



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

January 26, 2023

CHURCH SERVICE 10:00 AM

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thurs 10am-1pm
(401) 789-7313

Contact Us

SENIOR MINISTER:

THE REV. A. FRED EVENSON

FRED.E@MAC.COM

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

MARYLOU McMILLAN

OFFICE@PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG

Birthdays

Chuck Cummiskey	1/25
Ella McCarty	1/25
Meg Kolodziej	1/26
Kevin Bugbee-Casara	1/27
Elizabeth Turco	1/27
Diane Dulleba Donilon	1/28
Tina Kelley	1/28
Janice Allen	1/29
Barry Keinard	1/29
Lenore Washburn	1/30
Taylor Hurley	1/31

Visit Our Webpage!

<http://www.peacedalechurch.org>

Follow us on Facebook!

[Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch](https://www.facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch)

Last Week's E-Light

Come and See!

What are you looking for, or to use better grammar, for what are you looking? This is the question Jesus asks us this Sunday. And when was the last time you invited someone to Come and See? Consider this your invitation to Come and See!

God's Spirit is moving at Peace Dale Congregational Church, and God is calling you to be a part of it. If you missed last Sunday, well, you missed a lot! We were visited by the voice of God speaking creation into being. We were also visited by Noah and the whole church was rocked by great waves, but God saw us through it all. Then Joseph made an appearance; he lost his coat of many colors and then became governor and forgave his siblings. Then Moses strolled into the sanctuary, followed by a shepherd and Mary and Joseph. The children of the church followed Moses through the Red Sea and Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Don Lowell and the choir did an amazing job helping to tell the stories musically! It was a family service for ALL ages. If you missed last Sunday, you missed a lot, and we missed you.

A lot can happen on just one Sunday, so this Sunday Come and See what God is doing, and what God is calling you to do!

See you in worship,

Pastor, Fred

IN THIS ISSUE

Bible Study: Feasting on God's Word	New Members Class 2/16
Church Family Life Events	Oscars Movie Watch
Coat Give Away 1/28	Prayer Matters
Consider IRA Contributions	Smile Amazon Going Away
Contribution Envelopes Available	Ways to Support PDCC
Email that Isn't What It Seems	White Elephants Out of Season
Family Service Photos from 1/22	Worship Design: Next Steps
January Mission of the Month	Worship Flowers
On the Calendar	Youth Group Super Bowl 2/5



On the Calendar

Coat Give Away

Saturday, January 28

New Member Class

Thursday, February 16

Youth Group Bowling

Sunday, February 5 @ 5pm

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 19

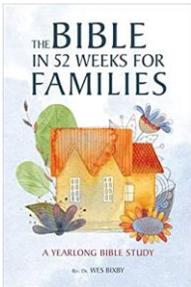
Worship Flowers



The flowers of Sunday, January 29 are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 51st wedding

anniversary of Rod and Barbara Gilbert.

Flowers are a beautiful way to remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion or simply give to the glory of God. Anyone interested in donating flowers please contact Bea MacGregor, call or text (401) 741-7518, or email to bmacgregor47@gmail.com. Opportunities are available for March, April May and June flower donations.



Bible Study: Feasting on God's Word

Begun on 1/12, the next meeting is Thursday, January 26, 2023 @ 4pm in the Community Lounge.

- Check out the information on the church website under **Bible Study 2023**.
- If you have misplaced your schedule or handout, you may look those up on that **webpage** as well.

We are excited to offer a Bible study that will take us through the Bible in a year beginning in January! We will be using a book entitled, *The Bible in 52 Weeks for Families*, by Wes Bixby. Books are available in the church office (\$16). Let's dive in and see what our still speaking God has to say, today.

Contribution Envelopes



Contribution envelopes are available on the table in the hallway outside of Hoxie Lounge. If your envelopes are missing, there is a sign-up sheet there as well.

Submitted by David Nelson

Coat Give Away 1/28

As you may know, an aspiring Eagle Scout from Troop 138 ran a coat drive over the Christmas holiday and presented what was donated to PDCC. There are many gently worn but lovely winter coats, blankets, some clothing, children's toys and gloves, scarves and hats.

We have dispersed many of the gloves, scarves and hats through the Dinner Table. Now we are planning a coat giveaway for Saturday, January 28th. We will be advertising to our Dinner Table guests, to Jonnycake members, and through social media. (Ad is below.)

WANT TO DONATE? If you have clean, gently worn coats, hats, scarves and gloves that you would like to donate, we will gladly accept them. **Donate until 7pm on Friday Jan. 27th; please leave them on the table at the bottom of the stairs** headed to the bottom floor. (The same location for bazaar items.)

VOLUNTEER: If you are interested in volunteering on the 28th for the give away or for set up on Friday, the 27th starting at 6:00 PM, please text Wally (401-258-2114) or Sylvia (401-439-3541).

Coat Give-Away Saturday, January 28th, 2023 9AM - 12 PM

Peace Dale Congregational Church
261 Columbia Street



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

If you need a warm coat to finish out the winter season, come to Peace Dale Church's Coat Giveaway. We have gently used coats, blankets, scarves, hats, gloves, some clothes and children's toys.

**Take what you need.
Donations to the Peace Dale Dinner Table accepted, but not required.**

Worship Design: Next Steps

Worship design Taskforce Recommendations

If you missed it, for a discussion of the recommendations from the Worship Design Task Force, please refer to the [E-Light of January 12, 2023](#).

Data from the Congregational Survey

You may view data of the responses to the Fall 2022 Congregational Worship Survey on the church website – under “[Worship](#).”

Next steps

The Executive Board is now assembling two new groups – one to plan the structure of the traditional service and one to plan the structure of the contemporary service. We want each group to consist of members who are passionate about the service they are planning and who have the long-range success of the church in their heart.



The Board has assembled a preliminary group of members that will be recruiting additional working group members. If you have an interest, or a recommendation, please see Jeff Healy, Peter Swain, or Pastor Fred.

These will be small groups that will need to work with diligent speed to be ready for Lent. Accordingly, we will want to be selective and balanced in this assignment.

Respectfully,

Peter Swain, President,
On Behalf of the Executive Board

Become A Member of Peace Dale Congregational Church

If you are interested in becoming an active member of the Peace Dale Congregational Church, there will be a membership class on **2/16/23 at 4:30 p.m.** You would be welcomed as a member by the congregation on 2/19/23 during the Sunday service.

An active member’s responsibilities, according to the bylaws, are:

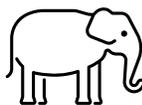
“Active members received into the fellowship of this Church according to Article IV shall participate frequently in the worship life of the congregation, actively support through participation and prayer the ministry of the congregation, and contribute financially to the need of the Church to the best of his or her ability.”

If you are interested, Pastor Fred will contact you after you let us know in one of 3 ways:

- Contact MaryLou in the Church office at (401) 789-7313 or office@peacedalechurch.org;
- Add your name to a sign up list in Fellowship Hall;
- On the web go to peacedalechurch.org/extravagant-welcome click on “ask about joining” and submit the form.

We are an Open and Affirming United Church of Christ whose mission statement is “Called by Christ to Create Shalom and Justice for All”.

White Elephants Out of Season



Yes, we do collect all year 'round. Just deposit any items you wish to donate down the stairs across from the office (by the table and rocker).

If you have packaging material that may come with orders – wrapping paper, sheets of bubble wrap – we would love to have that, too. We package items carefully and need cushioning materials. Please also place by the rocker. Thank you!

Submitted by Jane Stabile

Church Family Life Events



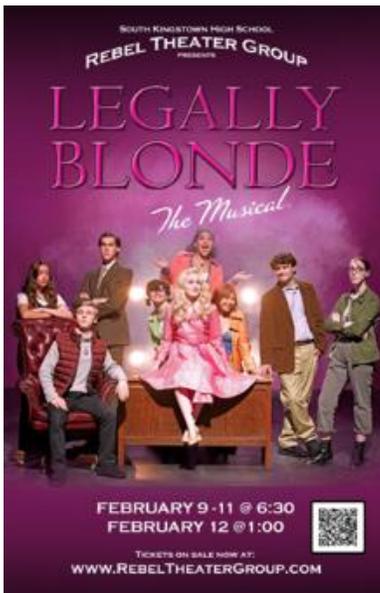
Dine with Nine
Sign up by **JANUARY 29TH**

FEBRUARY 10TH, 11TH, or 12th, Church Family Life (CFL) would like to invite everyone to a Dine with Nine. The idea is to share a potluck meal and friendly conversation with 8 (or 6 or 9) other people from the church family – make new friends and see old ones, welcome newer members, talk with people you might not have engaged with, put names to faces you see at Sunday Service or one of our programs.

Our event in November was a great success with 35 people participating. A lot of fun was had by all!! Let your Light Shine!

Sign up in Fellowship Hall by Jan. 29th for your preferred date: FEBRUARY 10, 11, or 12.

***Please indicate if you would also like to host a Dine with Nine ***



South Kingstown High School Theatre 2/9-2/12

See our own Aimee Clarke in the SKHS production of "Legally Blonde" February 9 through 12. Daniel Wheeler and Brady Clarke, of our church youth, are also involved.

Buy tickets online at [this link](#) or by scanning the QR code on the poster.

CFL Events submitted by Jane Stabile/Christine Grevstad

Want more events?

For a list of lots more RI fun options, from sports to music, open [THIS LINK](#) .

PDCC OSCAR Movie Watch!!! Walk the PDCC red carpet!!!



The Academy Awards is on March 12th. For those who like to watch movies, here's your chance to decide which movie, actress and actor should receive this year's Oscar.

For anyone who is interested in having a cohort of movie fans with whom to discuss this year's nominees, CFL offers this opportunity.

1. Folks join by committing to seeing at least half of the movies nominated for best picture, best actor, best actress. The attachment below has the list of movies. Movies are available to see on the big screen and on various streaming services. There are 10 movies in each category, but there is overlap. Click on this link to sign up sylviablanda@gmail.com
2. CFL will support accessibility by sharing info about where movies may be found.
3. Participants have until March 5th to see half the movies nominated. Some may join with others to watch the movies ... some may curl up on the couch and stream a movie from the comfort of your own home. Some folks may organize a small group to go to the theater. Others may make this a date night! One could literally escape to the theater all alone. The possibilities are endless.
4. One week before the Awards are given, participants will receive a ballot by email and vote on their choices for best movie, actor and actress.
5. The votes will be tabulated and kept secret!
6. On March 12th participants will attend an Academy Awards Party and compare our winners with those who actually receive an Oscar. The location and festivities will be determined by the number of folks participating – no number is too small, nor too large.

Sign up if interested. Click on the **attachment to this email to** find your list of nominees!

Submitted by Sylvia Blanda

Family Service: January 22, 2023

The Family Service on 1/22/23 provided a journey through the Old Testament. It started with the Creation Story and ended with the birth of Christ. Each short retelling was accompanied by related music – eight pieces! Of course, there was action and super leadership by Fred who wrote the script and played multiple roles. He was assisted by the children and David Worthen, Scott San Antonio, Max and Molly Cumiskey, Meg Kolodzieg., Gabby Klensch and Ed Holt. We were also blessed with the bells at the beginning and end of the service. Alleluia Trish and team!

We are blessed with the creativity and hard work of Meg Kolodzieg who put in many hours imagining, creating and directing the event with support from her family – Tom and Ed. Don Lowell not only created some of the PowerPoint slides along with Jet Vertz

and Fred, but also provided the music and led the choir. Tech support was created by Joanne Haynes, Greg Blaisdell, Jet Vertz and Aleda Skiffington. Jane Stabile provided costume and Once a Month choir support.

It took many creative people who invested hours to prepare, practice and produce this extravaganza. Our thanks to all those who came to enjoy this happening. We appreciated your enthusiasm and participation. See Meg to join us

Submitted by Jane Stabile



At the January family service, Pastor Fred led us on a journey through the Old Testament and into the New Testament. We celebrated Creation, boarded the ark with Noah and the animals, followed Joseph to Egypt, crossed the Red Sea with Moses, and traveled to Bethlehem with Mary and Joseph. Along the way, Pastor Fred reminded us that God was with us and will always be with us as we journey through life.



Consider Charitable Contributions from Your IRA for the Tax Advantage

(A reprise of this article as some may be making plans for 2023)

We make our contributions to the church and other charities with the intent of helping those organizations that meet our social, environmental, or spiritual objectives. So, the tax consideration is not the foremost consideration for taking that action. But there are tax benefits for making the contribution. Historically we have been able to deduct the amount of those contributions from our taxable income. However, recent tax law changes have created a standard deduction that virtually eliminated the charitable deduction for over 80% of taxpayers. That becomes an important reason for making a charitable contribution from your IRA. This is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

How QCDs work. You must be 70½ or older to make QCDs. You direct your IRA trustee to make a distribution directly from your IRA to a qualified charity. The distribution must be one that would otherwise be taxable to you. You can exclude up to \$100,000 of QCDs from your gross income each year, avoiding taxation on those amounts. If you file a joint return, your spouse can exclude an additional \$100,000 of QCDs. *Note:* You don't get to deduct QCDs as a charitable contribution on your

federal income tax return — that would be double-dipping. QCDs count toward satisfying any required minimum distributions (RMDs) that you would otherwise have to receive from your IRA, just as if you had received actual distribution from the plan.

The bottom line is if you are making charitable contributions, they should all come from your IRA if you are over age 70 ½ because you will avoid paying income tax on that withdrawal, which you would have had to pay if it is part of your required distribution. For example, if you would normally donate \$5,000 to the church and other charities, you probably would not be able to take a tax deduction. But if your required distribution from your IRA is \$5,000 and you make the charitable contribution from your IRA then you avoid federal and state income tax on your \$5,000 required distribution. You should consult a tax advisor regarding these matters.

Again, the priority for making a charitable contribution is to help those organizations that are important to you. Giving through an IRA provides a tax bonus. Regardless, we hope that you will Let Your Light Shine on Peace Dale Congregational Church through a thoughtful contribution to the church.

On behalf of Stewardship, Jim Blackerby

Email That Isn't What (or Who) It Seems to Be

Technology is wonderful – until it's not!

We've all gotten them: Emails that look like they are from someone we know but aren't actually from that person – and, in fact, are from a disreputable scammer trying to steal something from us. You might get phishing emails that look like they are from someone you know, or from a vendor (like your phone or internet provider), or "the government". Protect yourself by being a little suspicious of email.

For example: If you get an email from "Office Assistant" that is really weird or is asking "Can you do me a favor?" or "Do you shop at Amazon?" stop to ask yourself, Would MaryLou really send this to me and how can I make sure it's real, not fake or a scam. How? First, roll over or check the sender's name to see if it reveals the correct email address behind it. If not, delete it.

There is a bunch of advice on the internet about how to spot and avoid scams or phishing. Below is some good information I found and adapted from Carnegie Mellon University, published July of 2020. (<https://www.cmu.edu/iso/news/2020/email-spoofing.html>)

I am reluctant to click on links in emails, even those from my health care providers saying "there's a new message in your portal." It's best to go out to the website and log in directly from there.

The glaring exception to this? Your weekly email from PDCC with "Click through to the E-Light of <today's date> Newsletter." Click that, as you wish!

Best,

MaryLou

How to Identify Email Spoofed Phishing Attacks

Did you know that email scammers can easily forge the email "from" address? It's called email spoofing and it can make the job of spotting scams more difficult.

Email spoofing is a form of impersonation where a scammer creates an email message with a forged sender address in hopes of deceiving the recipient into thinking the email originated from someone other than the actual source. Scammers will use email spoofing to help disguise themselves as a friend, colleague, or financial organization to trick users into performing some type of action. Scammers use this method of deception because they know a person is more likely to engage with the content of the email if they are familiar with who sent the message.

There are various types of email spoofing.

Display name spoofing portrays a display name of the person being impersonated while leaving the actual sending email address intact.

Example 1: "John Doe" <jd23950@gmail.com>

Example 2: "John Doe"

<johndoe.cmu.edu@scammersite.net>

Scammers can also spoof the entire email address as well or just the domain name (the domain name is what follows the @ symbol).

There are a few things you can do to help determine if an email is coming from a spoofed email address or is otherwise malicious.

1: Check the Email Header Information

The email headers contain a significant amount of tracking information showing where the message has traveled across the Internet. Different email programs display these headers in different ways.

However, email headers can be spoofed, too, and are not always reliable.

Tips to help identify a spoofed message in the email headers.

- **Identify that the 'From' email address matches the display name.** The from

address may look legitimate at first glance, but a closer look in the email headers may reveal that the email address associated with the display name is actually coming from someone else. For example, Office Assistant <mary.misbehavin@scammer.com> -- shows that Office Assistant did not really send it.

- **Make sure the 'Reply-To' header matches the source.** This is typically hidden from the recipient when receiving the message and is often overlooked when responding to the

message. If the reply-to address does not match the sender or the site or company that they claim to be representing, there is a good chance that it is forged.

- **Find where the 'Return-Path' goes.** This identifies where the message originated from. While it is possible to forge the Return-path in a message header, it is not done with great frequency. Here's one example: The headers of this message show that the scammer spoofed the display name and

domain name to show an actual faculty member's name and university email address. However, a closer look at the 'Return-Path' and 'Reply-To' in the email headers indicates that the sender is not who they claim to be.

```
From: "Professor John Doe" <jdoe@andrew.cmu.edu>  
Reply-To: "Professor John Doe"  
<jdoe.andrew.cmu.edu@gmail.com>  
Return-Path: <fakeaccount123@scammail.net>
```

2: Question the Content of the Message

Sometimes the best defense against phishing is to trust your best instincts. **If you receive a message from a supposed known source that appears out of the ordinary, it should raise a red flag.**

When receiving an unsolicited message, you should question the content of the message, especially if the message is requesting information or directing you to **click on links or open attachments.**

Before responding to any questionable message, perform the following tasks to ensure the message is reliable.

- **Ask yourself:**
 - Was I expecting this message?
 - Does this email make sense?
 - Am I being pressured to act quickly?

- **Look for:**
 - Sense of urgency
 - Unsolicited request of personal information
 - Generic greeting or generic signature
 - Unfamiliar links or attachments
- **Contact the sender of the message through a trusted channel**
 - If the email appears legitimate, but still seems suspicious, contact the supposed sender through a trusted phone number or open a new outgoing email message using their real email address found in the address book.
 - *Do not reply to the message in question.*

It is important to always remain vigilant when receiving mail whether it is from an unknown sender, someone you are close with, or an organization you are familiar with. Cyber scammers are always looking for new ways to exploit individuals for their own personal gain.

Following massive flooding across nearly three-quarters of the country, the United Church of Christ is issuing an appeal in support of the people of Pakistan. Pakistan has been enduring severe monsoon weather since June, with rainfall equivalent to 2.9 times the national 30-year average. To date, more than half of the country's 160 districts have been declared 'calamity hit' by the government, a number that is expected to increase as rain and flooding continues.

With more than 33 million people affected by the flooding so far and an estimated 6.4 million in need of humanitarian assistance, this response is greatly needed. Through our membership in the ACT Alliance and contributions to its Rapid Response Fund, the United Church of Christ is already supporting early relief efforts. Emergency food and water, medical supplies, temporary shelter kits, and protective services are being offered by ACT members Community World Service Asia and Norwegian Church Aid.

Your gift to the United Church of Christ's Pakistan Response Fund will help maintain this relief work and support the long-term recovery for vulnerable persons and affected communities. Farmers and livestock owners will receive the seeds, feed, and vaccines they need to restore their livelihoods. Pregnant women – of whom an estimated 650,000 are affected – will receive maternal health services. Protection services will ensure the creation of safe



Figure 1: Shelter Kits being distributed

spaces for children and other vulnerable populations. Psychosocial support and trauma resources will be provided. Through our work with global partners and the ACT Alliance, your gift will be joined with others to bring hope, healing, and a helping hand to our neighbors in Pakistan.

Please place your donation in the Mission of the Month basket during worship services – or click the give now button – and our collective donation will be sent to this fund.

Additional information is available on the United Church of Christ website at <https://www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/pakistan-emergency-appeal/>

Thank you, The Missions Board
Submitted by Suzanne Faucher

Give now

Figure 2: Health Worker sharing awareness.



Ways to Support PDCC

Amazon Smile for PDCC



Generate donations to the church when you shop on smile.amazon.com

and select Peace Dale Congregational Church as your benefit organization.

Through this program Amazon donates 0.5% of the cost of your eligible purchases to the charity of your choice.

AMAZON SMILE GOING AWAY

Amazon is ending its AmazonSmile program by February 20, 2023 saying that it has not had the impact the company had originally intended. "With so many eligible organizations – more than 1 million globally – our ability to have an impact was often spread too thin."

Gift Cards with a Kick



RaiseRight™ Every retailer gives money back to the church for the money you spend.
Formerly ShopWithScrip

- RaiseRight table sales will be available on Sundays in Fellowship Hall after worship.

Thanks to all for your continued support throughout 2022 and enjoy the Christmas season with family and friends!!! Here's a link to the full listing of cards available...

<https://www.raiseright.com/shop>

Questions? Contact Deb Shaw at dkshaw5@cox.net



Prayer Matters...

Prayer Matters in the E-Light provides a way to share a request for prayer more broadly within the PDCC community.

To build fellowship and make full use of the congregational power of prayer, we offer this Prayer Matters space to allow members of our community to lift up their names and requests for prayer. This adds to the opportunities for congregants to lift up their prayers during Sunday service, and to request the care of the [Prayer Circle](#) that gathers every Tuesday morning or of our [Called to Care](#) ministry.

How to share your prayer

You may choose to use all or any combination of: Joys & Concerns on Sunday morning, Prayer Circle ministry, Called to Care ministry, and the new Prayer Matters section of the newsletter.

- To lift up your prayer during **Sunday Service**, simply raise your hand, voice your joy or concern and then say, "this is my prayer"; the congregation responds "this is our prayer". Prayer requests made during Sunday service are shared aloud with those in attendance.
- To request the care of **Prayer Circle**, submit the [online form](#) or call the church office at (401) 789-7313. These requests are shared only with members of this group.
- To request the support of our [Called to Care](#) ministry team, call the church office at (401) 789-7313 or contact Rene Lamontagne at her number found in Breeze. These requests are shared only with members of this group.
- To request your prayer be included in the published **Prayer Matters** in the weekly E-Light, send email to office@peacedalechurch.org or call the church office at (401) 789-7313 (leave message for MaryLou).

Shalom, Pastor Fred

Peace Dale Congregational Church

261 Columbia Street
Wakefield RI 02879

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