



The Spire



Dear Park Place Friends and Family,

I'm hoping that you all had a beautiful Thanksgiving, It doesn't seem possible that we are entering into December already. Each year I wonder where the time goes. We are entering into a time of great anticipation. There will be Christmas shopping, decorating the house, putting up Christmas trees, wrapping gifts, making special ornaments, all kinds of baking, going to holiday parties, concerts, watching Hallmark movies (or not)...maybe having some family time watching some Christmas classics as well as some Christmas specials. It will be a time of sharing memories of Christmases past and hopes of making many more memories to come. It will be a time of looking forward... Looking forward to all the things we love about the season.



There is also much need in the world and I am always moved by the generosity of this branch of God's planting. The love that flows through these doors inspires me and touches my heart. Thank you to all for your love and care for God's people.

My wish for us all, is that we, in the rush of the busy times that are all part of this special time of year, will not overshadow the real reason for this entire season. God sent Jesus to a world that so desperately needed signs of hope, peace, love, joy and light. My prayer is that we all may find these gifts and celebrate them in our lives. May we stop and spend time preparing for the gift of love and sacrifice that was meant for a world that so desperately needs and still needs today. May we rejoice and praise God every moment of every day. Hope to see you in church!!

In Christ's Love and Service,

Pastor Wayne



Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule

Please join us for Worship Service Sundays @ 10 a.m.!! All are welcome! Can't make it to worship? Tune into Facebook for a live feed and it can be viewed anytime. YouTube viewing Mondays for later viewing!

Nothing good on TV, binge watch us on Facebook or YouTube!!

If you would like to attend worship but need a ride, please call the church office no later than Friday 3p.m. and we will try to arrange transportation.



December 3rd, 2023 Holy Communion -10 a.m. First Sunday of Advent – Pastor Wayne, leading worship, Bill McMillan - lay reader, with our Chancel Choir & Jane Bedia on keyboard. Communion servers: Kristine Gervais & Virginia Platt.

December 10th, - 10 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent Pastor Wayne, leading worship, Cindy Boulay – lay reader; with our Chancel Choir & Jane Bedia on keyboard.



December 17th, - 10 a.m.- Third Sunday of Advent Pastor Wayne, leading worship; Michael Ruo – lay reader; with our Chancel Choir & Jane Bedia on keyboard.

December 24th, - 10 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent – Pastor Wayne, leading worship; Kristine Gervais – lay reader; with our Chancel Choir & Jane Bedia on keyboard.



December 24th, - 5:45 p.m. Christmas Eve Service!!! Come join us for our annual Christmas Pageant and Candlelight Worship. All are Welcome!!

December 25th, 10 a.m. – Christmas Day! Come for All are Welcome to Celebrate the Lord's Birth! Merry Christmas One and All!



December 31st, 10 a.m. – First Sunday After Christmas! Pastor Wayne- leading worship, Maria Tavarozzi – lay reader; with our Chancel Choir with Jane Bedia on keyboard.

Sunday School Dates!!!!

December 10, Teacher – Megan Palumbo – Advent

December 17, Teacher - Andrea Padula – Advent

December 24, 4th Sunday in Advent – Children are welcome to stay for worship. (No Sunday School)

CHILDREN'S
Sunday School

Church News & Events!

For those of you who cannot attend worship in-person, please join us live on Facebook at 10 a.m. or YouTube on Mondays. We continue offering weekly posts on Tuesdays: A Moment with Pastor Wayne, Thursdays: Words & Music with Pastor Wayne & Jane Bedia on keyboard; Saturdays: "Love Stories of Our Faith," with D & Andy and Andrea & Sophia Padula on rotating weeks.



Church News!

Christmas on the Hill & Vendor Faire was a great success!!! The Vendor addition was a great addition and will become one of our annual additions. Thank you to all who helped with organization, working, cooking and all of YOU! What a blessing!!!



December 2, 2023 Doors open at 6 p.m.

Dinner – 6:30 p.m. - Show – 7:15p.m. Dinner Menu: Meat Lasagna, Veggie Lasagna, Salad, Bread, Dessert Bar, Coffee, Tea & Soda. Donation: \$20 per person – dinner & show; \$15 just show; children 5-12 - \$8.; under 5 – Free. Reservations are now happily accepted! Reservations list in in the Narthex, call the church or email the office!

Winter Wonderland at Slater Park in Pawtucket, RI. December 9th at 4:30 p.m. Come see some of our choir members singing some Christmas songs! It's a great time for all the family! Lots of other activities throughout the park! Come join us, we'd love to see you!

Dear Park Place Family & Friends,
I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe,
healthy, Happy New Year
Blessings,
Shirley





Park Place Congregational UCC Missions

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

Stop by the Thrift Shop! Thrift Shop hours are Wednesdays & Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please do not leave your donations in front of the store, please bring in while we are open. Thank you for your attention. **NOTE:** We are temporarily NOT ACCEPTING any clothing. Please hold your items for January when we'll happily accept your clean clothing.



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is ongoing, group, 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.

December Missions



We will be collecting food items and grocery store gift cards. More information will be coming in your bulletins and announcements during December. Thank you!!!

We will be collecting items for the children at the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket. Please look for gift cards on our Christmas Tree. Detailed information will be available in your weekly bulletins!

Winners of our October Calendar Fundraiser!

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 st : Grist Mill: Debra Poland | 2 nd : Barnes & Noble – Muriel Woodcock |
| 3 rd : Chilis – Anne Morrow | 4 th : Dunkin Donuts – Dawn Houle |
| 5 th : Stop & Shop – Randi Bates | 6 th : Wright's Farm – Judith Ridolfi |
| 7 th : Walmart – Dennis Fregeolle | 8 th : Panera – Debra Poland |
| 9 th : Amazon – Lois Chrystie | 10 th : Aroogas – Cindy Boulay |
| 11 th : Visa – Monika Petrowicz | 12 th : House of Pizza – Jenn Nickerson |
| 13 th : Dollar Tree – Mark Champeau Sr. | 14 th : Texas Roadhouse – Joyce Neves |
| 15 th : Iggys – Pat Sroka | 16 th : Wrights Farm Bakery – Mark Champeau Sr. |
| 17 th : Cheesecake Factory – Carlene Neves | 18 th : Macys – Nancy Casavant |
| 19 th : Sunoco Gas – Cathy Shute | 20 th : Darden Restaurant Co. – Carlene Neves |
| 21 st : Farnsworth Café – Shirley Harris | 22 nd : Olive Garden – Kristina Larivee |

23rd: Old Navy – Jenn Nickerson 24th: Cumberland House of Pizza – Amy Dwyer
25th: Sunoco Gas – Susan Deshpande 26th: Aroogas – Kristina Larivee
27th: Visa – Cathy Shute 28th: Eile Salon – Gel Manicure – Debra Poland
29th: Red Robin – Cathy Shute 30th: Fridays – Peter Annese
31st: Visa – Carlene Neves – Market Basket – Terry May Neves

Thank you all for your support and Congratulations to all of our WINNERS!!!!



Prayers & Concerns for Our Family

We are reconstructing our prayer list. We have kept the most current names on our list, if you would like to re-add your loved one's name to this prayer list, please contact the office via phone (401) 726-2800 or email office@ppucc.necoxmail.com. Thank you for your attention!

Please keep these people in your daily prayers: Raymond; John in the hospital; Porder Family; Steve – cancer; Gabi and her family who live in Israel; Rachel; Santa; Hope; Amy with mental health issues; Brenda; Wendy N; Liz; Laila 13 years old, just diagnosed with leukemia & her parents George & Meagan; Susan; John McLean Sr. & Nora McLean; Pasty.

Please continue prayers for:

... The Maine shooting victims and their families.
... Prayers for our brothers & sisters in Israel & Palestine, all the innocent people in the middle east and around the world that are affected by this war. Prayers for the recently released hostages.
... victims of our recent natural disasters & violence within our communities all over our nation.
... Our Ukraine brothers & sisters along with our world leaders.
... For peace in our nation, pray for our elected officials. We pray for unity as we show respect for each other, and adherence to the rule of law.
... For our country as we navigate our world of change, understanding, forgiveness, friendship and love.
... for the victims and families of domestic abuse, may the Lord give them strength to ask and receive help. Comfort them during their turmoil.
... 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; friends at the Holiday Retirement Home and The Village at Waterman Lake.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2: Chirag Deshpande
14: Paul Neves
19: Amiyah Ledlow
30: Kristine Gervais

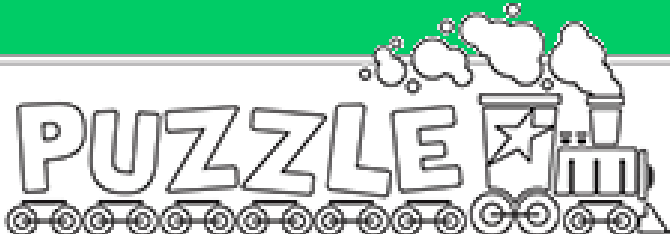
10: Jackson Medeiros
15: Wendy Brunelle
20: Hailie Padula

8: Grace Chiaramonte
19: Cathy Shute
25th: Bennett McKim Ruh

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!

NOTE: If you are not listed in our birthday list please email or call the church office to let us know. Thank you.

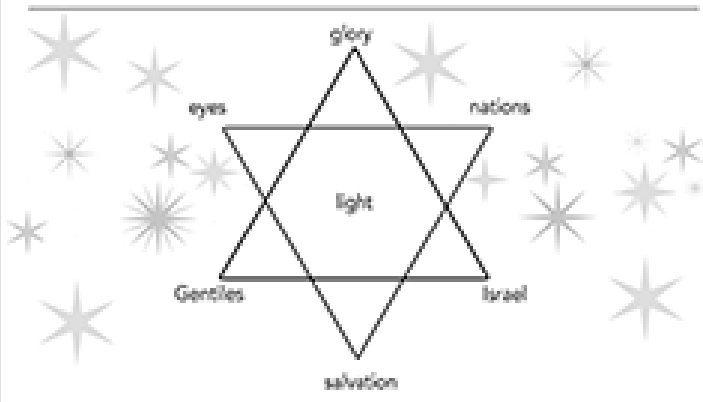


PUZZLE

SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple, they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

Directions: Using the star key, write the words in the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.



"For my _____ have seen your _____, which you have prepared in the sight of all _____: a _____ for revelation to the _____ and the _____ of your people _____."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV

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LIGHT-UP BOX

Christmas lights remind us that Jesus shines in the darkness. Here's a fun way to play with holiday lights.

What you need:

- A strand of Christmas lights
- A large clear plastic container and lid
- Green tissue paper
- Colorful beads



What you do:

1. Plug in the lights and place them in the container.
2. Put on the lid. (If the lid isn't transparent, flip the box over.)
3. Play with your light box, using these ideas as starters:
 - Cut tissue paper into triangles and arrange them in a tree shape. Decorate the tree with colorful beads.
 - Use the light box for tracing. Place a picture on it, with a clean sheet of paper on top. Then trace the drawing.
 - Use magnet tiles to build designs atop the light box.

Try building a 3-D Christmas tree!



Bible Quiz



Elizabeth, an older relative of Mary the mother of Jesus, was miraculously pregnant at the same time as Mary. What was the name of Elizabeth's husband?

- A. Aaron
- B. Zechariah
- C. Joseph
- D. Simeon

Bible Quiz Answer: B (See Luke 1:5, 39-41.)



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Advent Meanings

During Advent, which begins this year on December 3, many churches and families use wreaths to symbolize watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches. Colors for the candles vary, with some traditions using blue (for hope or creation) and others preferring purple (for royalty, humility or penitence).

The four candles that each represent a week in Advent also signify hope, peace, joy and love. (The third candle is often pink.) In the center is the white Christ candle, representing Jesus as the light of the world. That candle is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The round, green Advent wreath has special meaning of its own. It symbolizes eternal life and the unending love of God, who sent his only Son to earth to die in our place.