



Park Avenue Christian Church NEWS

February 23,
2026

Jesus meets Nicodemus



We move to the Gospel of John (John 3: 1-11) to hear the story of the next person Jesus' meets, Nicodemus. To understand who Nicodemus was we need to understand the leadership of the temple in the 1st Century.

Nicodemus was a Pharisee. Pharisees were leaders of the temple who accepted the entire Hebrew Bible (Old Testament). They tended to interpret life as either right or wrong with little room in-between. Sadducees were also leaders in the temple but they believed the only valid scripture was the Torah (The 1st 5 books of the Hebrew Bible). Priests were officials of the temple and they could be Pharisee or Sadducees. Confused yet?

Nicodemus was a Pharisee. The Pharisees as a whole struggled with Jesus' teaching because most of the time Jesus refused to declare some all wrong or all right. He said you have to know the whole person and the whole circumstance and there is God's mercy. Nicodemus wanted to understand Jesus and he wanted to ask questions, but didn't want others to know. So he meets with Jesus late at night.

Are we like Nicodemus, afraid to ask questions? Are we afraid someone might think we aren't knowledgeable or we have doubts? Questions are good, it means we are thinking about what Jesus said and did. Join us for worship and bring your questions. Join us for Bible study on Wednesday evenings where we have lots of good discussion and no one claims to have all the answers.

Join us for the second Sunday in Lent, March 1.



The congregation has made a unanimous decision, of those present, to offer Rev. Zack Hardy the position of Senior Pastor. Rev. Hardy has a tentative start date of May 1st.

What is Lent?

Lent is the 40-day period leading up to Easter, (excluding Sundays) that starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. It is a time for reflection, repentance, and prayer.

LENTEN WORSHIP

Beginning this Sunday, February 22, there will be a table filled with candles on the chancel. The first Sunday all the candles will be lit. Each week we will diminish one candle to acknowledge that God sent Jesus into the world to bring hope and light but there were those who tried to extinguish the light. Who questioned that he was the Messiah, who criticized his ministry and eventually tried to completely extinguish the light of God by killing Jesus. Each extinguished candle is recognition that we too have times when we have denied Jesus and extinguished some of God's light in the world.

OFFICE UPDATE

While Dara is out of the office recouping from her knee surgery, please be sure to use the church's new email address and if you need to reach the pastor other than her usual office hours, please call her cell phone; 515-201-4582.

Normal office hours are Mondays 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Thank you.

BAPTISM CLASSES FOR ADULTS.

Pastor Alice is offering baptism classes for adults from 9:30 to 10:00 on Sunday mornings through March 22. Anyone is welcome, if you just want a refresher on the spiritual preparation for baptism you are welcome. If you know someone who is thinking about baptism but is unsure, this would be a good opportunity for them to learn more about what it means.

EASTER

Although Easter is over a month away Helen needs our help preparing for the traditional Easter egg hunts. There will be 2 this year. We are in need of plastic Easter eggs and candy that will go in the eggs. Donations can be left at the Christian Education office. Thank you.

Joys we are thankful for:

- Joys including the over \$4,000 the church raised for the DMARCC Food Pantry.

Concerns to pray for:

- Prayers for healing for Pastor Douglas who serves the church in Jamaica.
 - Continued prayers for healing for Dara.
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Our Life Together

Wed Feb 25

POWER PACC – Meal 6PM, Activities 6:30PM

Fri Feb 27

Bingo Night! Food, Fellowship and Bingo! 6:30PM

Sun Mar 1

God Squad Youth Ministry

Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:15AM

Women's Choir Rehearsal 9:45AM

Children's Choir Rehearsal 10AM

Worship 10:30AM

Wed Mar 4

POWER PACC – Meal 6PM, Activities 6:30PM

Sun Mar 8

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:15AM

Women's Choir Rehearsal 9:45AM

Worship 10:30AM

Congregational Life Meeting 12PM

Wed Mar 11

POWER PACC – Meal 6PM, Activities 6:30PM

Thu Mar 12

Retiree's Breakfast 9AM

Fri Mar 13

Disciples Women's Meeting in Fellowship Hall 6PM (light supper will be served)



The church board approved the Property Committees proposal for removal of the carpet and the asbestos on the hallway and all the offices and library. That means everything must be removed from those rooms. A moving company will move the files and desks and heavy furniture, but the books, pictures etc will be boxed up by us and stored for the month of April.

We are in need of your help. March 18th will be a workday starting at 9 a.m. We will have totes and boxes. If you can help load totes, or using carts move totes we need your help that day. Donuts, coffee and tea will help energize our morning. Can't come until afternoon. Please come, we'll still be here. March 18, 9 to ? If you have totes or boxes you can loan us, please bring them also.
Thank you !

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 & Little Library



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.

Our little free library is in need of some books. If you have some to spare please share!

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

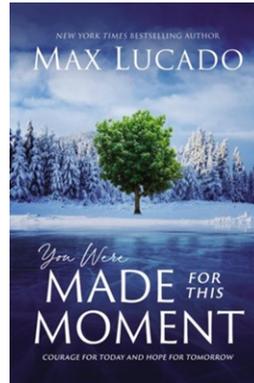


BUT FIRST, COFFEE

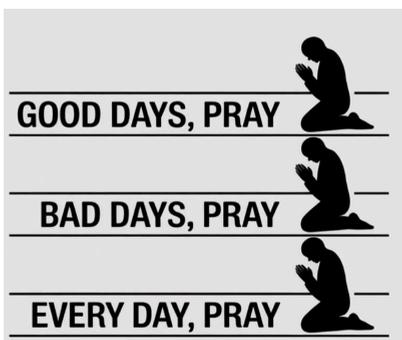
Coffee Fellowship 10 – 10:30 AM

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 You Were
 Made For This Moment**



**Sunday Prayer Group
 at 8 pm**

Facebook: PACC Family

2026 Christian Conference Center Camp Dates

**SUMMER 2026
 CAMP DATES**

FAMILY CAMP	JUNE 5-7	Registration Opens November 1, 2025
GRAND 1	JUNE 13-14	
JR 1	JUNE 14-19	Watch for more information and the registration link!
CHI NON-RUSTIC	JUNE 14-19	
CHI RHO 1	JUNE 21-26	
CYF 1	JUNE 21-26	
BEGINNER	JUNE 29-JULY 1	
JR 2	JULY 5- 10	
GRAND 2	JULY 11-12	
CHI RHO 2	JULY 12-17	
CYF 2	JULY 12-17	
ADAM	JULY 19-24	
ADVENTURE	JULY 26-31	
JR 3	AUGUST 2-7	

2026 Camp Sessions will begin on Sundays with 4pm drop-off and conclude on Friday with a 2pm pick-up



AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers provide free tax assistance with several preparation options Feb. 1 through April 15.

Call 515-650-3613 for [click here for an appointment.](#)

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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