



**Peace Dale**  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

# PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

March 21, 2024

## 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@PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG

### Birthdays This Week

Gabe San Antonio  
Helen Van Cleef  
Allyson Beckmann  
Sam Fox  
Gregg O'Neill

### Visit Our Webpage!

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

### Follow us on Facebook!

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

### Last Week's E-Light

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

## Walking with Jesus on the Road to Jerusalem

This Sunday is a Family Worship day and it will be a BIG Sunday in the life of our church! We'll remember not only Palm Sunday, but other stories as well, from Jesus' ministry. Which stories will we experience? You'll have to come to find out.

See you on the road, on Sunday, as we all travel towards Holy Week. And of course, I'm hoping to see you at the Eggstravaganza on Saturday, too!

Peace and Joy,  
Pastor Fred



## Join Us for Easter Week Services

**Palm Sunday, March 24**  
10am Family Service

**Mauddy Thursday, March 28**  
6pm Soup & Bread  
6:30pm Service

**Easter Sunday, March 31**  
9am Contemporary Worship  
11am Traditional Worship



## Worship Flowers



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 flowers for April, May, or June please contact Roberta Norman (401 226-7123).

IN THIS ISSUE

The Bistro at the Peace Dale Dinner Table  
 Church Family Life Events  
 Easter Lilies – Due 3/24  
 Easter Week Services Schedule  
 Eggstravaganza – 3/23  
 Family Worship Services – March 24, April 28  
 Gift Cards with a Kick  
 Having it My Way – Making Life Decisions – 4/8  
 Jam Jars Needed  
 March Green Team: Rain Barrels Initiative  
 March Mission of the Month – One Egg Haiti  
 Membership Notes  
 On the Calendar  
 One Great Hour of Sharing – Easter Sunday  
 Prayer Matters  
 Sharing More Joy: PDCC Podcasts  
 Social Justice in Action  
 Tabitha’s Closet: Accepting Spring Donations  
 Volunteer to Help with Worship & Deacons  
 We Made So Many Kits!  
 White Elephants  
 Worship Flowers  
 Youth Group Mission Trip Info Meeting – 4/2



On the Calendar

**Saturday, March 23 @ 11a-2p** Eggstravaganza (rain or shine)

**Palm Sunday, March 24 @ 10am** – Family Worship

**Maundy Thursday, March 28 @ 6 pm** – Soup & Bread 6:30pm – Service

**Easter Sunday, March 31– 9am** Contemporary Worship  
 11am Traditional Worship

**Sunday, April 7 @ 10am** – Traditional Worship

Mondays @ 6:30pm  
 NA Meeting – Learn to Live

Tuesdays @ 9:30am  
 Prayer Circle

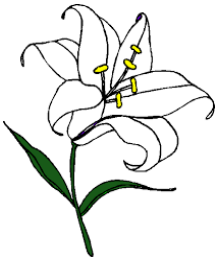
Tuesdays @ 6:30pm  
 Bell Choir rehearsal

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm  
 AA Meeting

Thursdays @ 6pm  
 Contemporary Singers  
 rehearse *ALL welcome*

Thursdays @ 7:30pm  
 Traditional Choir  
 rehearsal

Lilies for Easter – Due 3/24



If you wish to donate lilies to decorate our church sanctuary for the Easter season, please complete the order form below and return it to the church office with your payment by **March 24, 2024**. The suggested donation is \$12. Following Easter Services, a deacon will deliver a plant to each of our members who are homebound, are over age 85, or who recently suffered the loss of a loved one. If you would enjoy delivering your plant yourself, please indicate below to whom you will be taking it.

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:  In celebration of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

What to do with your lily after Easter Sunday worship?

I want to take the plant home with me.

I will deliver the plant to: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to leave the plant at church for someone else to deliver.

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## We Made So Many Kits!

**THANK YOU!** Thank you! to those who gave so generously to the Hygiene and School Kit project this year. We ended up with an all-time high of 53 hygiene kits (19 more than last year) and 34 school kits. This success is due to you! The boxes will be blessed and shipped in the near future as part of the Church World Service mission serving families in refugee camps, impoverished communities, and those in need after natural disasters.



## Jam Jars Needed



Patty Hare asks for donations of half-pint (8 oz) glass canning jars to make 60 jars of jam for the Bazaar. Yes, she is planning ahead! There is a collection box on the stage in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!



## Membership Notes

Lou Ruffolo, former Christian Ed director at PDCC, passed away unexpectedly this week. He was a school psychologist for more than 23 years and coached the Coventry High School unified basketball and junior varsity boys' soccer teams. Please keep Dr. Lou's family in your prayers.

## 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.

## White Elephants



There will be a few Easter items for sale at the 3/23 Eggstravaganza from 11 AM to 2 PM.

Yes, we'll take your "reductions in inventory" – meaning all those items you don't use and are cleaning out. We spiff them up, organize and appreciate them. Keep them coming and thank you! Info contact [jane.stabile@outlook.com](mailto:jane.stabile@outlook.com) or 508 395-1172.



## We Need You for Worship

Deacons would love to have more folks available as **readers** (reading the scripture) and as **ushers** at church worship services (especially for the traditional service).

There is also a real need for **one more Deacon to join the board**. The Deacons support the plans of the Action committees that plan the traditional, contemporary and family services. They work on reaching out to the active members, new members, and friends of the congregation to make them feel welcome.

SO, if you are interested in helping out during the services or in serving as a Deacon, please contact Val Lowell, Sandi Robinson, or Jeff Healy.



## One Great Hour of Sharing – Easter Sunday Mission Collection

On Easter Sunday in 1949, on nationwide radio, Christians were challenged to donate one million dollars in one hour to help people devastated by the aftermath of World War II. Faithful Christians answered the challenge and the goal was met. That was the beginning of the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. This year marks the 75th Anniversary. Our world has changed since 1949, but human needs remain. Each year, the OGHS offering gathered by several denominations and Church World Service (CWS) continues to carry God's message of love and hope to people in crisis.

Since that first offering, OGHS has expanded its mission to support domestic and international development, fight poverty and its consequences, bring aid and relief to communities torn by war or ravaged by national disaster, advocate and offer resettlement assistance for refugees and displaced persons, and combat injustice in its many forms.



OGHS provides funding and hands-on assistance in collaboration with local and international partners that fund health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries and both international and domestic disaster response. Read [OGHS stories](#) or the [2021 OGHS Impact Report](#) on the UCC website (under the GIVING tab on <https://www.ucc.org/>)

## Church Family Life Events – Ideas for Fun

Church Family Life is gradually changing its focus from listing community events in the E-light and on the in-house bulletin board to promoting events open to our congregants particularly if it is any sort of get together. Please continue to bring in flyers and ask us to promote events that you are interested in.

Here are opportunities to connect with other PDCCers:

**Wednesday April 8 – Having it My Way: Making Life Decisions** @ 5:30pm here at PDCC. The 3rd session "**Managing Our Estate Issues**" will be led by attorneys Jim Sullivan and Olivia Labbe. Probable topics: establishing your will; how to avoid probate; when a trust might be necessary; making sure your beneficiaries align with will and trust, plus life estates. See schedule of all sessions on page 5.

# EggStravaganza

Egg HUNT, Egg Drop, CaScarones,  
Food, and MUCH More



## March 23

## 11 - 2

Peace Dale Congregational Church



## Party on Palm Sunday

Greg Blasdell has been a pivotal part of our church for many years. Sadly, for us, he will be moving on to a well-deserved retirement.

Sunday March 24th CFL/Hospitality will be holding a goodbye party after the service in Fellowship Hall.

All are invited to come say goodbye to our dear friend. Any refreshments brought in (finger food) would be appreciated.

Questions? Contact Christine Grevstad 401 284-6483 [christinegrevstad@hotmail.com](mailto:christinegrevstad@hotmail.com)

## Having It My Way – Making Life Decisions

Church Family Life is sponsoring “Having It My Way – Making Life Decisions” a 7-session series that will help us to prepare for our last two phases of life. Each session is about 1.5 hours long. Topics include finances, estate planning, mental and physical health, living environment, end of life decisions and spiritual considerations with funeral planning.

**The 3rd session Wednesday, April 8th @ 5:30pm will be “Managing Our Estate Issues” is led by attorneys Jim Sullivan and Olivia Labbe.**

All programs will be open to the public so bring relatives and friends.

Each session will include a presentation, a questions & answer segment, and refreshments.

You may attend without signing up, but it would be helpful to be able to guesstimate numbers. **Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall or contact Jane jane.stabile@ outlook.com 508 395-1172**

*Come to the 4/8 session! You don't have to commit to all 7 sessions.*



	Day/Time	Workshop	Organizer	Speaker(s)
1.	3/13, 6:30 PM	Overview – 8000 Days in Retirement a slide presentation	Jim Blackerby, CFP Emeritus	Jim Blackerby
2.	3/20, 6 PM	Managing Our Financial Impact	Kathy Bamford	Shawn Juenger, Financial Advisor
3.	4/8, 5:30 PM	Managing Our Estate Issues	Jim Blackerby	Attorney Jim Sullivan Attorney Olivia Labbe
4.	4/18, 5:30 PM	Our Mental & Physical Health	Jim Blackerby	Dr. Chris Van Hemelrijck/ Renee La Montagne
5.	5/1, 5:30 PM	Managing Our Living Environment	Jane Stabile Linda Jeans	Nicole Antonopoulos, Real Estate Agent/ Diane Lepore, Brightview CM Justin Oakley, Accessibility
6.	5/15, 5:30 PM	End of Life Decisions – Hospice & Funeral	Jane Stabile Linda Jeans	Lisa Wasson, Nurse Educator from Hope Health Veronica Houston, Funeral Director
7.	5/29, 5:30 PM	Planning Your Celebration of Life	Rev. Fred Evenson Jane Stabile	Rev. Fred Evenson Claudia Swain

## Dessert Makers Needed



We are in need of additional desserts to put into the Wednesday Dinner Table meals, as the number of people we are assisting has grown. Is anyone interested in being a regular weekly baker? We need 4 more people. (If every week is too much, consider partnering with a friend to share.) Please contact Sharon Lankford at (401) 783-3896.

## Tabitha's Closet is Open

**We are now accepting donations of SPRING clothing.**

Open  
Saturdays  
9:30a-12:30p

**SHOP!** Tabitha's Closet, PDCC's new clothing ministry offers **new and gently used clothing** for affordable suggested donations.

**DONATE!** We ask that donations be laundered and delivered in a clean bag, as we don't have a washer/dryer.

**VOLUNTEER!** We need you! Tabitha's Closet needs volunteers to help:

- 1) **sort and prep the clothing,**
- 2) **help in the shop** on Saturday mornings.

Please contact Galen McGovern, our volunteer coordinator at GalenMcGovern1@ gmail.com.

For any questions or to learn more about the ministry, please contact Suzanne Faucher at gsfaucher@ gmail.com



## The Bistro at the Peace Dale Dinner Table



**Tuesdays @ 4:30 to 6 PM  
in Fellowship Hall**

The Dinner Table is expanding in order to meet its overall mission to provide nutritious meals for children and their families, the alone, and the hungry. The Dinner Table began as an eat-in opportunity providing socialization. Then along came COVID with all its restrictions ... so we went to our very successful take-out model.

Alarmingly, 25% of our meals currently go to folks who are receiving only one meal. This leads us to the conclusion that many are eating alone. Some have expressed interest in a dine-in opportunity. We have volunteers expressing a desire to do more....

(Oh my, be careful what you ask for!)

The first event 3/12 was full of happiness and gratitude; see photos on Facebook.

**Participation in the Tuesday Bistro does not impact eligibility for Wednesday and Friday meals. The Bistro is an added feature for those looking for a more social dining experience. Donations accepted.** Tuesday night meals are served restaurant style and include soup/salad, entrée and bread, coffee, and dessert. This eat-in Bistro opportunity is by Reservation Only. Call **401-542-0332 before 7:00 PM Sunday** to make a reservation for Tuesday. Reservations must be made each week.

We have learned a lot since we started in 2014. We hope this expansion will further assist those dealing with loneliness and food insufficiency. If you wish to **VOLUNTEER**, please email Darlene ([dhermes44@gmail.com](mailto:dhermes44@gmail.com))

Thanks for your support for this mission. Without you, this would not be possible.

Submitted by Sylvia Blanda





## **Spring Rain Barrel Initiative: Harvesting Nature's Gift for Conservation**

As we eagerly anticipate the arrival of spring, it's time to gear up for a season of conservation and sustainability.

One initiative gaining momentum is the collection of rainwater in rain barrels. This simple yet impactful practice involves harnessing the power of nature's precipitation for various purposes, from watering gardens to conserving water resources.

### **Why Rain Barrels Matter**

**Water Conservation:** By capturing rainwater, we reduce dependency on treated water sources, conserving this precious resource for essential needs.

**Environmental Benefits:** Rainwater harvesting helps mitigate stormwater runoff, reducing erosion and pollution in water bodies.

**Sustainable Gardening:** Rainwater is naturally soft and free from chemicals, making it ideal for nurturing gardens, lawns, and plants.

**Cost Savings:** Utilizing rain barrels can lead to reduced water bills, especially for outdoor water usage during the warmer months.

**More information** and beneficial resources can be found on the following websites:

- [RI Rain Barrell Info](#)
- [MA Rain Barrels and other Water Conservation Tools](#)

**JOIN US!** 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)

### **Mark your calendars for these upcoming Green events!**

#### **Faith Climate forum, April 16**

In person at host Location or Zoom webinar. An enriching day of faith, creation care, and community.

The agenda is carefully crafted to inspire, inform, and empower clergy and congregations with actionable and practical guidance. For more information and to register:

<https://nationalfaithandclimateforum.org>.

#### **UCC Earth Summit (2nd): April 20<sup>th</sup>**

Zoom webinar and in-person (Dartmouth College, NH) **Bill McKibben keynote "Energy from Heaven or Energy from Hell?"** 2.5 hour summit, features other grassroots leaders and videos showcasing the environmental ministries of Host Congregation (Church of Christ at Dartmouth College). To Register: [https://ucc.zoom.us/webinar/register/9317026581054/WN\\_rYyzeGCVSliQ\\_kNEH5DPQg#/registration](https://ucc.zoom.us/webinar/register/9317026581054/WN_rYyzeGCVSliQ_kNEH5DPQg#/registration)

#### **Kiersten Sundell: April 23, 7:00pm**

URI student Kiersten will give a presentation to PDCC and the community following her recent attendance at COP28 in Dubai. Don Hermes is coordinating event further details to be announced.

## March Mission of the Month: Egg-a-Day Haiti



A chance meeting on the flight back from Haiti to New York after Hurricane Sandy led two women to discover a common concern: the hungry children they had

seen during their visit. By the time the plane landed, the two had vowed not only to find a way to feed the children but were determined to find a way to help the Haitians in the communities they serve become self-sufficient and produce their own food.

That was the birth of the Egg-a-Day Nutrition Program (formerly known as OneEgg Haiti) which has, since 2013, provided high-quality animal protein in the form of a hard-boiled egg to over 2500 children throughout Haiti. The goal is to make the program sustainable by educating individuals, especially school children, about how to raise their own food and chickens.

That had been happening, for the most part, until a few years ago when the already poverty-stricken country was plunged into chaos with the assassination of their president. Now, dangerous gangs control much of the country making it even more difficult to find or purchase food. **But UCC contacts still have a few chicken farms and are able to deliver eggs to some schools and orphanages.**

Egg-a-Day is funded by donations from churches and individuals in our conference. For several years,

those donations were supplemented by additional financial support from OneEgg.org, a charitable organization that ran a similar program in Africa. However, that organization is no longer in operation. Egg-a-Day relies solely on donations from individuals and churches. It does not take much - \$60 will feed a child an egg a day for one year.

More information on [sneucc.org/egg-a-day](http://sneucc.org/egg-a-day). By the way, the children in Haiti love hard-boiled eggs

Peace Dale Congregational Church supports Egg-a-Day Childhood Nutrition Program as our Mission of the Month. You may donate funds 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, or 3) clicking the **Give now** button below to donate online ([peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give](http://peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give)). **Checks should be made out to PDCC with "Egg-a-Day" in the memo line.**

Thank you for your generosity,  
The Missions Board

**Give now**

The February Mission of the Month collected \$1,230 for the Jonnycake Center for Hope.



# Youth Corner



## Walk in the FootSteps of Jesus

Peace Dale Congregational Church

Family Worship Services 10 am

March 24

Join us to shout Hosanna, wave palm branches, rock the boat, and raise the roof

## EggStravaganza

Egg Hunt, Egg Drop, Cascarones, Food, and Much More



March 23

11 - 2

Peace Dale Congregational Church



GROUP MISSION TRIPS



Summer 2024 Peace Dale and Kingston Congregational Churches Youth Mission Trip

JOIN FAMILIES WITH YOUTH IN MIDDLE AND SR. HIGH SCHOOL FROM PEACE DALE CONGREGATIONAL AND KINGSTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES TO HEAR ABOUT A WONDERFUL NEW COLLABORATION IN YOUTH MINISTRY! STARTING WITH:

**JULY 14-20, 2024, YOUTH WORK CAMP**

**WOONSOCKET, RI**

WITH GROUP MISSION TRIPS

Youth from PDCC and KCC are invited to spend a week in service to low-income homeowners in the economically challenged community of Woonsocket, RI. Join with 100s of other youth from around the country to show God's love in action, build relationships, have fun and grow closer to God! Group Work Camps are extremely well-run service weeks for youth and their adult chaperones. Check out [GROUPMISSIONTRIPS.COM](http://GROUPMISSIONTRIPS.COM) and **come to our family info session on:**

**DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 2**

**TIME: 6:30 pm**

**PLACE: PEACE DALE UCC**

261 Columbia St, Peace Dale, RI

**RSVP or get more info:**

**Meg Kolodziej** [megkolodziej@gmail.com](mailto:megkolodziej@gmail.com)

**Rev. Jan** [revjan@kingconqchurch.org](mailto:revjan@kingconqchurch.org)



## Gift Cards with a Kick



**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, and family.

Use RaiseRight to buy **cards for your own personal shopping** of groceries, etc. Remember your reusable bags and gift cards in your everyday shopping trips.

- RaiseRight (formerly SCRIP) table sales are available on Sundays in Fellowship Hall after worship.
- Cards in stock include:  
Belmont (\$25 & \$100), Dave's (\$100), Shaw's (\$25 & \$100), Stop & Shop (\$25 & \$100), CVS (\$25), Walgreen's (\$25), Amazon (\$25 & \$100), Applebee's (\$25), Brickley's Ice Cream (\$20), Dunkin' (\$10 & \$25), Marshall's (\$25), Matunuck Oyster Bar (\$50), Old Mountain Lanes (\$25), Panera (\$10 & \$25), Starbucks (\$10 & \$25), Walmart (\$25).

**Questions?** Contact Deb Shaw at [dkshaw5@cox.net](mailto:dkshaw5@cox.net) or stop by the table on Sunday after worship.



## Sharing More Joy: PDCC Podcasts

Interviews with members of our church family about the joys of their faith – the “Sharing More Joy” series – can be found on the church website under the News tab (<https://www.peacedalechurch.org/podcasts>).

## Prayer Matters



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 submit the [online form](#). These requests are shared only with members of this group.
- To request your prayer be included in the Light, send email to [office@peacedalechurch.org](mailto: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](http://peacedalechurch.org)  
[facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch](https://facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch)