



# The Spire

December 2020

Dear Park Place Friends and Family,

Here we are, entering into the Season of Advent and it is a time when we will be busy doing all the things that we do to prepare for Christmas. It is a time of remembering all of our friends and family. It is a time when we reflect on friendships that have been a part of our lives for many years and also new friends that have touched our hearts. Christmastime is a time when we seem to become a bit more sentimental. It is a time when we feel different than we do the rest of the year. Is it because we think of Christmas cards and gifts? Is it because we have many happy memories of Christmases past and look forward to making new Christmas memories? Do we stop to spend time in our preparations to remember the true reason for the Season? Do we look forward to celebrating Christmas by remembering and giving thanks for the true gift of Christmas, the one that makes all other gifts seem even more special. Preparing for Christmas and all its secular traditions, hopefully will include spending time thinking about and entering into a time of preparedness for the birth of our Messiah. The gift that God sent to the world. The gift that came to a world that needed a sense of hope, peace, joy, light and love. Jesus is the Reason for the Season. Let's strive to celebrate that beautiful gift that became the foundation of our Christian faith.



We will continue to offer services on Facebook and YouTube throughout the Advent and Christmas season so make sure you tune in. Come, Lord Jesus, into our hearts, into our minds, into our spirits and light the way! Pastor Bill and I and the entire Park Place Family wish you all a meaningful and Blessed Advent and Christmas!

God Bless you all!!!

*Pastor Wayne*



## Worship Schedule

Join us as we continue to use Social Media to worship and praise God! We will offer daily messages & prayer, as well as Sunday Worship which can be viewed on either Facebook (Park Place Church) or on YouTube: search Park Place Congregational Church

December 6: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Worship Service Holy Communion Worship Service – 10 a.m. Please join us for Communion worship by getting these things ready prior to your worship, you'll need bread (crackers are fine as well) and juice (a beverage) and partake when blessings and instructions to do so are given. /Services will be posted to Facebook and YouTube. Also, please look for "Pastor Bill's Chats" on Facebook on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays and "Words and Music" moments with Pastor Wayne on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We also are now offering/posting on Saturdays a Children's Themed Faith based Titled, "Love Stories of Our Faith". We hope you will share them with your children, grandchildren and special little ones!



December 13: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Worship Service Worship Service- 10 a.m. Available on Facebook-ParkPlaceChurch or YouTube.

December 20: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Worship Service Worship Service – 10 a.m.



December 24: Christmas Eve Please join us for our Virtual Christmas Eve service any time after 6 p.m. on Facebook or YouTube.

December 25: Christmas Day – Merry Christmas One & All! You are welcome to join us on Christmas Day on Facebook & YouTube after 10a.m. It has been a tradition that we celebrate Christmas Day with a small intimate service. Come you are welcome!



December 27: First Sunday after Christmas Worship Service – 10 a.m. Please join as we celebrate Sunday with you all virtually on Facebook or YouTube.



Hello Park Place Church Family & Friends,  
Dear Park Place Family,

Here we are entering the Season for the Reason. I can't tell you how much I miss all of you. I love celebrating Advent in our beautiful church. The special hymns and Christmas Carols, participating in the hand bell choir. I love our Christmas Eve services and seeing how the kids have grown. All of the above still reigns in my mind and, thankfully, we have our virtual services. I wish you all the merriest possible Christmas as we all pray for good health. May God bless you all.

With love,  
Shirley



With love,  
Shirley

## Happy Birthday!!

Wishing you all a Happy December Birthday! Please consider sending a card, making a phone call or reaching out in some way to one of our birthday people!



### December:

10<sup>th</sup>: Jackson Medeiros

14<sup>th</sup>: Paul Neves

15<sup>th</sup>: Wendy Brunnell

19<sup>th</sup>: Cathy Shute

20<sup>th</sup>: Hailie Padula

25<sup>th</sup>: Bennett McKim Ruh

30<sup>th</sup>: Kristine Gervais



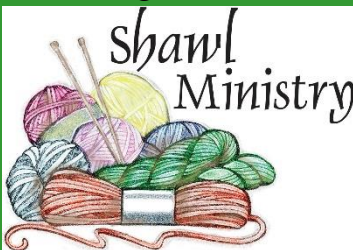
### Park Place Congregational UCC Missions

Please remember All are welcome to join any activity or just drop in to see what is going on!

We plan to continue our nursing home ministry when it is safe to do so and all restrictions are lifted.



Stop by the Thrift Shop! Due to the pandemic, the Thrift Shop has remained closed to the general public since March. We are now selling items on Facebook Marketplace and scheduling appointments with those who have expressed an interest through Marketplace and those who have called the church for an appointment. All customers are required to wear a mask and to social distance while shopping. Please leave a message at the church with your name and phone number and I will return your call and arrange a convenient time for your visit. At this time, we are not accepting items of clothing.



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is ongoing, please continue to knit and crochet at home. Shawls can be either knitted or crocheted and should measure 25-30 inches wide and 70 inches in length. Thank you in advance for supporting our Prayer Shawl Ministry. If you are helping us, please let us know via phone or email: 401-726-2800 or [office@ppucc.necoxmail.com](mailto:office@ppucc.necoxmail.com)

### **“Comfort Wishlist” Curbside Pick Up and Delivery Drive**

In these extraordinary circumstances, with so much need in our community, the Deacons and Church Council are committed to keeping our church’s tradition of “extravagant” holiday giving safe and impactful.

**Comfort Wishlist** - many of us take a drawer full of clean underwear and socks for granted. Underwear and socks are at the top of the wish list for many in need. We will be collecting new, packaged underwear, socks and “comfort” supplies to be shared through a couple of local nonprofits.

\*Men’s – boxer briefs (all sizes)

\*Men’s – t-shirts (all sizes)

\*Woman’s – briefs (all sizes)

\*Woman’s bras – all sizes

\*Boys and Girls – underwear (size 4 – 18)

Boys and Girls – sweatpants (2T – 20)

Diapers (all sizes)

Socks, Hats, Gloves

Personal care items (deodorant, dry shampoo, feminine care)

\* All Underwear must be new and packaged

We will be giving the items to:

Help the Homeless RI (*they distribute food & supplies near the church on Sunday's at 1*)

Volunteers of RI (*trying to match needs of the homeless with donations on the Sundays at 1*)

Family Service of RI

Boys and Girls Club of Pawtucket

We will schedule curbside delivery or curbside pickup in December for these items. Please contact any of the Deacons if you would like more information.

With love and gratitude to all. Please stay safe. God bless!

The Board of Deacons and Church Council

### Prayers & Concerns for Our Family

Please keep these people in your daily prayers: Karen & Tracy who have been diagnosed with Covid-19; Tommy, is now feeling better; Seth, recovering from surgery; Braydon Mobley, recovering from surgery; Denise Ouellette, battling stage four ovarian cancer; Sharon Parker, fighting cancer; Maria Tavarozzi, Michelle Johnson; Alan: Lisa; Greg, Baby Penny; Valimont family – the father has been diagnosed with ALS; George Weavill; a young man named Lucas; Pepper the hedgehog; Alan; Lisa and Greg; a young college student dealing with mental health issues; Jakob a teen with cancer; Micheal Palin; Steve; Michael Ruo; Marc problems with his sight; Linda's family; Curtis; Denise Gehrke & her daughter; Dave Hartshorn; Micah; Ken Depot; Beverly Fountaine; Janet Theberge; Shelagh Lees; Debbie Ziegenhagen; Jocelyn; Laurie; Eva; Lauryn Maples; Janet Estes; Steven; Elaine; Bob, Carol; John; Karen B; Richard Deblois, Judy O; Kathy Morrissette; Anna; Brenda; Linda C.; Stacia; Colin Walker; Charlie; Betsy; Paul; Jackie Gardikis; Josh Barber; Paul; Melanie; Gabriella; Karen; Beth Fournier; Kenny; 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

... People who lost their jobs during this pandemic.

... Those who are recovering from Corona-virus, those who are working in hospitals, First Responders and all who are working with the public.

...For our country as we navigate our world of change, understanding, forgiveness, friendship and love. All of those that are working together to bring awareness to the Black Lives Matter movement.

... 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.

... 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: Sylvia Kaufmann; Rita Clough; Claudia Dunn; friends at the Holiday Retirement Home and The Village at Waterman Lake.



# LET IT SNOW!

Create a winter wonderland with this fun craft.



### What you need:

- Glass jar with lid but no label
- Laminated photo (that will fit in the jar)
- Small plastic Christmas trinkets
- Hot or waterproof glue
- Container with spout
- 1 cup distilled water
- 3 tsp. glycerin
- Glitter

### What you do:

1. Unscrew lid and flip jar upside down. Glue the photo and trinkets to the inside of the lid, standing upright.
2. In a container, mix water and glycerin. Pour the mixture into the jar, leaving space at the top.
3. Spoon in some glitter.
4. When glue is dry, attach the decorated lid tightly. Shake the jar to see "snow" swirl and settle.



## Kid's Page



# WHITE AS SNOW

Jesus, our Savior, came to earth to purify sinners.

*Directions: Figure out which path through the puzzle is correct. Choose one to try, starting at the first picture under the "Path" box. Follow each picture's directional cues to see if the words make sense when placed in order in the blanks below. If not, try a different path until you figure out the Bible verse.*



PATH 1	PATH 2	PATH 3	PATH 4	PATH 5	PATH 6
❄️ for	❄️ give	❄️ come	❄️ together	❄️ around	❄️ after
❄️ self	❄️ into	❄️ settle	❄️ eternal	❄️ thanks	❄️ forgive
❄️ God	❄️ LORD	❄️ says	❄️ without	❄️ Christ	❄️ warmth
❄️ love	❄️ sins	❄️ scarlet	❄️ other	❄️ light	❄️ praise
❄️ red	❄️ star	❄️ white	❄️ snow	❄️ winter	❄️ peace

EXIT

"\_\_\_\_\_ now, let us \_\_\_\_\_ the matter," \_\_\_\_\_ the  
 \_\_\_\_\_. "Though your \_\_\_\_\_ are like \_\_\_\_\_,  
 they shall be as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ ...."

ISAIAH 1:18, NIV

Answer: Path 3; come, settle, says, LORD, sins, scarlet, white, snow

## December Memorial & Honorary Altar Flowers

Altar flowers will not be ordered until we are able to once again return to our beautiful church for worship. These are the people who gave the flowers during December 2019:

December 6: Candy Stewart

December 13: Pastor Bill & Darlene McMillan

December 20:

December 24: the Larson Family

December 27: Ginny



## Bible Quiz

Which of the four Gospels name(s) Bethlehem as the place of Jesus' birth?

- A. Only Luke
- B. Matthew and Luke
- C. Mark and John
- D. All four

Bible Quiz Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:1-7.)



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### WHY ADVENT?

Waiting can be hard, and not just for children. But I do love Advent: this four-week time when the Christian church prepares for Christmas.

Maybe I like Advent so much because it involves active waiting, not thumb-twiddling. It is a gift the church offers the world, to be active (which isn't the same as busy) in ways that open our hearts — and the hearts we touch — to the true meaning of Christmas.

Mother Teresa said, "At this Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern."

When I take time during Advent to remember in prayer and with gifts of money and time those who have less food than I do, those who are lonely, those without a home; when I pause to share love with a child or an elder, or gratitude for a healthcare worker, pastor or teacher; when I wait for justice to replace oppression but, while I wait, find ways to work for that result ... the Spirit's warmth fills my waiting heart. I am ready to welcome Jesus.

—Heidi Mann