



The Spire

January 2020



The Pastor's Moment...

Dear Park Place Family & Friends,

Happy New Year!!!

Here we are, beginning a new year on our faith journeys and I find myself filled with the spirit of Christmas! The spirit of love, peace, hope, joy and the light of Christ. These beautiful gifts helped us to prepare and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you to all of you who helped to make this season so special. But most of all thanks to God for the blessed gift of our Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Park Place has something special...Park Place has its own unique character that welcomes all who enter into the presence of God, whether it be coming to worship, to shop, to attend and participate in our Bible study, to knit or crochet with our Prayer Shawl ministry, to help in the garden, to attend or help at one of our fundraisers throughout the year, to sing a-long and worship at one of our many musical events, and help in the office or thrift shop. (The list goes on and on). We are so grateful for the gifts and talents that you all bring.

May this year be another of ongoing ministries, times of fellowship and of loving one another in Christ's Name!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Wayne



December Worship Assisting

Greeters & Ushers: Leslie Brouwer & Ginny Platt; Leslie Brouwer & Ginny Platt; Mike & Hailie Padula;

Lay Readers: Darlene McMillan; Andrea Padula; Andrea Padula; Kristine Gervais; Darlene McMillan

Coffee Hour Hosts: Darlene McMillan & Sara Morrisette; Leslie Brouwer; the Padula Family; Wayne Patenaude; Darlene McMillan

Coffee Hour needs hosts for January. If you'd like to host a Sunday, please fill out the sign-up sheet downstairs in the hall. Thank you!



Worship Schedule

Worship begins at 10 a.m. each Sunday Morning!

January 5: Holy Communion Worship – 10 a.m./ Pastor Bill leading–Deacons: Darlene McMillan & Ginny Platt/ Coffee Hour 11 a.m./ Singing at The Holiday Retirement Home- 2 p.m. All are welcome!

January 12: Worship- 10 a.m./ Pastor Wayne leading/ New members welcomed / Coffee Hour 11 a.m./ Sinai Church 1-3 p.m. / Annual Congregational Meeting 11 a.m.

January 19: Worship 10 a.m./ Pastor Wayne /Coffee Hour 11a.m. / Prayer Shawl Ministry 2-3:30 p.m./Sinai Church 1-3 p.m./ Prayer Shawl Ministry 2-3:30 p.m.

January 26: Worship – 10 a.m./ Pastor Wayne leading/ Coffee Hour 11 a.m./ Sinai Church 1-3 p.m./ Music & Praise 6 p.m.



On Sunday, December 22, the Anthem "A Little Drop of Heaven," was given to the Glory of God by Pastor Wayne in honor of the Park Place Chancel Choir.

Dear Park Place Members and Friends,



We are welcoming not just a New Year, but a new decade – 2020! At first I thought I would just wish everyone good health with the new year and be done with it, as my health has been an annoyance for several months. Nothing serious, but vertigo has been compounded by fogginess and frustration.

Then...I started thinking about my blessings. Theater, music and friends oh my!! My friend base has expanded. I have attended plays, many musical events...all with the many friends I have made at Park Place Church. I couldn't be more blessed. I thank God and all of you for filling my heart and soul with the spirit.

Happy New Year and God Bless,
Shirley

Love In Action

Martin Luther King Jr., whose life and legacy we honor this month, spoke often about the power of love. In fact, he equated the practice of nonviolence with “absolute commitment to the way of love.”

Love, declared the minister and activist, “is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.” And, he said, anyone who’s “devoid of the power to love” is “devoid of the power to forgive.”

King distinguished between true love and “empty sentimentalism,” however. He taught — and showed — that love is “the active outpouring of one’s whole being into the being of another.”

Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate “active outpouring” of love, and we can choose to follow his example daily.

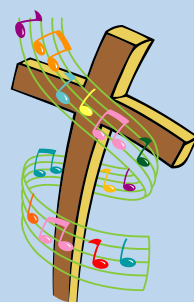
“Because of Calvary I’m free to choose,” writes Max Lucado in *When God Whispers Your Name*. “No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness. I choose love. Today I will love God and what God loves.”



Park Place Congregational UCC Missions
Please remember All are welcome to join any activity or
just drop in to see what is going on!

Let's Sing!

We will be going to The Holiday Retirement Home in Manville, RI, and sing to/with the residents for about an hour on January 5. Our visits are the first Sunday of each month to make planning easier. We’d love to have you join us.



Stop by the Thrift Shop

Come stop by on Wednesdays & Saturdays from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Come see what new looks you can add to your wardrobe! Great clothes to choose from for the young kids to teens and adults!

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to add to the lives of all who receive them; so much so that we are running very low on our wonderful prayer shawls! **Prayer Shawls continue to be greatly needed!** Our meetings are every 3rd Sunday of the month from 2-3:30 p.m. Hope to see you then! Please continue to make shawls. Prayer shawls should be 25-30 inches wide and 70 inches in length. See you on January 20!



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Mission Items needed for our Heavenly Snack Packs: single serve tuna or chicken snack kit; single serve fruit cups or applesauce; meat snack stick (i.e. jerky) peanut butter crackers, breakfast or protein bars (avoid chocolate), individual bags of chips, individual boxes of raisins or dried fruit, pudding packs, individual packs of cookies or a sweet treat, small bottled water. If you could bring any of these items

to church on Sundays, it would be greatly appreciated. Please put donations in the box in the Narthex. Park Place will be hosting the CCSK on February 8th!

January Memorial & Honorary Altar Flowers

January 5: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Bill & Darlene McMillan in memory of Jack Hamel.*

January 12: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Pastor Wayne in loving memory of Lynn Dieterich.*

January 19: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Darlene and Bill McMillan in loving memory of Maggie Platt.*

January 26: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Paul, Terry May & Jocelyn Neves in honor of Carlene Neves' birthday and thanking her for all she does for her loving church.*

(Note: Thank you for your donations of the beautiful altar flowers each week, your continued support is greatly appreciated. Please remember that payment of \$35.00 for the altar flowers is due during that month. Thank you for your attention.)

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Bible Quiz

According to Matthew, who was present at Jesus' baptism? (Choose as many as apply.)



- A. John the Baptist
- B. The Spirit of God
- C. Jesus' mother, Mary
- D. His first disciples

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The Power of Listening

Jesus repeatedly urged his followers to not simply hear but listen to his teachings. Others also have championed sincere listening to show compassion and respect.

"Part of doing something is listening."

—Madeleine L'Engle, *A Swiftly Tilting Planet*

"One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say."

—Bryant H. McGill

"And so he listened. And in his listening, his heart opened wide and then wider still."

—Kate DiCamillo, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*

"Too often we underestimate the power of ... a listening ear ... to turn a life around."

—Leo Buscaglia

Prayers & Concerns for Our Family

Please keep these people in your daily prayers: Beverly Fountaine; Janet Theberge; Shelagh Lees; Mike & Debbie Ziegenhagen; Jocelyn; Laurie; Eva; Lauryn Maples; Janet Estes; Steven; Claudia Dunn; Elaine; Bob, Nancy & Austen Lepper; Carol; John; Carlene; Karen B; Richard Deblois, Judy O; Kathy Morrisette; Anna; Brenda; Linda C.; Stacia; Colin Walker; Charlie; Betsy; Paul; Moe; Jackie Gardikis; Josh Barber; Paul; Melanie; Gabriella; Karen; Libby; Beth Fournier; Kenny; John Peter; Michael; Virginia; Steve; Alice; Deb C; Emily; Debbie Coury; Ann-Marie; Terry; Irene Marteno- cancer; Phyllis; Joyce – (cancer); Lauren & Heather; Frank; Cory; Joanne; Katherine; Irene; Bev; Jim; Ethel; Grace; Tom; Gregg; Peter; Nancy; Eric Green;; Cathleen; Claudia Berube; Trevor Bynoe; Dianne; Bob; Sherry; Terry; All people fighting cancer.



Please continue prayers for

... the victims of the terrorist attacks across our great nation and across the world. May the Lord bring Peace to this world.

... all those impacted by all natural disasters all around the world.

...for the victims and families of domestic abuse.

... our service men and women, and veterans both old and young who have served our country with honor and pride.

Continued prayers for our homebound family members and friends: Rita Clough; Madeline Shay & friends at the Holiday Retirement Home and The Village at Waterman Lake.



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At Home with God

Of all persons, the Christian should be best prepared for whatever the New Year brings. ... In Christ he has disposed of a thousand enemies that other men must face alone and unprepared. He can face his tomorrow cheerful and unafraid because yesterday he turned his feet into the ways of peace and today he lives in God. The man who has made God his dwelling place will always have a safe habitation.

—A.W. Tozer