

The Spire

July & August 2018



The Pastor's Moment...

Dear Park Place family and friends,

I'm not sure where the first half of 2018, has disappeared to, but here we are with summer staring us in the face, and peeking around summer's shoulder is fall and winter not far behind. I know many of us will be travelling during these warm vacation months, so please be careful on the highways, and make sure you come back to us. We love you, miss you when you're away and look forward to your return.

We'll be worshipping with our friends at the Smithfield Ave. Church for the month of August with Pastor Wayne and me leading worship. Then in August we'll return to Park Place and Rev. David Goodfellow from Smithfield Ave. will lead worship. Hopefully, the electrical work in our building will begin this summer. We are looking to raise \$60,000 for this work to upgrade our building and bring it into compliance with all fire codes. So far our "Safe in Prayer" campaign has raised approximately \$16,000. So we still have a way to go, and need your help and support because this is work that must be done to comply with city and state codes.

Our Praise and Worship Services will continue through the summer and so will our Movie Nights. Please come out to these events. We love to spend time with our church family praising God and singing about how amazing he is. Our Praise and Worship Services are scheduled for July 29 and August 26. Our Movies Nights through the summer are scheduled for Monday July 16 and Monday August 20. Of course – there will be popcorn!

Last weekend, three conferences from the United Church of Christ, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island met together for worship in Springfield, MA. The music for worship was organized and lead by Pastor Wayne. Most of our chancel choir was there to sing along with people from the MA and CT Conferences and other RI churches. So many people commented to me, that this was the best music they had ever experienced at a conference meeting. Jane, our own personal gift from God, and her husband Seth along with their bass player, John were amazing. The MA Mutual Event Center's rafters were ringing with keyboard, bass and drums as about 600 people joined in worshipping God together in song. The presence of the Holy Spirit was so uplifting and the message from Rev. Traci Blackmon, leader of Justice & Witness Ministries, UCC encouraged all of us to get our feet wet – to step into the water – and promised that "God will show up." May this historic meeting be the beginning of a mighty work by God's people as they are filled and led by the Holy Spirit.

May our gracious and love God hold you close and keep you safe until we meet again.

See you in church,

Pastor Bill McMillan

June Worship Assisting



Greeters & Ushers: *Stephanie Gray; Ginny Platt; Dawn Shaw*
Lay Readers: *Wayne Patenaude; Darlene McMillan; Ethel Martel; Stephanie Gray*
Coffee Hour Hosts: *Darlene McMillan; Ginny Platt; Pastor Wayne & Dawn Shaw; Stephanie Gray.*



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

Summer Worship Schedule

Summer is here! Our Shared Worship with Smithfield Ave UCC has begun. We will be worshipping at Smithfield Ave Church, 514 Smithfield Ave, Pawtucket, RI 02860, during the month of July. We'll be here at Park Place during the month of August.

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

Please see July & August Calendars for Worship schedule. Thank you!



On June 10, the Anthem, "Help Me Lift-A-My Load," was given to the Glory of God by Pastor Wayne in honor of the Park Place Chancel Choir.



Our Christian Education/ Sunday School News!

Sunday School students completed another fun filled, faith based year of Christian Education! Thank you for your support of our youth! In September we will be beginning another wonderful year! If you'd like to enroll your child(ren) in our class, please speak with Kristine Gervais.

Our Youth News!

Hi Everyone,

This year I will be ending seventh grade in late June. In late August I will be in my last year of middle school. My softball is coming to an end but continuing on a travel team this summer. I will be playing soccer in the fall on my school team along with softball next spring.

Hannah Gervais

Hailie Padula is finishing up her freshman year. She was exempt from her finals because she had straight A's all year. She received an academic achievement award for French from her high school World Languages Department.

Sophia Padula is finishing up pre-K heading into kindergarten at Waddington Elementary School in the Fall. She has developed so much this year that her teacher said she is more than ready to tackle kindergarten!

~Bible Study Update and Movie Night~

We recently completed a seven-week Bible Study using the DVD series entitled *That the World May Know*. This series took us on a tour of Israel. We crossed the Sea of Galilee a few times, and no one got sick. We witnessed Jesus cast demons out of Legion, and we learned that Legion went on to tell others about Jesus. This series even took us to Rome a few times as our teacher Ray Vander Laan insured we study the scripture in context of the times. We learned more about the Last Supper and the agony our Lord suffered in the Garden. We had 15 people faithfully attend each session, in fact, they didn't want it to end. When we finished the seventh lesson, one person said, "OK, now what? Let's keep going." This group was so responsive to the teaching and faithful to their commitment to show each week on time. Leading this study has been an honor and a joy for me.

Clearly, we were not going to be able to just walk away until the next Bible Study, which will begin in October. Therefore, we have initiated "Movie Night." This past Monday, June 18, we watched *The Hiding Place*, which is the story of Corrie Ten Boom, and her family. It is truly an inspirational story. Our next Movie Night is scheduled for Monday, July 16 @ 6:00 PM. We'll be watching *The Shack* that night. On August 20, we'll watch *A Man Called Peter*, the story of Rev. Dr. Peter Marshall. Then on September 17, we'll watch *The War Room*, a movie that focuses on the power of prayer. On October 8, we will begin our next Bible Study. The topic will be announced as soon as the Holy Spirit guides me to the appropriate subject.

To all of you who were part of the Bible Study, I want to express my sincere thanks for your interest and faithfulness. Please continue to bring friends. The Movie Nights and Bible Studies are open to anyone who wants to attend.

Pastor Bill



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 August 5. 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 July 8. 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!** We will be taking the summer off! Our meetings will resume in September, hope to see you then!

Please continue to make shawls. Prayer shawls should be 25-30 inches wide 70 inches in length. See you in September!!! Happy Summer Knitting!

Stop by the Thrift Shop

We're Having a Sale During July & August!!!! Come On Down!!

Come stop by on Wednesdays & Saturdays from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Start your Summer reading! All Books, CD's and frames big sale prices! Lots of great books & CD's to choose from! Discounted Frames!! Come see what new looks you can add to your artwork or photo colleges! Great frames at a discounted price!



To my Dear Park Place Family,

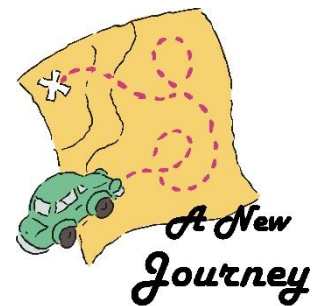
As many of you know, after much thought, soul searching and prayer, Michael and I decided that it was time for us to "semi-retire" to our home in Maine. Our house here in RI has sold, with a closing date scheduled for mid July.

Therefore, effective July 1, 2018 I will be stepping down from my position as President of the Church Council...leaving all in the capable, enthusiastic, and loving hands of our current Vice President Shirley Harris. Thank you and many blessings to you, Shirley!!

Words can not properly express my feelings for you all and our church. Know that I love you all, and will always cherish our many times shared. Park Place truly is a special family...blessed by God...and a blessing to all.

Thank you all for your friendship. Don't be alarmed if from time to time you hear a "Surprise! I'm here!" And if you find yourself in my neck of the woods, I hope you will visit and enjoy the peace of the lake.

With love and many Hugs,
Karen McDonnell
Michael, and Tena & Barney



August Memorial & Honorary Altar Flowers

August 5th: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Leslie Brouwer in memory of all Loved Ones.*

August 12th: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Cathy Shute to honor her grandchildren.*

August 19th: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of Graham Giffin, Lois Grenier's father and also friendship of Karen Elliott.*

August 26th: *The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Isabel Carter in honor of her grandchildren and great grandchildren.*

(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.)

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 events, or see our worship schedule!

Park Place Church E-giving: simply scan on your Smart phone or mobile device 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 *Safe in Prayer* campaign. You can also schedule your weekly giving!



A Prayer for the 4th

Lord Jesus, thou who art the way, the truth and the life; hear us as we pray for the truth that shall make all free. Teach us that liberty is not only to be loved but also to be lived. Liberty is too precious a thing to be buried in books. It costs too much to be hoarded. Help us see that our liberty is not the right to do as we please, but the opportunity to please to do what is right.

—Peter Marshall, before the U.S. Senate