



Peace Dale  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

# PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

February 26, 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@PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG

## Birthdays

Andrew Burnap  
Carolyn Curtis  
Amy Davis  
Nate Davis  
George Faucher  
Lori heald  
Gail Twombly

### Visit Our Webpage!

peacedalechurch.org

### Follow us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch

### Last Week's E-Light

peacedalechurch.org/e-li

## Lenten Joy?

John 2:1-11

Hopefully, you survived the blizzard relatively unscathed! And maybe you are chomping at the bit to get out and go somewhere. This Sunday is a great opportunity for you to do that! This Sunday, you are invited to come to our Traditional Worship service that will also include Holy Communion.

Now, why are we talking about joy during Lent? Is this a typical scripture to be read during Lent? Are you full of joy these days? Do you feel like talking about joy these days? It could be a good time for us to remember the pink candle.

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, I'll see you soon!

Peace and Joy, Brother Fred

## Worship Flowers



The Sanctuary flowers of March 1 are given to the glory of God. 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 March, please contact Lynn McCall.

## Handicap Ramp is Temporarily Closed

Please note that the handicap ramp entrance continues to be closed due to ice dam buildup. In the meantime, please use the Church Street side entrance until the issue is resolved and the ramp can safely reopen. Property management has explored available options, however, we will need continued thaw before conditions can be fully addressed. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.



## Eggstravaganza's Coming!

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

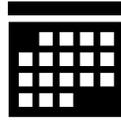


## Plan Ahead – Spring Sale

Save the Date!  
May 2

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## On the Calendar

**Sunday, March 1** @  
 10am Traditional  
 Worship with  
 Communion

**Sunday, March 8** @  
 10am Contemporary  
 Worship

**Sunday, March 8** @  
 2pm Musica Dolce  
 Concert (Sanctuary)

**Sunday, March 15**  
 @ 10am  
 Contemporary  
 Worship

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

Tuesdays @ 9:30am Prayer  
 Warriors / Prayer Circle

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm AA  
 Meeting

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm Bell  
 Choir rehearsals

Thursdays @ 1-3pm Shawl  
 Knit & Crochet

Thursdays @ 6pm  
 Contemporary Choir reh.

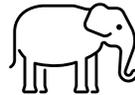
Thursdays @ 7:30pm  
 Traditional Choir rehearsal



## Membership Notes

**Artie Ramaker** died earlier this week. A Celebration of Life will be held at Peace Dale Congregational Church on **April 25**.

## 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.



## 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. And keep them out of the landfill. Submitted by Gabby Klensch

## Great Stewards 2025

The Deacons have selected five Great Stewards for 2025. Each of these people has served in many roles over quite a few years and we hold them up as an example as how to serve in our church. Their names will appear with years of others on the Great Stewards plaque near the elevator.

**Bob Congdon** served as a Deacon and on our Property Management Board for a number of years. He has often been found helping with our church events, especially our mission ones, by serving every week, doing dishes or setting up or breaking down after an event. He, along with his wife Jeanne, volunteers weekly for the Dinner Table and has organized the meals and made sure all the bags are filled correctly and setup for drivers to deliver throughout our community.

**Don Hermes** has served on the Board of Missions many times and on Deacons. He taught Youth (middle school Sunday School) and served as a host for "Dine with Night". He organized events recognizing the dangers of Climate Change and pulled together an Ecumenical Social Justice Group still active today. He started the Green Team here and saved the church money by getting solar panels put on the church.

**Gabby Klensch** has volunteered for decades teaching Sunday School, playing bells with the Bell Choir, serving on the Church Family Life, the Deacons, and the Missions Board, and performing in our mystery theater production. She served as our representative with Habitat for Humanity. She stepped up to help with the Overnight Shelter program. Giving her time has been the best gift – to winding our church clock, serving as our delegate to the RI UCC Conference, and working on our white elephant mission events, and selling pumpkins.

**Sharon Lankford** was instrumental on the Casserole Crew (bringing food to church members), helping with the holiday events, ushering, and even helping in the office when there was a need. She gave so much to our Hospitality Board for years. She reorganized the kitchen numerous times, scheduled volunteers, served as hostess for Dine with Nine, and made the best soups for tens of events. She served as the Chair of Hospitality,

finding new ways to open our church to wonderful activities.

**Deb Shaw** has served as our delegate to the RI UCC Conference for years – attending and summarizing all the meetings for the congregation. She stepped up to be the Regional UCC Delegate and still serves in that capacity today. She served on the Stewardship Board and provided financial advice when needed. She organized URI basketball events for our congregation. When our Scrip (Raise Right) program was about to go away, she found her calling to continue the program, which provides thousands of dollars to help meet our church's financial needs.

# REPAIR FAIR

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

The Town of South Kingstown Public Library and Recycling Coordinator is hosting a "Repair Fair." Volunteers are needed that have skills in repairing electronics, jewelry, bikes, small appliances, furniture, clothing, and other items. Volunteers will help community members with simple repairs to give items new life, keep them out of the landfill, and share knowledge with neighbors. If interested, complete the form by scanning the QR code, visiting <https://tinyurl.com/yc6ctz5n> or calling 401.783.8254 x4303




COMMUNITY CONNECTION	05.09.2026
KNOWLEDGE SHARING	LOCATION: SOUTH KINGSTOWN RECREATION CENTER 30 ST DOMINIC RD, SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI
REDUCING LANDFILL WASTE	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Repair Fair Volunteer Sign-up:

<https://form.jotform.com/lmigliazza/repair-fair-volunteer-registration>



A Conversation with Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

Moderated by Editor of The Westerly Sun Alex Nunes followed by audience questions.

Sunday March 8, 2026 2 PM

South Kingstown High School Auditorium



Scan for PRESS RELEASE at https://bit.ly/Whitehouse3-8-26



CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

Sunday, March 8 - 2 pm Peace Dale Congregational Church

Suggested Donation \$20

Children & Students Free

Robert Hayden clarinet Ann-Frances Rokosa violin Gillian Gallagher viola Megan Koch cello Paul Rosenbloom piano

Violin Sonata in E Minor, K. 304 Clarinet Quartet in B Flat, K. 358 transcription by Rosenbloom Piano Quartet in G Minor, K. 478

For more information, please call 401-294-6520 or visit musicadolce.org



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 401 789-7313

Thursday Knit and Crochet

COME! 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



DONATE - Prayer Shawl/I Care Shawl Project will gladly accept donations of yarn, knitting needles, or crochet hooks.

CANCER COMFORT - The I Care Shawl Project is working with Brown Health Cancer Center in East Greenwich to comfort those going through chemotherapy.

# 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 beginning 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.**

## PAUSE DONATIONS UNTIL 3/9

We will be taking spring/summer items for men, women, and children, as well as costume jewelry. Please hold on any not 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.

**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).

**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)

## 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 for a morning from 9-11 am. If we can recruit enough interest, we will establish a morning weekly session. If you're interested or have questions, please contact Lynne at [tabitha@peacedalechurch.org](mailto:tabitha@peacedalechurch.org)

We ❤️ our community event!

February 28th Only

**One Day  
One Dollar  
Event**

All Items only \$1.00 (except jewelry)  
\*Suggested donation

**GET WHAT YOU NEED, PAY WHAT YOU CAN!**

**SHOP FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

Open Saturdays 9:30am- 12:30pm  
Monthly Third Tuesday: 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)

## 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)

## February Mission of the Month: Support 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.

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.

On Sunday, February 8, we heard about Anne Sliney, a board member of SAGE, and Khadija Nazari, the organization's Founder and President. 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.

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 Give 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**

## 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

## 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

# 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 [glfaucher@gmail.com](mailto:glfaucher@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](https://facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch)