
Bring your friends and your dance moves! Tell your  
neighbors!** Come as you are or as whomever you want to  
be! We'll have a makeup table, a photo booth,  
and a quiet room, with snacks to share.  
*(Snack donations also welcome).*



**Halloween Costumes encouraged!**

Let Cindy ([617-800-5694](tel:617-800-5694)) or Jane ([617-378-2248](tel:617-378-2248)) know if you have questions or can help.



## Election of the 2027 Council of Deacons

The PACC Council of Deacons serves as the church's general administrative body and is considered its spiritual leadership team. Deacons are elected each fall by direct congregational vote. A full term is two years, and after serving two consecutive terms, a deacon must step aside for one year before being eligible again. The ballot includes the names of all church members except those currently ineligible. If you'd like to know more, talk with a current or past Deacon—it's a deeply rewarding way to serve our church community. If you are called to this ministry, we hope you will prayerfully consider saying yes.

- **Ballots distributed in church:** Sunday, October 11 (remaining ballots mailed: 10/13)
- **Ballot return deadline for box in the Narthex:** Sunday, November 1
- **Ballot return deadline (by mail/in office):** Tuesday, November 3, BY 5:00 pm

The Election Committee will meet the evening of **November 3** to count ballots and contact the top vote-getters to confirm their willingness to serve on the Council for the term beginning **January 2027**.

**PACC**  
**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**\$5 per person**  
**\$15 cap per family**

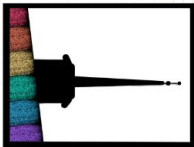
Fruit Cups and non-dairy options will be available!

Join us after Worship on **October 4**, for some sweet treats and fellowship!

📅 10/4/26 ⌚ 11:00 am (after worship) 📍 Parish Hall

## October Birthdays

- |                              |                               |                                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Ryan Colello        | <b>10</b> Susan Chin          | <b>21</b> Pam Holt-Kane           |
| <b>2</b> Elle Young          | Nick Dokos                    | <b>27</b> Cole Hogan              |
| <b>4</b> Maddie Domenichella | <b>11</b> Gretchen Durning    | <b>29</b> Yamilett Flores-Sickles |
| <b>6</b> Hong Chin           | Laurie Scott                  | <b>30</b> Linda Cohn              |
| <b>7</b> Karen Stark         | <b>15</b> Jeffrey Woodin      |                                   |
| <b>9</b> Bob Burge           | <b>16</b> Jeanne Domenichella |                                   |
|                              | Janet Forté                   |                                   |



**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@pacc-ucc.org](mailto:Office@pacc-ucc.org)

[www.pacc-ucc.org](http://www.pacc-ucc.org)

**STAFF**

Reverend Leah Lyman Waldron, Pastor  
Christine Rochon, Office Administrator  
Jeffrey Brody, Music Director/Organist  
Andrea Hart, Youth Music Director  
Rev. Jude Martowska, Minister of Faith Formation  
Victor and Sue McNary, Sextons



**OFFICERS**

Tim Durning, Moderator  
Dave Morrisette, Vice Moderator  
Laurie Scott, Acting Clerk  
Alicia Tappei, Treasurer