



Peace Dale  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

261 Columbia Street  
Peace Dale, RI 02879  
(401) 789-7313

February 12, 2026

## SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 AM

### Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thurs 10am-2pm

### Contact Us

SENIOR MINISTER:

THE REV. A. FRED EVENSON  
FRED.E@MAC.COM

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

MARYLOU McMILLAN  
OFFICE@PEACEDEALECHURCH.ORG

### Birthdays

Brady Clarke  
Judy Hayes  
Mackenzie Lehrman  
Susan Manchester  
Corinne Robinson  
Michael Abboud Saggal

### Visit Our Webpage!

[peacedalechurch.org](http://peacedalechurch.org)

### Follow us on Facebook!

[Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch](http://Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch)

### Last Week's E-Light

[peacedalechurch.org/e-li](http://peacedalechurch.org/e-li)

# PDCC E-Light Newsletter

## Echoes of faith from PDCC History and today's Great Stewards

Psalm 46: 1-7 and Psalm 28: 6-9

*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1)*

Join us February 15 for our first historical presentation of 2026, entitled "Winter Sanctuary: The past is still speaking... Echoes of faith for today's trying times." Church historian Stephanie Healy will explore how Reverend Nathan Williams shared the tragedy of Lincoln's assassination with his congregation.

We will also honor several more Great Stewards from our congregation this Sunday, in addition to those we honored last Sunday.



**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed Monday, February 16 in observance of Presidents' Day.

## Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 18, 2026  
6:30 – 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary at

### Peace Dale Congregational Church UCC

Join us for all or a portion of this worship hour.

**Introspection** and **CONTEMPLATION**

Quiet prayer, MUSIC, and the *sacramental ashes* to begin our Lenten season.

The sharing of ashes is a simple, vivid, tangible reminder of our humanity and mortality. Through this tradition ...

*may we be reminded of God's grace.*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Ash Wednesday Service – 2/18  
Big Soup Party to Benefit Dinner Table – 2/15  
Bring Your Unwanted Greeting Cards  
Church World Service Kits – donate kids supplies  
Come Sing or Ring with Us  
Congregational Care: Caring for Each Other  
Eggstravaganza's Coming – 3/28  
February Mission: Support Afghan Girls' Education  
Gift Cards with a Kick  
Join Green Team  
Knit and Crochet on Thursdays  
Looking for a Blue Recycle Bin for Tabitha's Closet  
On the Calendar  
Once-a-Month Singers – 3/22  
Painting Class with Susan Sward – 2/28  
Social Justice in Action  
Tabitha's Closet – Preparing for Spring  
Thank Yous from Our Community Partners  
Volunteer for Tuesday Bistro  
White Elephants  
Worship Flowers  
Youth Calendar Spring 2026



## On the Calendar

<b>Sunday, Feb. 15 @</b> 10am Contemporary Worship	Mondays @ 6:30pm NA Meeting – Learn to Live
<b>Sunday, Feb. 15 @</b> 4pm Big Soup Party to benefit Dinner Table	Tuesdays @ 9:30am Prayer Warriors / Prayer Circle
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 18</b> @ 6:30pm Ash Wednesday service	Tuesdays @ 6:30pm AA Meeting
<b>Sunday, Feb. 22 @</b> 10am Contemporary Worship	Tuesdays @ 6:30pm Bell Choir rehearsals
	Thursdays @ 1-3pm Shawl Knit & Crochet
	Thursdays @ 6pm Contemporary Choir reh.
	Thursdays @ 7:30pm Traditional Choir rehearsal

## Worship Flowers



The Sanctuary flowers of February 15 are given to the glory of God by Linda and Lee Jeans and to honor "Our Loving Family, all 16 of them!"

Flowers are a beautiful way to remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or simply give to the glory of God. **If you are interested in donating Sanctuary flowers** for February, please contact Claudia Swain.

## Got Unwanted Greeting Cards?

Outside the office is a cardboard box for you to put greeting cards or note cards in – it is next to the spinning display of cards.

We collect and make cards available in hopes that people who need free cards may use them.

This is another act of environmental custodianship.

Submitted by Gabby Klensch



## Painting Class with Susan Sward – 2/28

This event has been **rescheduled** to February 28. Join PDCC member and artist Susan Sward as we paint the beautiful Eastern Bluebird.



No experience necessary. All materials will be provided.

Bring a light lunch or snack.

February 28 @ 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall  
Cost: \$55, please pay in advance  
Class Limit: 12

Proceeds to purchase art supplies for Youth Connect.

Signup in Fellowship Hall or mail check to Susan Sward, 1 Spring Street, Wakefield RI 02879

## Benefit for Peace Dale Dinner Table – 2/15



**Sunday \* February 15, 2026**

**4:30 - 6:30PM**

**Homemade Soups, Bread and Desserts  
Donations Accepted**

**BENEFITS**  
Peace Dale Dinner Table Weekly Community Dinners  
Bring A Friend - All are Welcome

**Peace Dale Congregational Church**  
261 Columbia St, Wakefield RI

[www.Peacedalechurch.org](http://www.Peacedalechurch.org)  
[www.facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch](http://www.facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch)

### Calling all PDCC Soup Creators!

You are the key to the success of this fundraiser. **If you would like to donate a soup**, please email [sylviaflanda@gmail.com](mailto:sylviaflanda@gmail.com) or text 401-439-3541 with your name and the kind of soup. If you have a crockpot, great; if not **just deliver it in a soup pot to the church by 4:15pm on February 15th.**

What is your favorite soup recipe?? Is it a secret family recipe passed from one generation to the next? Did you find this recipe when you were first on your own and have made it ever since.

Maybe an old friend gave it to you, or you concocted it yourself. It might be a favorite of one of your children or a special person. Then, there is the soup that requires no recipe, only the one in your head! Whatever it is... we would love to feature it at the Third Annual Soup Party to benefit the Peace Dale Dinner Table.

We cannot wait to try yours.

Gabby Klench is recruiting folks to make dessert.

**We also will need some able-bodied folks to help set-up** after Fellowship on Sunday and for clean up when the event is done.

**Mostly we need you all to come**, enjoy some soup and have a great time.... See you on the 15<sup>th</sup>



### Big Soup Party Dessert Makers Needed

Sign up to bake – or shop for – a dessert for our Big Soup Party on 2/15/26.

Sign-up by:

- Talking to Gabby at church
- Write on the clipboard in Fellowship Hall
- Call or text 401-932-8350
- Email [gklench1@gmail.com](mailto:gklench1@gmail.com)



### Volunteer for Bistro Dinner Table on Tuesdays



Bistro sit-down community dinners in Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays at 4:30pm!

At this time, we really have a **need for additional volunteers** for the Bistro. It **does not need to be an every-week commitment**.

The Bistro serves approximately 35 guests at tables, much like a restaurant. We need help to prepare and cook the meal, prepare salads, serve patrons (salad, dinner, dessert, coffee and tea), as well as cleanup and dishwashing. We also have a volunteer to make individual desserts. If you can help out, or are interested, but want more information, please contact Cynthia Cherney (or the Church Office at [office@peacedalechurch.org](mailto:office@peacedalechurch.org) 401 789-7313).

## Thursday Knit and Crochet



Our Prayer Shawl makers are meeting together with the I Care Shawl Project makers every Thursday from 1-3pm in the Community Room. All knitters and crocheters welcome! We can help you learn, too. Make prayer shawls, warmth for cancer patients, small teddy bears and kittens, etc.

**CONTACT** (401) 580-1712

## Once-a-Month Singers – 3/22



Do you want to express yourself through singing? Please join us for next month's **family service on Sun. 3/22**. Enthusiasm

encouraged, super singers - not so much, we appreciate everyone. You don't have to read music. We know these tunes. **CONTACT** [jane.stabile@outlook.com](mailto:jane.stabile@outlook.com) for music videos, lyrics and info.



## Eggstravaganza's Coming!

Save the Date!  
March 28 @ 11 am – 2 pm

## Come Sing or Ring with Us!



Our **singers** welcome you! Rehearsals are Thursday 6pm for Praise Team and 7:30pm for Traditional Choir.



### Our **bell ringers**

welcome you! Teenagers on up in age. Ability to read music is a plus. Practice Tuesdays @ 6:30pm.

Ask a choir member after worship or send an email to [office@peacedalechurch.org](mailto:office@peacedalechurch.org)

## White Elephants



Thank you for all you bring. We do want your toys, games, puzzles, electrical items, kitchen stuff, dinnerware, decoratives and tchotchke, pet items, crafts, desk/school items, etc. – but no books, CD's, mirrors, art work or furniture. Nothing large – we don't have a way to store it!

**TURN LEFT NOW** New collection area is to the left as you reach the bottom of the stairs. We've switched with Tabitha's.

## February Mission of the Month: Support for Afghan Girls' Education

We are pleased to share that Peace Dale Congregational Church has selected SAGE (Support for Afghan Girls' Education) as our Mission of the Month.

On Sunday, February 8, we will welcome Anne Sliney, a board member of SAGE, along with Khadija Nazari, the organization's Founder and President, to our worship service. Khadija is an Afghan woman who fled her country after the Taliban takeover and now leads SAGE's courageous work to provide education for girls and young women in Afghanistan—many of whom are currently banned from attending school.

SAGE is a Rhode Island-based nonprofit that operates a secret school in Kabul and supports students with academic instruction, English tutoring, GED preparation, and pathways to higher education. Their work is carried out under extraordinary conditions and with deep commitment to justice, dignity, and hope.

We look forward to hearing directly from Anne and Khadija about SAGE's mission, the girls they serve, and how our church community can support this life-changing work.

Please join us on February 8 as we learn more about SAGE and stand in solidarity with Afghan girls whose right to education is being denied.

More information about SAGE is available at <https://www.sageafghanistan.org/>

Donate by putting your gift in the offering basket during worship, sending a check to the church, or clicking the Donate Now button on this page.

Thank you for your generosity,  
The Missions Board  
[www.peacedalechurch.org/missions](http://www.peacedalechurch.org/missions)

The PDCC Missions Board has chosen to support SAGE with your Mission of the Month donations in February. Donate by 1) placing your gift in the Missions basket during Sunday service, 2) sending a check to the church office @ 261 Columbia Street, Peace Dale, RI 02879, **Checks should be made out to PDCC with "SAGE" in the memo line** or 3) clicking the **Give now** button here to donate online ([peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give](http://peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give)).

**Give now**

# Tabitha's Closet Preparing for Spring

Open Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month 4-7pm

## PAUSE FEB 27

Please pause donations to Tabitha's on February 27 to allow us to transition the closet to our new seasonal offerings.

## RESUME MARCH 9

We will be accepting donations of spring/summer gently used clothing and shoes for women, men and children as well as costume jewelry beginning March 9.

Tabitha's Closet, PDCC's clothing ministry, offers new and gently-used clothing for affordable suggested donations. **Get what you need, pay what you can.**

**DONATIONS** We are taking winter items for men, women, and children, as well as costume jewelry. Please hold on any spring/summer clothing donations given our limited storage space. We ask that clothing donations be laundered and delivered in a clean bag, as we don't have a washer/dryer.

We happily accept current-season clothing: shirts, pants, skirts, dresses, shorts, sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, hats, gloves for children and adults, belts, purses, costume jewelry. We accept shoes that are new or lightly-used. See [peacedalechurch.org](http://peacedalechurch.org) for a list of what we do and do not accept.

**VOLUNTEER!!** We would love more volunteers! If you would like to help sort clothes, staff this effort, or do marketing, please contact [tabitha@peacedalechurch.org](mailto:tabitha@peacedalechurch.org)

**LATEST UPDATES** on Instagram  
#shoptabithascloset.

**TABITHA SUPPORTS OUR COMMUNITY** We serve people every week whose need exceeds their ability to pay and who are happy to gain new-to-them clothing and shoes. We also have shoppers who contribute the full "ticket price" or more for items, knowing that we reinvest the funds in the church and our missions, and to support community partners.

We are reinvesting the money raised to support social services in our community – such as the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Church World Service Kits, Peace Dale Dinner Table, Gratitude Tree w Jonnycake Center, Tri County Community Action Agency, and Youth LGBTQ Closet (Youth Pride RI).

## THURSDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS?

Interested in volunteering at Tabitha's, but our afternoon time slots don't work with your schedule? Great news! We are looking for volunteers on Thursday mornings from 9-11 am. If we can recruit enough interest, we will establish it as another weekly session. First session is February 19th. If you're interested or have questions, please contact Lynne at [tabitha@peacedalechurch.org](mailto:tabitha@peacedalechurch.org)

February is ❤️ our community month!



Stop in  
for  
weekly  
Specials created  
just for you!



GET WHAT YOU NEED, PAY WHAT YOU CAN!



SHOP FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!  
Open Saturdays 9:30am- 12:30pm  
Monthly Third Tuesdays 4-7pm

Office Door from Parking Lot, downstairs  
Peace Dale Congregational Church  
261 Columbia St. Peace Dale RI 02879  
[tabitha@peacedalechurch.org](mailto:tabitha@peacedalechurch.org)

## Thank You from Habitat

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,335.60. Your continued support as a congregation of faith is greatly appreciated, giving not only financially but also of your time, talents, and prayers as we build together local families homes and lives.



The need and challenges associated with affordable housing are now greater than ever, but with your generous support, we can contribute to further our mission of helping local families in search of decent and affordable housing.

Thank you again for supporting South County Habitat for Humanity. Together, we can eliminate substandard housing in South County and around the world.

Sincerely, Colin Penney, Executive Director

## Thank You from Galilee Mission

Dear Pastor and Congregation,



I am sending this note to thank each and every one of you for your very generous donations. In this time and this chaotic environment it is hard to focus on giving, living, and loving our neighbor. You have done so very gracefully.

You are a champion to our cause and we thank you.

Stay warm! Lynn Serra, Executive Director

## Thank You from Jonnycake

Dear Gabby and friends,

Thank you so much for organizing a drive on behalf of our Hope for the Holidays program! Because of your kindness, 521 local children and teens were able to open gifts and share moments of joy this season.



The amazing collection of gifts, including \$1,025 in gift cards, brought meaningful comfort and relief to parents and caregivers, helping make the holidays feel warm and hopeful. The impact of your generosity was felt by 236 families through our community, and we are grateful.

Thanks to all of our friends at PDCC for helping make this past holiday season brighter for our neighbors.

Sincerely, Kate Brewster, Chief Executive Officer

## Donate Supplies for Church World Service KIDS Kits

**WE FINISH IN MARCH AND KITS WILL SHIP OUT IN APRIL.**

**Please help us collect supplies!** We continue to collect for the Kids' Kits.



There is a collection box on the stage in Fellowship Hall.

With the help of our congregation, Women's Fellowship has continued to increase the number of kits we make each year. Kits are sent to areas where natural disasters have occurred. Please add these items to your shopping lists and leave them in boxes provided in Fellowship Hall. We have found these items in Job Lot, Wal-Mart and Dollar Tree.

Thank you for helping to make another successful year supporting this world-wide mission. **UPDATED supplies list:**

### KIDS KIT

- Glue stick (new item)
- Box of 12 colored pencils (new item)
- 2-pocket folder (new item)
- Rounded tip scissors
- 70-count spiral bound notebooks
- 12 inch ruler
- Hand-held pencil sharpener
- Large eraser
- Unsharpened pencils
- 24 pack crayons



We also need handmade cotton bags w/cloth handles for School Kits. Sally Bradley has the pattern.

Submitted by Judy Healy

## Looking for a Blue Bin

We would happily accept donation of a blue recycling bin to be used for Tabitha's Closet that looks like this photo – for cardboard. Thank you.





# You are part of God's Story

## 2026 PDCC Youth Calendar

### February: Everyone is Welcome

Sunday 1 Youth Connect 10 AM  
Sunday 8 Family Service: Welcome to God's Family 10 AM  
Sunday 15 Youth Connect Valentine's Day Fun 10 AM  
Youth Group volunteers at the Big Soup Party to benefit the Dinner Table 4 PM  
Sunday 22 Youth Connect Winter Games 10 AM  
Youth Group Burgers & Bowling 5 PM

### March: You Can Make a Difference

Sunday 1 Youth Connect 10 AM  
- Join the scramble: Plan our biggest Eggstravaganza and Egg Drop yet!  
Sunday 8 Youth Connect 10 AM  
Sunday 15 Youth Connect 10 AM  
Saturday 21 Youth Group Homelessness Awareness Sleepover 7 PM  
Sunday 22 Family Service: The Good Samaritan 10 AM  
Saturday 28 Eggstravaganza 11 AM  
Sunday 29 Youth Connect 10 AM  
- Join our Palm Sunday procession and  
create a community sidewalk art gallery for Easter

### April: You Were Created for a Purpose

Sunday 5 Easter Sunday  
Sunday 12 Youth Connect 10 AM  
- Take charge! Plan our 2026 Earth Day Celebration  
Sunday 19 Spring Break: No Youth Connect  
BIG Beach Cleanup Time TBD  
Sunday 26 Family Service: The Sower of the Seed 10 AM  
Earth Day Celebration 11 AM

### May: Jesus Is Always With You

Sunday 3 Youth Connect 10 AM  
- Create Flower Bouquets for Moms  
Sunday 10 Happy Mother's Day: No Youth Connect  
Sunday 17 Youth Connect End-of-the-Year Celebration: Breakfast with Jesus 10 AM

## Congregational Care: Caring for Each Other

**WE NEED YOU!** Congregational care has always been one of the most important missions of Peace Dale Congregational Church and we need you. There are three ways you can enhance this very important part of our church family's mission:

1. **JOIN.** Join the Prayer Circle (meets every Tuesday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the church's community lounge on the third floor) or the Prayer Shawl Group that meets once a month (Carol Edwards is there to teach knitting and crocheting if you want to learn).
2. **DO.** If you can help with any of the following efforts to provide a special sense of support or just a caring thought, please let us know:
  - send cards,
  - make phone calls,
  - deliver flowers or prayer shawl,
  - visit someone.
3. **SHARE.** Let someone on Prayer Circle (listed below) know of anyone you think could use prayers, a prayer shawl, a card, a phone call, or a visit, so we can fulfill a thoughtful caring gesture. Prayers can also be requested in church during Joys and Concerns or using the colorful pew cards; or through the [online form](#) on our website.

**LET US KNOW!** Sometimes we do not hear about folks who could use a special extra touch of caring; please let us know if you need our caring.

Shalom with love, Prayer Circle

Linda Jeans (LTJeans@ verizon.net), Carol Edwards (caedwards760@ gmail.com), Joanne Haynes (joanne@ haynesrandj.com), Betsy Nelson (betsynelson10@ verizon.net), Paula Campbell (phedbat9@gmail.com), Norma Brooks, Darlene Hermes (dhermes44@ gmail.com), Christine Grevstad (christinegrevstad@ hotmail.com), Bea MacGregor (bmacgregor47@ gmail.com), Thomas Mather, Laura Lehrman (lauralehrmankelly@ gmail.com), Claudia Swain, Cindy Fish (cbfish0171@ gmail.com), Enid Watson (watsonenid@ gmail.com), and Pastor Fred (fred.e@ mac.com).

## Social Justice in Action



For THIS WEEK'S list of events and opportunities, check out the [Social Justice Committee info](#) on the Missions or Groups section of our PDCC website. Submitted by Joanne Haynes

### Join PDCC Green Team!

For anyone, of all ages, interested in learning more about the "Green Team", please

contact George Faucher at [gfaucher@gmail.com](mailto:gfaucher@gmail.com) and/or Don Hermes at [dhermes33@gmail.com](mailto:dhermes33@gmail.com)



### Gift Cards with a Kick

Stop by the RaiseRight table in Fellowship Hall after service each Sunday



and let us help you with your shopping.

**You get a card for the full amount and every retailer gives money back to the church for the money you spend.**

Use RaiseRight to buy:

- **gift cards** for teachers, service providers, family, birthdays, and special occasions.
- **cards for your own personal shopping** of groceries, etc.

**IN STOCK CURRENTLY** – Amazon, Applebee's, Dunkin, TJ Maxx/Marshalls, Matunuck Oyster Bar, Old Mountain Lanes, Panera, Starbucks, VISA, and Walmart as well as all the local grocery stores.

**PLANNING TO TRAVEL?** RaiseRight offers Airline gift cards, Gas gift cards, and Hotel gift cards. All of these cards can be *special ordered* ahead of time.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Deb Shaw or stop by the table on Sunday after worship.

## Peace Dale Congregational Church

261 Columbia Street  
Wakefield RI 02879

p: (401) 789-7313 f: (401) 789-6127  
web: [peacedalechurch.org](http://peacedalechurch.org)  
[facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch](http://facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch)