

The Spire

March 2020



Dear Park Place Family & Friends,

As I bring you greetings from Park Place, I am reminded of all the wonderful people that are affiliated with Park Place. So many of you are a part of the fabric of what makes Park Place UCC. We are a diverse mixture of people from so many walks of life. Whether you are a member of our family or a Park Place friend, I wish to thank you for being a part of our many ministries.



As we begin our Lenten journey, we will be walking with Jesus through His many joys, trials, struggles and forms of ministry and service to God's people. We follow in awe and wonder seeking to be a part of this miraculous journey that was the beginning of Christianity. We will be remembering, following and travelling the roads that Jesus traveled. Come and be part of the journey with us on this exciting ride. Come and be witness to the beauty of this journey. Hope to see you in church!

With Love & Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Wayne

February Worship Assistants



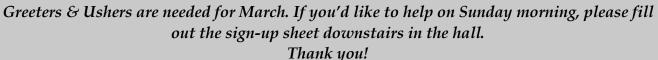
Greeters & Ushers: Terry May Neves & Amanda; Ginny Platt & Cathy Shute;

Mike and Halie Padula; Mike & Halie Padula

Lay Readers: Kristine Gervais; Cindy Boulay, Andrea Padula, Sara Morrissette

Coffee Hour Hosts: Lynn Usher; Pastor Wayne; the Padula family; Ginny

Platt



Worship Schedule

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

March 1: 1st Sunday in Lent: Holy Communion Worship Service – 10 a.m.- Pastor Wayne leading–Deacons: Shirley Harris & Ginny Platt/ Children's Worship / Coffee Hour 11 a.m.

March 8: 2nd Sunday in Lent: Worship Service- 10 a.m.- Pastor Wayne leading/ Children's Worship / Coffee Hour 11 a.m./Dungeons & Dragons 11:30-2:30 p.m. / Sinai Church 1-3 p.m.

March 15: 3rd Sunday in Lent: Worship Service 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.

March 22: 4th Sunday in Lent: Worship Service - 10 a.m.- Pastor Wayne leading/ Children's Worship / Coffee Hour 11 a.m./Sinai Church 1-3 p.m.

March 29: 5th Sunday in Lent: Worship Service – 10 a.m.- Pastor Bill leading/Children's Worship/Coffee Hour 11 a.m. / Dungeons & Dragons 11:30-2:30 p.m./ Sinai Church 1-3 p.m./ Music & Praise with Pastor Bill & Darlene McMillan - 6 p.m.

Children's Worship held each Sunday for 2-10-year olds. The program takes 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.



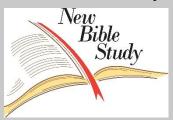
The Children's Worship Program at Park Place began on February 2nd. Our 1st Class had a total of 6 kids. In the weeks that have followed, we have learned about the Beatitudes, we have talked about how God loved us first, and we discussed how God is who we should put our trust in to lead us and not put our trust in an animal or object to guide our future. The children's artwork from the worship program has been on display after class during coffee hour. We will continue to grow the

program in the coming weeks. Look for updates and please let me know if you have any questions.

Andrea Padula

Bible Study Beginning in April!

Our next Bible Study will be entitled "God Heard Their Cry." It will be based on lessons with



Ray Vander Laan, taken from the "That the World May Know" curriculum. This study is five weeks in length and will begin on Monday, April 20, at 6:00 PM in the hall downstairs at Park Place Church. Because of other meetings at Park Place and the Memorial Day Holiday, the study will be on April 20, 27, May 11,18, and June 8. All are welcome to attend.

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Hello Everyone,

Here we are facing the beginning of March. As Wednesday is the hump day of the week, I think of March as the hump month of winter. You know spring is not so distant, but there is still the chance of a snowstorm.

Church President Being the good English Literature and Latin student, I always remember, "Beware, the Ides of March" (March 15th) from Julius Caesar. Of course, we can't forget the Irish and St. Patrick's Day. Since a corned beef dinner is one of my favorite meals, I can comfortably say, "Erin Go Bragh!"

So I leave you with one of my favorite Blessings:

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back May the sun shine warm and the rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Blessings, Shirley

OPPORTUNITIES

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!

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! You can also find lots of artwork and other home décor.

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 Prayer Shawl Ministry March 15!





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 April 25th!

March Memorial & Honorary Altar Flowers

March 1: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Cathy Shute in loving memory of Stanley Shute. March 8: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Rodger, Joan and Laurie Lynn Lawton in loving memory of Walter Lawton.

March 15: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Glenn Marr & Pastor Wayne Patenaude in loving memory of Eileen Patenaude.

March 22: The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Judy, David & Sarah Ouellette in a loving birthday remembrance of Judy's father Robert Lewis.

March 29: 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.)

Prayer Around the World

Travel writer Rick Steves, who's a Christian, believes travel can help us see God. He writes of gaining new insights into prayer from a so-called "whirling dervish" (a sort of Muslim monk) in Turkey. Before demonstrating how he prays, the man explained to Steves: "When we pray, we keep one foot in our community, anchored in our home. The other foot steps around and around, acknowledging the beautiful variety of God's creation ... touching all corners of this great world. I raise one hand up to acknowledge the love of God, and the other hand goes down like the spout of a teapot. As I spin around, my hand above receives the love from our Creator, and my hand below showers it onto all of his creation."

Most of us probably won't add whirling to our prayer practices! And we likely already pray for people near and far. But what if we pictured ourselves both anchored at home and stepping out among God's whole creation? What if we imagined God's love pouring into us, then out of us onto all the world? How might such an approach to prayer influence how we live?

Prayers & Concerns for Our Family

<u>Please keep these people in your daily prayers:</u> Jane McCarthy; 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.

UCC Updates

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.

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Bible Quiz

Who came to Jesus by night to ask him questions, and what famous Bible verse was part of Jesus' answer?

A. Martha; "I am the resurrection and the life ..."

B. Peter; "Do to others what you would have them do ..."

C. Thomas; "I am the way and the truth and the life ..."

D. Nicodemus; "For God so loved the world ..."

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A Lenten History Lesson

Though the date of Easter varies, the majority of the Lenten season occurs during March. In fact, the word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon words lenctentid (meaning "March") and lencten (meaning "spring").

The first reference to Lent dates back to 325 AD, in one of the 20 canons decreed at the council of Nicaea. By the eighth century, Christians started observing Lent, and a 10th-century monk named Aelfric connected the use of ashes and "the Lenten fast" to the pre-Easter period.

Lent lasts 40 days to represent Jesus' time in the wilderness, when he was tempted by the devil. The six Sundays that occur between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday aren't counted as part of Lent; instead, as the traditional day of worship, they're considered "mini-Easters."

Bible Quiz Answer: D (See John 3:1-16.)