

The Spire

March 2018



The Pastor's Moment...

Dear Park Place family,

On February 18, Darlene and I walked into Sunshine Cathedral for Sunday morning worship. The Associate Pastor gave me a big bear hug and said, "Welcome home." His greeting made me think about what home is, where home is. Think about that for awhile. Where is home to you? Certainly Sunshine Cathedral is not Park Place, but it is a church with values like ours. The message is true, the music is Spirit-filled and uplifting, and people always greet us warmly with hugs. Sound familiar? So is home wherever we find people filled with love who are willing to generously share their gifts, their time and most of all themselves.

So even though Park Place is our church home, even though we are missing each of you and looking forward to your hugs upon our return, please know that our home extends beyond the walls of our church or even the boundaries of our state.

Let each of us welcome friends and visitors to our church with a "welcome home" attitude. For wherever love is, Jesus is, and wherever Jesus is - is home. See you soon.

In Christ's love and mine,
Pastor Bill



February Worship Assisting



Greeters & Ushers: Shirley Harris & Terry May Neves; Mike & Hailie Padula with Sophia;

Lay Readers: Darlene McMillan; Andrea Padula(two weeks!); Jane Bedia

Coffee Hour Hosts: Darlene & Pastor Bill McMillan; Pastor Wayne & Sara Morrisette; the Padula family.



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

Worship Schedule for March

Worship begins at 10 a.m. each Sunday Morning! Children are invited to attend Sunday School from 10 – 10:30 a.m. then proceed to worship service.

March 4: Holy Communion Sunday - 3rd Sunday in Lent - Worship 10 a.m. - Leading worship: Pastor Wayne / Communion set up: Terry May Neves & Dawn Shaw / Deacons: Terry May Neves & Dawn Shaw / Sunday School 10-10:30 a.m. then join worship. / Coffee Hour @ 11 a.m./ Sinai Church 1-3 p.m.

March 11: 4th Sunday in Lent - Worship at 10 a.m. - Leading worship: Pastor Bill – Baptism of Bridget Catherine Frappier/ Sunday School – 10-10:30 a.m. then join worship / Coffee hour 11 a.m./Sinai Church 1-3 p.m.

March 18: 5th Sunday in Lent Worship at 10 a.m. – Leading worship: Pastor Wayne / Sunday School – 10-10:30 a.m. then join worship / Coffee Hour 11 a.m./Sinai Church 1-3 p.m.

March 25: Palm Sunday in Lent Worship at 10 a.m. – Leading worship: Pastor Bill / Sunday School – 10-10:30 a.m. then join worship / Coffee Hour 11 a.m./Sinai Church 1-3 p.m. / Music & Praise Hour – 6 p.m.

Our Christian Education/ Sunday School!



Sunday School students attend Sunday school from 10 – 10:30 a.m., then they will continue to worship service. Please speak with Kristine if you have any questions.

We were joined with lots of other youth from the RI UCC. It was a great day with Christian activities at Peacedale then headed to Yawgoo for tubing fun! A Great day was had by all!



Rita Clough
The Villages at Waterman Lake
715 Putnam Pike
Lodge Building 107
Greenville, RI 02828

New Addresses:

Madeline Shay
The Holiday Retirement Home
30 Sayles Hill Rd.
Manville, RI 02838

Retirement Home New





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 March 4. Our visits are the first Sunday of each month to make planning easier. We'd love to have you join us.

We will be visiting The Village at Waterman Lake in Greenville, RI on March 11. We would love to have you come and join us to bring music to the residents.

Our visits are usually on the second Sunday of each month to make planning easier. *Both places are great outreaches to some wonderful people! All are welcome!*



Prayer Shawl Ministry

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 held on the third Sunday of each month from 2-3:30 p.m. Please check with Cathy Shute or Ginny Platt if you're interested in attending this special group! If you can't make our meeting, please continue making shawls. Prayer shawls should be 25-30 inches wide 70 inches in length. Baby Blankets are also needed, as they are given to the babies during a baptism service! All are welcome! Even if you don't know how to knit/crochet, we'll teach you!

Stop by the Thrift Shop

Come stop by on Wednesdays & Saturdays from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. You never know what you'll find! The Annex (Aka., The Gregory Room) will also remain open. Look for new bargains there!



Safe in Prayer

Park Place Church must make some upgrades to the church building – mostly electrical – to meet current fire safety codes. We are waiting for architectural plans to be approved by city and state fire marshals before beginning any work.

A committee has been assembled to start planning for a capital fund raising campaign. That committee consists of Wendy Brunelle, Mike Padula and myself as Chair. There will be an announcement once approval is received and letters sent to all church members.

Meanwhile, we have planned some soft fund raising efforts, such as fire buckets for change and small donations strategically placed at church events.

This will be a full church family effort and we are open to any suggestions or questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me.

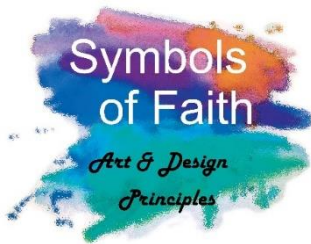
Blessings,
Shirley Harris
Vice President

Chopstick Auction News!!!!

Our Annual Chopstick Auction is coming up in June! We are now accepting new, use or re-gifted items for this event. If you'd like more information please see our Event Co-Chair people Ginny Platt & Cathy Shute! Theme baskets are always a wonderful idea too!

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Symbols of Faith!!



Anyone who knows me won't be surprised to see butterflies as a central symbol in my artwork. Since my days of teaching a preschool Sunday school class here, a beautiful caterpillar named Fred, a baptismal dedicated book called "The Garden of Life" and 11 years of butterfly kits for my 2nd grade - I see butterflies as living examples of God's grace and find much comfort in their miraculous transformation.

The caterpillar becomes still and lifeless disappearing into a chrysalis ... which eventually is broken through to reveal a new life full of color and ready to soar toward heaven with graceful wings. We can study the steps, but only God knows the how.

"Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly."

The center of my painting is a heart with a cross. One morning as the choir was praying before service, we were celebrating a nice day after a stretch of bad weather and Pastor Bill ended with, "Let the sun and the Son shine!" The sun morphed into a heart and Christ is represented by his empty cross which fills the center. The heart is



hugged on one side by a music note, giving thanks for the gift of music. Let the Son shine!

Like butterflies, sand dollars are one of nature's gifts that tell a faith story. They have what looks like the Star of Bethlehem on their fragile shell and 5 holes which represent Christ's wounds from the cross – the nail prints and the hole from the soldier's spear. Legend says the image of a lily can be seen on the top and a poinsettia on the bottom. When broken, a sand dollar releases 5 v shaped pieces, that people compare to doves. I tried to portray this broken sand dollar as a communion host ... the bread of life.

Finally, I have also always been drawn to dolphins, aren't they amazing creatures? Dolphins are found in some ancient Christian artwork, symbolic of Christ's resurrection. There was a dolphin research facility in the Mirage hotel in Las Vegas that I spent hours at on a few family trips with my sister, nephew, friends, and Bill. They make me feel peaceful, prayerful and I can understand how they have been successful working with children with autism. They can make me feel connected to the God who created us.

The symbols are contained in a stained glass window representing the Church, to me Park Place. The community of faith that is family... that is sacred .. my comfort... my joy and where so much love abides.

Using Your Smart Phone...

... to stay in touch with your Park Place Church



... use your mobile device to visit our website. You can get up to the minute information, view the Spire electronically, view our event, or see our worship schedule!

Park Place Church E-giving: simply scan on your Smart phone or mobile devise and enter your information! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3! Keep up on your church giving, pay for your altar flowers, give to the new *Safe in Prayer* campaign. You can also schedule your weekly giving!



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Bible Quiz

According to Matthew's account, what was torn when Jesus died?

- A. Mary's headdress — she tore it as a traditional Jewish sign of grief
- B. A Roman guard's sash — Peter grabbed and ripped it in anger
- C. Jesus' robe — the soldiers divided it among themselves
- D. The temple curtain — torn in two from top to bottom



March Memorial & Honorary Altar Flowers

March 4: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Cathy Shute in loving memory of Stanley Shute.*

March 11: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Rodger, Joan and Laurie Lynn Lawton in loving memory of Walter Lawton.
The white rose is given to the glory of God to Bridget Catherine Frappier on her Baptism.*

March 18: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Glenn Marr & Pastor Wayne Patenaude in loving memory of Eileen Patenaude.*

March 25: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Pastor Bill & Darlene McMillan in loving memory of Betty Oldham.*

(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 Answer: D (See Matthew 27:51.)