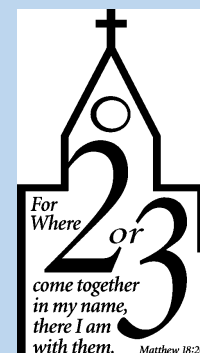


The Spire

February 2020



The Pastor's Moment...

Dear Park Place Family & Friends,

Winter is a time of darkness and cold. It is a time when seemingly everything is in a state of bleakness. Yet, the Sun still rises and we can see the bare beauty of trees when they are in their winter mode. When the rains fall, it is usually colder and we can forget that the rain is still needed to water the earth. When it snows, it can be beautiful as it covers the ground and trees with a blanket of white and also warms the earth below. The changes that are constantly occurring in the earth may seem unlikely to our eyes each day, but we know that God is at work. And God is at work in and through us as well. God calls us to be the light and warmth to our world which, at times, can seem so dark. Let us always remember to help Light the way and spread Love and Kindness everywhere we go. Hope to see you in church!

In Christ's Love and Mine,

Pastor Wayne



January Worship Assistants

Greeters & Ushers: *Leslie Brouwer & Ginny Platt; Mike, Sophia & Hailie Padula; Ginny Platt & Lynn Usher; Ginny Platt & Cathy Shute*

Lay Readers: *Shirley Harris; Andrea Padula; Maureen Deloreto; Cindy Boulay*

Coffee Hour Hosts: *Cathy Shute; Wayne Patenaude & Sara Morrisette; Judy & David Ouellette; Terry May Neves.*

Greeters & Ushers are needed for February. If you'd like to help on Sunday morning, please fill out the sign-up sheet downstairs in the hall.

Thank you!



Worship Schedule

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

February 2: *Holy Communion Worship – 10 a.m./ Pastor Wayne leading–Deacons: Terry May Neves & Andrea Padula/ Children's Worship Begins!! / Coffee Hour 11 a.m.*

February 9: *Worship- 10 a.m./ Pastor Wayne leading/ Children's Worship / Coffee Hour 11 a.m./ Sinai Church 1-3 p.m.*

February 16: *Worship 10 a.m./ Pastor Wayne / Children's Worship / Coffee Hour 11a.m. /Sinai Church 1-3 p.m./ Prayer Shawl Ministry 2-3:30 p.m.*

February 23: *Worship – 10 a.m./ Pastor Wayne leading/ Children's Worship / Coffee Hour 11 a.m./ Sinai Church 1-3 p.m./ Music & Praise 6 p.m.*

February 26- Ash Wednesday – *Worship Service -7 p.m. All Are Welcome to attend.*



Starting February 2nd, The Christian Education program at Park Place Church will be hosting children's worship program for 2-10-year olds. The program will take place during the readings and sermon portion of the service in the conference room and will last about 15-20 minutes. Your child is invited to join us as we do a small activity centered around a faith inspired lesson that

will help promote the importance of worship and worshipping together as a family. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Andrea Padula at andrea.m.padula@gmail.com.



Ash Wednesday is February 26, the beginning of Lent. We will be having an Ash Wednesday Service at 7 p.m. All are invited. This will begin our Daily Lenten Devotionals by Pastor Bill. A copy will be available on Sunday, February 23, for those who prefer a hard copy, emails and Facebook entries will be made daily for those who enjoy receiving devotionals in that format.

May you find comfort and increased understanding within these pages.

Pastor Wayne has purchased some new anthems for our Chancel Choir, if you'd like to donate in memory or in honor of a love one please, speak to him.



Welcome to our New Family Members: *Lois Chrystie, Malcolm Chrystie, Maureen Deloreto, Peter Palumbo & Megan Palumbo!* We welcomed these people of Faith with open arms and shared faith on January 12! May the Lord Bless them as they walk in Faith with their Church family!

Prayers & Concerns for Our Family

Please keep these people in your daily prayers: Cindy Hersom – possible surgery; Shirley Harris; Beverly Fountaine; Janet Theberge; Shelagh Lees; 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 Morrissette; 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 the natural disasters all around the world. The Australian fires that are devastating that country and its wildlife.
...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.

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!

Our Mission to the Holiday Retirement Home will resume in April. We hope you can join us as we sing Praises to the Lord with our friends at the Holiday.



Stop by the Thrift Shop- \$5. Bag Sale All Month!

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!

Note: We will gladly accept gently-used, clean clothing beginning Saturday, May 2nd! Thank you!

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 February 16!



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!**

February Memorial & Honorary Altar Flowers

February 2: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Kevin Dunn by his mother, Claudia Dunn and his brother, Mark Dunn.

February 9: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Virginia Platt in loving memory of Granma Anderson.

February 16: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Paul, Carlene & Jocelyn Neves in honor of Terry May's 60th birthday.

February 23: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Glenn Marr and Wayne Patenaude in loving memory of Elsie Coupe.

*(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.)*

Bible Quiz



The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word “love” occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

- A. 200-300
- B. 400-500
- C. 600-700
- D. 800-900

UCC Events & Happenings

Speak Peace Symposium

The Justice and Witness Ministries Team of Beneficent Church invites you to our second annual Speak Peace Symposium on Saturday, February 22, 2020.

Join us for a day of learning and sharing with dynamic community speakers and workshop presenters as we discuss the current state of affairs, and identify ways we can contribute to establishing long-term peace and justice in our world. This is a secular event open to all.

The event will take place at Beneficent Church, 300 Weybosset Street, Providence. Registration starts at 8:30am; we end at 2pm. Free lunch is provided, and free parking is available in our lot first come, first served.

For more information or to register, visit <http://speakpeace2020.weebly.com/>

Super Saturday

March 14 – 8 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Minnechaug Regional High School, Wilbraham, MA

A full day of workshops, forums, networking, worship and marketplace, with Rabbi Elan Babchuck, Founding Director of GLEAN Network, an incubator and network for faith leaders who seek to reimagine the role of religion in an ever-changing world.

Bible Quiz Answer: C



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In Other Words



We're so accustomed to hearing the Bible's "love chapter," 1 Corinthians 13, at weddings and other occasions that we may not really hear its meaning anymore. It can help to listen to something familiar said in different words. What new understandings of love does this paraphrase from The Message Bible reveal to you?

"Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always 'me first,' doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't revel when others grovel, takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, puts up with anything, trusts God always, always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end. Love never dies" (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, MSG).