



# Park Avenue Christian Church NEWS

March 16,  
2026

## Jesus with Mary and Martha



John 11: 1-45 is the story of the raising of Lazarus, but he plays a very small part in the story. Jesus had been in Jerusalem for the Feast of the Dedication, but he offended the priest when they ask him if he was the Christ. The priest took up stones and threatened to stone Jesus, so he and his disciples left Jerusalem.

That is why the disciples are hesitant to return to Bethany when Martha sends word that Lazarus, her brother is very ill. Bethany is only 2 miles from Jerusalem. For reasons we are not told Jesus waits 2 days to go to Lazarus.

This is a difficult passage. Jesus is frustrated with his disciples because they still don't understand fully who he is. He is sad when he reaches Martha and Mary and all their friends who are grieving. There is joy when he raises Lazarus from the dead, but later we learn Lazarus life is threatened, because so many people came to believe in Jesus that day.

This is a story about faith. We are so close to Holy Week, next Sunday is Palm Sunday. Our faith is challenged when we are in difficult situations. What can we do this week to strengthen our faith? Read the Gospel of John, chapters 10-11, set a designated time to pray, reach out to someone who may need your presence, your help, your care. All of these will help us prepare for Holy Week.

Blessings,

Pastor Alice

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**WE NEED  
YOUR HELP**

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 !

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### **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**

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.

### **HOLY WEEK**

#### **PALM SUNDAY**

Come join the Palm procession as we welcome Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. This joyous day marks the beginning of a difficult week for Jesus and his disciples.

Hosanna to the Messiah!

## **Sunday Mar 29 - Palm Sunday**

Come join the Palm procession as we welcome Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. This joyous day marks the beginning of a difficult week for Jesus and his disciples. Hosanna to the Messiah!

Worship 10:30AM

### **Maundy Thursday**

Jesus' last meal with his disciples before his trial, crucifixion and resurrection.

We will remember this special evening together. We will begin at 6 p.m. with a light meal of soup and bread in the Fellowship Hall. Following the meal while scriptures are read of Jesus washing the disciples feet, we will wash one another's hands. We will share in the Lord's Supper and we will read of Jesus' praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, his arrest and trial. Please sign-up in Narthex to help us plan for food.

## **Thursday April 2 - Maundy Thursday**

Jesus' last meal with his disciples before his trial, crucifixion and resurrection. We will remember this special evening together. We will begin at 6 p.m. with a light meal of soup and bread in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign-up in Narthex to help us plan for food.

# **Maundy Thursday**

### **Good Friday**

A moving re-creation of the crucifixion in scripture and action. Weather permitting this service will be held on the front lawn. You are invited to bring a lawn chair if you wish. The service is about 30 minutes long. This service is a witness to the community so we hope you will invite friends, family and neighbors. It begins at 6:30 p.m.

## **Friday Apr 3 – Good Friday**

A moving re-creation of the crucifixion in scripture and action. This service is a witness to the community so we hope you will invite friends, family and neighbors. It begins at 6:30 p.m.



### **EASTER, the day of Resurrection**

A day of celebration that begins with breakfast at 8:30, followed by an Easter Egg hunt for the children. Worship at 10:30 will be filled with special music and the reading of Jesus' Resurrection from the Gospel of Matthew.



APRIL 5TH  
JOIN US FOR A MORNING OF

# Easter Activities and Worship

Park Avenue Christian Church

8:45 Pancake breakfast  
9:30 1st Easter Egg Hunt  
10:00 2<sup>nd</sup> Easter Egg Hunt  
10:30 Easter Worship

All Are Welcome!!



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## OFFICE UPDATE

Upon Dara's retirement, 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.

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## Joys we are thankful for:

- Birthdays
- A new grandson for Mary

- The chance to meet Pastor Zach and wife Rachel.

## Concerns to pray for:

- Prayers for healing: Jim and Glynnis, Dara, Kim, Tammy.
  - Prayers for Pastor Don and his wife Lyn who will be undergoing surgery.
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## Our Life Together

### **Wed Mar 18**

Church Work Day - Packing 9AM  
No Power PAAC – Spring Break

### **Sat Mar 21**

Disciple Men Breakfast and Fellowship 8AM

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### **Sun Mar 22**

Adult Hand Bell Choir rehearsal 9:15AM  
Adult Choir rehearsal 9:45AM  
Worship 10:30AM

### **Mon Mar 23**

Out to Lunch Bunch 11:30AM – Please sign up.  
Council & Board Meeting 6:30PM

### **Wed Mar 25**

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

### **Fri Mar 27**

Bingo Night! Food Fellowship & Bingo! 6:30PM

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### **Sun Mar 29**

#### **Palm Sunday**

Adult Choir rehearsal 9:15AM  
Children's Choir Rehearsal 10AM  
Worship 10:30AM

### **Thu Apr 2**

Mondy Thursday soup supper and service 6PM

### **Fri Apr 3**

Good Friday Service 6:30PM

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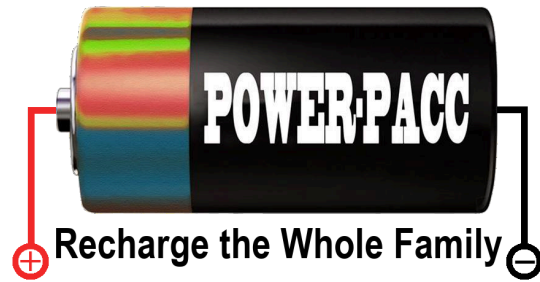
## New Church Email Address



## SOMETHING NEW

The church now has its own email address. [office@paccdoc.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@paccdoc.org)

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

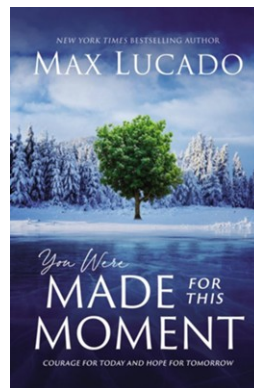


**BUT FIRST,  
COFFEE**

**Coffee Fellowship  
10 – 10:30 AM**

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

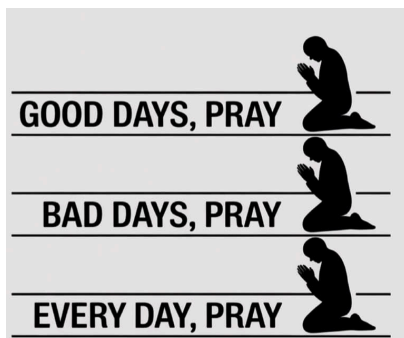
**Adult Book Study, meet  
in the Library  
Sundays 9:30AM**



**In depth look and  
discussion on Max  
Lucado's You Were  
Made For This Moment**

**Sunday Prayer Group  
at 8 pm**

**Facebook: PACC Family**

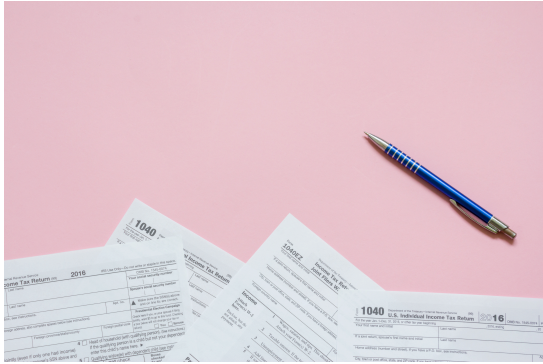


# 2026 Christian Conference Center Camp Dates

**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 7	
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.](#)

## Micro Food Pantry & Little Library



Please help us keep it filled for those in need. Please leave non-perishable food items in the grocery cart located in the narthex.

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!

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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