



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

December 29, 2022

CHURCH SERVICE 10:00 AM

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thurs 10am-1pm

Contact Us

SENIOR MINISTER:

THE REV. A. FRED EVENSON

FRED.E@MAC.COM

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

MARYLOU McMILLAN

OFFICE@PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG

Birthdays

Linda Green	12/30
Mark Fratiello	1/1
Carl Koussa	1/1
Eric Taylor	1/1
Cate Vanesse	1/2
Rae Robinson	1/3
Madison Miller	1/4
Molly Cummiskey	1/5
Natalie Towle	1/5
Hallie Manchester	1/6

Visit Our Webpage!

<http://www.peacedalechurch.org>

Follow us on Facebook!

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

Last Week's E-Light

Who Would Think That What Was Needed

Who would think that what was needed to transform and save the earth
Might not be a plan or army proud in purpose, proved in worth?
Who would think, despite derision, that a child should lead the way?
God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day.

Shepherds watch and sages wonder, monarchs scorn and angels sing;
Such a place as none would reckon hosts a holy, helpless thing;
Stabled beasts and passing strangers watch a baby laid in hay:
God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day.

Centuries of skill and science span the past from which we move,
Yet experience questions whether with such progress we improve.
In our search for sense and meaning, lest our hope and humor fray,
God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day.

This song was written by the Iona Community in Scotland which frequently develops hymn texts through a collaborative process.

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On the Church Calendar



Free Film: Avatar

Thursday, December 29

Pizza @ 5:30, Film @ 6 pm

Sunday Service

January 1 @ 10am

The Rev. Dr. Jean Simpson
"Unexpected Changes"

No Youth Connect 1/1

Memorial Service for Charlie Fiske

Tuesday, January 3 @ 10 am

Sanctuary

Free Film: Beneath the Polar Sun

Friday, January 6 @ 7pm

Healing Gong: Wolf Moon

Sunday, January 8 @ 3-4:30pm

with Marion Hearn in Fellowship Hall

Worship Flowers



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 CarolAnne Hayes at (401) 487-9127 or carolhayes44@gmail.com. Opportunities are available for January and February flower donations.

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

Avatar Movie Night – 12/29

Come enjoy the original 2009 AVATAR in the church sanctuary on the big screen!



Thursday 12/29

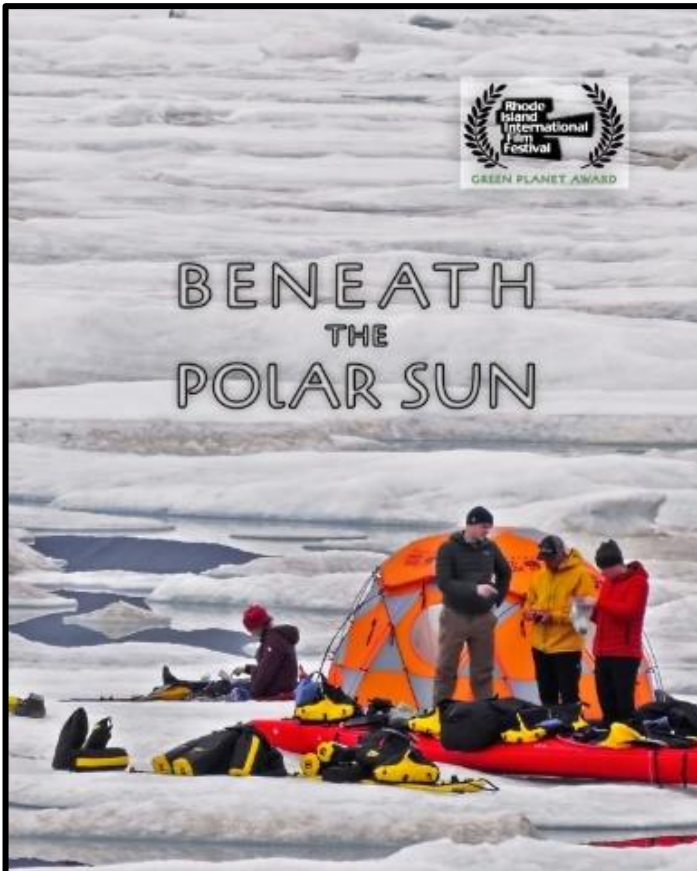
Pizza @ 5:30 pm – Film @ 6 pm

Free!

With blue treats for sale at intermission

“Avatar: The way of the Water,” the sequel movie hits theaters 12/16. Come see the original Avatar movie with us! Multiple spiritual and environmental themes exist in this virtual masterpiece from 2009.

RSVP to Kathy Bamford (401) 218-3546



The Green Team sponsors a video produced by Diane Kushner & Stephen Smith (Husband & Wife team from Hope Valley, RI.) Watch and discuss the video with the Producers.

Where: Peacedale Congregation Church, 261 Columbia St.

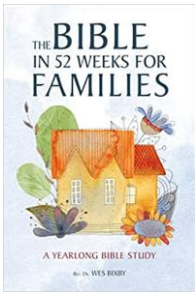
When: January 6, 2023, 7pm

<https://beneaththepolarsun.org/>

When ice on the Arctic Ocean vanishes, the sea's surface no longer reflects solar energy. The dark sea absorbs the sun's heat. And global temperatures rise.

Five hundred nautical miles from the North Pole, a scientific expedition is caught in the grip of the ice it has come to study. Tiny specks in a frozen maelstrom, something has to give.

Submitted by Don Hermes



Bible Study: Feasting on God's Word

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.

Submitted by the Rev. Dr. Jean Simpson



Advent Food Drive Roundup

Thanks to all who contributed to the recent food drive. Through your generosity and the efforts of Travis, a SK high school student and scout, a total of 323 pounds of food was delivered to the Jonnycake Center.

Submitted by James McMonigle



January Mission: UCC Pakistan Response

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 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](#)

White Elephant 2022 Finale

We are so grateful for your support in 2022 with items, help sorting, cleaning, pricing and boxing up in the down under, setting up for the sales, staffing them and shopping. It is always satisfying work full of fellowship.

NEW GUIDELINES for 2023 necessitated by the challenge of what to do with unwanted or unsold items. Thanks to a dedicated team led by Byron Fish at the end of the bazaar carloads of items are taken to our local Big Brothers, Big Sisters who sell them to Saver's. The Johnnie Cake Center no longer takes anything as they transition the store to a youth center. During the year, Steve and I make trips to Saver's with items.

We will continue to welcome your housewares, decoratives, toys, craft items, Christmas decorations and wrappings, small appliances, clocks, radios, desk items, new personal care items, clutches and coin purses, candles, fall items, vases, dishes, utensils and cookware. We save all jewelry and jewelry items for our bazaar jewelry shop.

We have not been accepting books, CD's, software nor clothing. Here are some NEW additional items we will no longer accept: frames, framed or unframed art, small furniture, mirrors or lamps. They take up too much room to store and are challenging to find homes for.



We were very short handed at the end of our Christmas Bazaar. I am recommending we end at 1 PM, so the few of us remaining have energy enough to clean up. By reducing the leftovers it should also reduce the burden.

We do recycle hundreds of items successfully, make lots of people happy with their purchases and make money. White elephants made over \$3,000 in December. That's a lot! I'm encouraged that with the new workers and new guidelines 2023 will see another successful less stressful sale.

Always with appreciation for your parts in this effort, Jane Stabile

Donate Supplies to Church World Service Kit Projects

Please help us collect supplies! When Women's Fellowship met in September, we decided to continue the Church World Service (CWS) Kit Projects our church has participated in for years.

Last year, with donations from the PDCC congregation, we assembled 39 Hygiene Kits and 28 School Kits. In 2021, CWS distributed 83,760 Hygiene Kits and 33,240 School Kits to disaster victims, families in refugee camps, and impoverished communities in our country and around the world.

Supplies needed for Hygiene Kits



- Cotton hand towel (approx. 15x28 to 16x32)
- Sturdy wide-tooth comb with at least 6" of teeth
- Fingernail or toenail clipper
- Bath size bar of soap in original package
- Toothbrush in original package
- 10 standard size Band-Aids
- (We have enough face cloths)

Supplies needed for School Kits



- Blunt round-tip scissors
- 3 70-count bound notebooks totaling 200-210 pages
- 12-inch rulers
- Large erasers (no pencil cap erasers)
- Unsharpened pencils with erasers
- Boxes with 24 crayons
- (We have enough handheld pencil sharpeners)

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



Kit supplies can be left in the Boxes at the church entrance and in Fellowship Hall. Most items can be found at Job Lot or the Dollar Store. We spend our January to March meetings assembling the kits which are delivered in April. Hopefully with your help, we can beat last year's totals!

Join us! Women's Fellowship meets the second Thursday morning of the month @ 10am in Hoxie Lounge.

Submitted by Judy Healy

Church Family Life Events



Ideas for local fun!

Church Family Life also invites you to join in some togetherness.

Through January 1 – Slater Park Winter

Wonderland, Pawtucket, RI. On non-festival days, the display will be lit each night through Jan. 1 until 9 p.m. for driving through or walking.

<https://www.facebook.com/PawtucketWinterWonderland/>

CFL events submitted by Jane Stabile and Christine Grevstad

Mavis Staples Concert



Tickets are going fast if you're interested. If you get tickets and want to do dinner and a show with us, contact Christine Grevstad @ 516 694-9154 or christinegrevstad@hotmail.com

MAVIS STAPLES – Hailed by NPR as “one of America’s defining voices of freedom and peace,”

Staples is the kind of once-in-a-generation artist whose impact on music and culture would be difficult to overstate. She’s both a Blues and a Rock and Roll Hall of Famer.

GREENWICH ODEUM

March 11, 2023 @ 8:00PM, Doors open 7:00PM

Tickets \$87–\$96

59 Main Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

401.885.4000 info@greenwichodeum.com

Social Security Scammer Alert

Courtesy of the Social Security Administration.

“Many of us spend the holidays relaxing and sharing in goodwill with friends and family. But some bad actors use the holidays to take advantage of people’s generous spirits. Scammers frequently target the older and other more vulnerable members of our communities. They pretend they are from Social Security or another government agency to steal your money or personal information.

“Caller ID, texts, or documents sent by email may look official, but they are not. Fraudsters are calling to verify information about the 2023 cost-of-living adjustment for people who get benefits. Remember, this adjustment is automatic and a beneficiary does not need to verify anything. Social Security won’t ask you to provide information or money to get your benefit increase. Know that how we do business with you doesn’t change because it’s the holidays. We may email or text you about programs and services, but we will never ask for personal information via email or text.

“Recognizing the signs of a scam can help you avoid falling victim to one. These scams primarily use the telephone to contact you, but scammers may also use email, text messages, social media, or U.S. mail. Scammers pretend to be from an agency or organization you know to gain your trust. Scammers

say there is a problem with your Social Security number or account. Scammers pressure you to act immediately. Scammers tell you to pay in a specific way.

“Know what to look for and be alert. Scammers don’t take days off and neither should you... when it comes to making sure you identify suspicious communications and report it. If you receive a questionable call, text, or email, hang up or don’t respond and report it at oig.ssa.gov/report. Scammers frequently change their methods with new tactics and messages to trick people. We encourage you to stay up to date on the latest news and advisories by following SSA’s Office of the Inspector General on LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook or subscribing to receive email alerts.”

Subscribe to receive email alerts from SSA at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USSSA/subscriber/new>

Learn more at <https://www.ssa.gov/scam/>

What should I do if I get a call claiming there's a problem with my Social Security number or account? **SSA will mail you, not call you.** If you receive a questionable call, hang up, and report the call. More at <https://faq.ssa.gov/en-us/Topic/article/KA-10018>

Look Up Your Contributions to PDCC in Breeze

(There is also an instructive video from 2021 at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJ2tz5LIVkg>)

It is coming to the end of the year and you may want to know what your estimated giving was for 2022 and how much you have already contributed in 2022. You can obtain this information in **Breeze** and print it.

First – You can see your estimated giving by going to your detail profile

Mary Jones
(401) 555-1212
pdconlineregistration@yahoo.com
NO KNOWN ADDRESS 555 smith street wakefield, RI 02879

Main		Contact	
Name	Mary Jones	Home	(401) 555-1212
Gender	Female	Email	pdconlinereg
Status	Other	Address	NO KNOWN ADDRESS 555 smith street wakefield, RI 02879

And click on Giving to the right of your picture (or on your phone, it would be the dropdown icon across from word "details").

It will come up with your giving for the year but you can click on pledges and it will show you what your pledges this year and past years were – plus remaining amount after subtracting your giving this year.

Mary Jones
(401) 555-1212
pdconlineregistration@yahoo.com
NO KNOWN ADDRESS 555 smith street wakefield, RI 02879

1 Pledge

Fund(s)	Frequency	Paid	Pledged	Remaining
2021 Contribution	Total Amount (\$10.00)	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00

If you want to print your contributions statement so far this year. You can click on **giving** and then click on the **icon next to download** to excel and click on **print statement**.

Mary Jones
(401) 555-1212
pdconlineregistration@yahoo.com
NO KNOWN ADDRESS 555 smith street wakefield, RI 02879

Show For: Jones Family | Start Date: 01/01/2021 | End Date: 12/26/2022

Date	Fund(s)	Method	Note	Amount
Feb 12, 2021	PDCC Dinner Table	VANCO	example test note	\$-75.00



Breeze: The Church Directory

Every member and active participant in the church should be able to access Breeze, which is the directory of our church with names and contact information for all of us.

You may use the directory for church business (contacting others on your committee, calling someone because you have forgotten what you said you would bring to an event, etc.) As the previous article shows, Breeze also offers some convenient information to you.

- Breeze is available through the web at peacedalechurch.breezechms.com
- It is linked from the church website News page peacedalechurch.org/news
- Breeze is also available through a downloadable app (search breezechms).
- Accessing Breeze requires that you have an account and password.
- If you do not have a Breeze account, please contact Darlene at dhermes44@gmail.com



Consider Making Charitable Contributions from Your IRA for the Tax Advantage

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, thereby 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 an 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

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.



RaiseRight
Formerly ShopWithScrip

Gift Cards with a Kick

Every retailer gives money back to the church for the money you spend.

- RaiseRight table sales will not be available on Sunday New Year's Day. The table will **resume on Sunday, January 8th, 2023** in Fellowship Hall after worship.
- If you need cards prior to January 8th, please reach out to Deb Shaw (dkshaw5@cox.net) to arrange for pickup.

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