

Park Avenue Christian Church NEWS

January 5,
2026

Obedience



Traditionally the Sunday after Epiphany is the Sunday we celebrate the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. We will be reading Matthew 3: 13-17.

Our guest preacher will be Tammy Tychsen. Tammy is in the last year of the Commissioned Ministry program. During their final year the students do 3 semesters of supervised study on a

variety of topics to help them prepare for the ministry they plan to do when they complete the program. This semester Tammy is working on Preaching and I have the privilege of being her supervisor. I know you will welcome Tammy as she brings the message and leads us in worship.

John the Baptist had been preaching and baptizing people with a message of repentance. His ministry was to prepare people for the coming of the Messiah. Matthew tells us John appeared in the wilderness of Judea proclaiming; "Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near." In Chapter 3: 11 John tells the people; "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than is coming after me. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

You can imagine John's surprise when Jesus comes to him and asked to be baptized. Why would the Messiah, the one more powerful than John, the one free from sin need to be baptized. Jesus was the great teacher. I believe Jesus came to be baptized to teach us the importance of baptism. And so on this coming Sunday we celebrate Jesus' baptism and remember our own.

GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is an opportunity to gift the church with items they need during the year. On the tree in the gathering area there are ornaments with items on the back which we need. **You may take an ornament and bring your gift through January 11.** We thank you for helping us supplement the budget so we have more for missions.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BOOK STUDY

At POWER PACC the adults were studying Thriving Church by Erin Cash and Kory Wilcoxson. Each week we read about a congregation that is Thriving and what they do that has helped them thrive. We had lively discussion and at the end of the study we took what we had learned and identified several things we would like to explore further for our own thriving congregation.

- Review purpose of the Congregational Life committee
- Try having the nursery in the NE corner of the sanctuary
- More Bible study. (Doing the Gospel of Matthew starting January 14)
- Be more collaborative with Park Avenue Elementary and maybe Lincoln High

Joys we are thankful for:

- Thanksgiving for all those who were able to gather with family over the Christmas season.
- Thanksgiving for the Jamaica Mission team who received a blessing Sunday and will be leaving soon for the mission.
- Grateful for our new leaders.

Concerns to pray for:

- Prayers of comfort for Ralph and family.
- Prayers of comfort for John on the death of his sister Cheryl.
- Prayers for continued healing for Bill and Rose and for Sandy's brother-in-law, Jim.



Beverly Ann Woods, 88, passed away on January 1, 2026.

The family will greet friends on Friday, January 9, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. with the funeral service to follow at 12 p.m. at Park Avenue Christian Church, 3219 SW 9th Street. Cremation will follow the funeral.

Hamiltons is handling arrangements.

Our Life Together

Wed Jan 7

POWER PACC – Meal 6PM Activities 6:30PM

Thu Jan 8

Retirees Breakfast 9AM

Sun Jan 11

Worship 10:30AM

Congregational Life Meeting 12PM

Elder Meeting 12PM

Mon Jan 12

Property Meeting 6:30PM

Wed Jan 14

POWER PACC – Meal 6PM Activities 6:30PM

Sat Jan 17

Disciple Men Breakfast and Fellowship 8AM

Sun Jan 18

Worship 10:30AM

God Squad Youth Ministry during worship

Mon Jan 19

Stewardship Meeting 6:30PM

Wed Jan 21

POWER PACC – No Activities this week.

2026 Congregational Officers and Ministry Chairs

Moderator: Mary Hannan

Vice-Moderator:

Connie Merrifield

Secretary: Lori Eggers

Financial Sec: Sheryl Gissel

Treasurer: Melissa Dougherty

CE - Co-chairs: Tammy Poortinga,
Carolyn Schiltz

Worship: Adam Pederson

Property: Dan Law

Cong. Life: Deb Felton

Outreach: Sandy Duff

Stewardship Co-chairs: Doug Gissel,
Gary Miller

Elder Chair: Susan Johnson

Elder Vice Chair: Erica Stanley

Elder Board Rep: Kirk Johnson

Diaconate Co-chairs:

Lynnette Stout, Jeni Wilson

Diaconate Board Rep: Kim Renoe

Disciples Men: JC Cleaveland

Disciples Women:

Becky Barkley

New Church Email Address



SOMETHING NEW

The church now has its own email address. office@paccdoc.org We are asking that you add this to your email and use it, especially in the month of January. While Dara is out for her knee surgery, we ask that you not send church business to her personal email. Her job will be to heal and rest. Please use the new church email address. office@paccdoc.org

Micro Food Pantry



As the weather gets colder, Please help us keep it filled for those in need.
If you have any questions please see Lori Durrett 515-971-2020 or Jan Stribling
515-979-2645.

**Power-PACC is
Wednesdays! Meal
and activities for all
ages.**



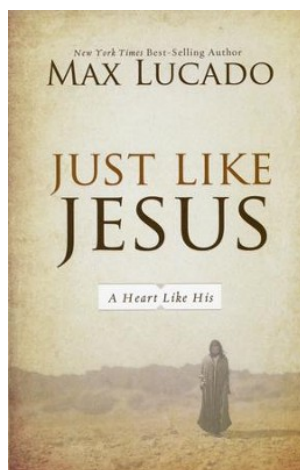
**BUT FIRST,
COFFEE**

**Coffee Fellowship
10 – 10:30 AM**

Please sign up to make coffee for this
Fellowship time for future Sundays.
Thank you!

**Adult Book Study, meet
in the Library
Sundays 9:30AM**

**In depth look and
discussion on Max
Lucado's Just Like
Jesus**



**Sunday Prayer Group
at 8 pm**

Facebook: PACC Family

**Cashless Giving
One Time or Recurring**



To submit Prayers, Celebrations, Announcements or Calendar items, please email reply to this email.



Park Avenue Christian Church
3219 SW 9th St, 50315, Des Moines

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