



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

January 15, 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

Alex Dowgiallo
Tacy Hackey
Herk Herchenroether
Erica Manchester
William Nelle

Visit Our Webpage!

peacedalechurch.org

Follow us on Facebook!

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

Last Week's E-Light

peacedalechurch.org/e-li

A Week of Prayer?

Psalm 23, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

This Sunday marks the beginning of The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity that is sponsored by both the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church's Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity. We are reminded of Jesus' prayer that I mentioned last Sunday. In John 17.21 part of Jesus' prayer is, "that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." (NRSVUE) I invite you to read the whole prayer, and especially during the week to come, reflect on how might you observe this time of prayer.

During worship on Sunday, I will invite us to think about both Psalm 23 and some of the Paul's writings to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians). What does Psalm 23 mean to you? And, if the Apostle Paul could appreciate a diversity of gifts, then maybe we can too. Perhaps we could even use our gifts to help bring people together, to work towards unity.

This is also the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. Day (on Monday). It's an important weekend!

Let's all come together, united by God's loving Spirit, called by Christ.
Amen. Peace and Joy, Brother Fred

Worship Flowers



The Sanctuary flowers of January 18 are given to the glory of God in loving memory of our parents Al and Lois Hayes and Richmond and Dorothy Spencer by David and Carol Anne Hayes.

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

Once-a-Month Singers



Are you looking to express yourself through singing? Please join us this month during the **family service on Sun. 1/25** for a baptism and 4 special celebratory songs. 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 for music videos, lyrics and info.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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Painting Class with Susan Sward – 1/24

Join PDCC member and artist Susan Sward as we paint the beautiful Eastern Bluebird. No experience necessary. All materials will be provided.

Bring a light lunch or snack.

January 24 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$55, please pay in advance

Class Limit: 12

Signup in Fellowship Hall

or mail check to Susan Sward, 1 Spring Street, Wakefield RI 02879



On the Calendar

Sunday, Jan. 18 @
 10am Contemporary
 Worship

Sunday, Jan. 25 @
 10am Family
 Worship Service

Sunday, Feb. 1 @
 10am Traditional
 Worship with
 Communion

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 @ 6pm
 Contemporary Choir reh.

Thursdays @ 7:30pm
 Traditional Choir rehearsal



STOP&SHOP
 Bloomin' 4 Good Program

January Flower Purchases Benefit Peace Dale Dinner Table

In January, purchases of specially marked flower bouquets at the **Narragansett Stop & Shop** will generate donations to the Peace Dale Dinner Table (\$1 per bouquet). The Narragansett Stop and Shop has again selected Dinner Table as the local hunger organization of the month for January. Thank you Stop & Shop!

Our Youth Making a Difference

Youth Connect got the new year off to a great start on Sunday. In honor of Martin Luther King Jr., our awesome students created heartwarming posters that will be displayed in our community through Valentine's Day to spread a message of kindness to everyone. Please let us know if you would like to display one.



The high school and middle school students enthusiastically brainstormed ways they could make a difference, including creating valentines for local nursing home residents and collecting donated pet supplies for a local animal shelter. Please stay tuned for opportunities to get involved and help our students put their faith into action.

Book Discussion Group: What If We Get It Right?

The Grreen Team is sponsoring a discussion group for the landmark environmental book **What If We Get It Right?** by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson.



This insightful book is about possibility and transformation. It's about what the world could be like if we charge ahead with the array of climate solutions we have at our fingertips, solutions at the intersection of science, policy, culture and justice. These pages conjure a thriving (and quite different) world, and show us that is worth the effort – the overhaul – to get there, together. This book is a quest to answer a question not asked often enough about the climate crisis: What if we get it right?

This publication is highly recommended for individuals interested in environmental issues and effective strategies to address climate change. Reading this will create a catalyst for in-depth discussion and hopefully result in action.

SIGN UP TO JOIN IN! There will be a sign up in Fellowship Hall after church service. You can also call or email George Faucher (glfaucher@gmail.com; 978-376-9769) or Jim Blackerby (jblackerby12@gmail.com; 401-533-7382)

Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson is a marine biologist, policy expert, writer and teacher working to help create the best possible climate future. She co-founded and leads Urban Ocean Lab, a think tank for the future of coastal cities, and the Roux Distinguished Scholar at Bowdoin College. In addition to being a writer and teacher she co-hosts the podcast How to Save a Planet, and co-authored the *Blue New Deal*.

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 and/or Don Hermes at dhermes33@gmail.com



Thank You, Tabitha

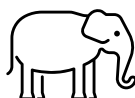
Dear Wonderful Congregation!

On behalf of everyone at the [Galilee Mission](#) I want to extend our deepest gratitude for your most generous donation of coats and clothes for our residents. There is nothing more miserable than being cold! All of our residents are warm thanks to your kindness. Your heartfelt generosity is much appreciated.

Best regards, Lynn Serra



White Elephants



Items are flowing in and the tissue that is being collected will be so handy to wrap the breakables. Thank you!

NEXT WORK DAY: Tues. 1/20 from 10 to 11:30 AM.

From Your Historian

Join us **February 1st** in Fellowship Hall to celebrate Peace Dale Congregational Church's Foundation Day, which is officially January 30th.

We'll raise the roof with cake, and a selection of items from our Archive Room for your viewing pleasure. Then, join us February 15th for our first historical presentation of 2026, entitled "Winter Sanctuary." See you there!

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

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

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).

Tabitha's Closet

Open Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm

At this time, we particularly need:

- Volunteers for Friday 3-5pm to sort
- Volunteers Saturday mornings 9:00am-1:00pm

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

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

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

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

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).

January 17th only

2 for 1

Shoe and Boot Event

(Limit One)

GET WHAT YOU NEED, PAY WHAT YOU CAN!

SHOP FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Open Saturdays 9:30am- 12:30pm

Monthly Third Tuesdays 4-7pm



Office Door from Parking Lot, downstairs
Peace Dale Congregational Church
261 Columbia St. Peace Dale RI 02879
tabitha@peacedalechurch.org

January Mission of the Month: Domestic Violence Resource Center

We begin the new year by supporting a critical organization in our community as our mission of the month. The Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County is a non-profit making an important difference in the lives and futures of many individuals and families here in South County.

From their webpage:

"The Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County (DVRCS) is a nonprofit agency that works toward a future free of violence, and to build a community in which each individual shares the responsibility to create a culture of safety and personal dignity.

"We work collaboratively to offer safety, support, advocacy, education and a network of services to the residents of Washington County. The DVRCS is dedicated to both preventing and responding to domestic violence by working to change the social conditions, beliefs, and social actions that perpetuate abuse."

DVRC provides a comprehensive range of services for victims of domestic violence and their children, including a confidential Safe Home, Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing units, a Helpline & Drop-In Center, Support Groups, One-on-One Counseling and Court Advocacy.

All services – residential, counseling, court advocacy – are provided free of charge to all clients regardless of their financial situation. Gifts allow DVRC to continue this life-saving work by directly assisting clients and their children who are experiencing domestic violence.

More information about the DVRCS is available at <https://dvrsc.org/>

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

Thank you for your generosity,
The Missions Board
www.peacedalechurch.org/missions

The PDCC Missions Board has chosen to support the Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County with your Mission of the Month donations in January. 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 "DVRC" in the memo line** or 3) clicking the **Give now** button here to donate online (peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give).

Give now

Pumpkin Patch Superlative



Benefit for Peace Dale Dinner Table – 2/15



BIG SOUP PARTY

Sunday * February 15, 2026
4:30 – 6:30PM

Homemade Soups, Bread and Desserts
Donations Accepted

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

Peace Dale Congregational Church
261 Columbia St, Wakefield RI

www.Peacedalechurch.org
www.facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch

Calling all PDCC Soup Creators!

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

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

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

We cannot wait to try yours.

Gabby Klensch is recruiting folks to make dessert.

We also will need some able-bodied folks to

help set-up after Fellowship on Sunday and for clean up when the event is done.

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



Big Soup Party Dessert Makers Needed

It's not too early to sign up to bake – or even shop for – a dessert for our Big Soup Party on 2/15/26.

Sign-up by:

- Talking to Gabby at church
- Write on the clipboard in Fellowship Hall
- Call or text 401-932-8350
- Email gklensch1@gmail.com

Thank you so much,

Gabby (The Big Soup Party Dessert Organizer)



Donate Supplies for Church World Service Kits

→There are some changes to the supply list.

Please help us collect supplies! We have enough Hygiene Kits but continue to collect for the Kids' Kits.

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

We Will Take Tissue Paper



We would appreciate having non-ripped holiday tissue paper (not wrapping paper) to use for White Elephant & Grampa's Attic delicate items in storage. This also helps divert trash from our landfills.

There will be a box next to the copy room just for tissue paper until 1/18/26. Thank you

QUESTIONS: call/text Gabby at 401 932-8350

2026 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.



If you do not need your envelopes, you may recycle them or give them to the church office or leave them on the table. Submitted by David Nelson

Local Events Listing

The Local Events Listing in the E-Light will be paused for several weeks and although the bulletin board will be available for anyone to post upcoming (non-political) events, I will not be making regular additions.

Sources for local things to do are: South Kingstown and PDCC Facebook Pages, The Independent, SK Patch, Eventbrite and our libraries (note the Peace Dale library will be closed from 1/5/26 for 2 or 3 months, Hale & Kingstown branches will remain open.) Jane Stabile

Walker Available

A walker donated to us may be just what you need. Contact the church office (401-789-7313 or office@peacedalechurch.org).



Congregational Care: Caring for Others

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).

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

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