



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

May 28, 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

Brad Alton
Ralph Barlow
Bob Clark
Sue Dimon
John Golberg
Megan Hackey
Barbara Thompson
Finley Totten
Morgan Weinreich

Visit Our Webpage!

peacedalechurch.org

Follow us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch

Last Week's E-Light

peacedalechurch.org/e-li

A Jazzy Pentecost & New Members!

Acts 2:1-21

You are invited! Please do come and help us officially welcome some new members as we also celebrate and ponder Pentecost during a jazzy worship service this Sunday.

You may remember that language plays an important role in our sacred story, especially on this occasion. A good question for this Sunday might be, how are we learning the language of those around us? It could be the language of a different generation, a different vocation, a different social status, or a different political persuasion. What languages are you learning, and how are you connecting with folks who are different from you and/or your perspective?

May God's Divine Spirit guide us in connecting with new people, following Christ's way, and in officially welcoming new members on this special Sunday in the life of our faith family.

Peace and Joy, Brother Fred

Special Mission Offering Sunday, May 31 UCC Strengthen the Church

The "Strengthen the Church" offering re-imagines and builds the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, "80% of your gift will be put to work in Southern New England, 20% of your gift will support national ministries of the United Church of Christ" (SNEUCC).

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the formation of new congregations and the renewal of existing ones, funds new programs for youth and young adults, and sponsors leadership development for the whole church. Learn more at www.ucc.org/stc and sneucc.org/strengthen-the-church



Thank you for coming to my birthday party. I hope you had fun. I'm thankful to have friends like you. You're #1! Ed

Communications/Publicity Group

Have you ever been sad that you missed a great PDCC event? Imagine PDCC having a coordinated resource to publicize in-house and events open to the community such as bazaars, special services, community outreach, etc. We are forming a task force to determine what this could look like and what it could do. The initial "planners" would not have to assume the possible roles, but we need some folks to help get things rolling! We need around 5 to 7 people to discuss and create this much needed *Info Interface Group* (the I.I.G). See Scott San Antonio or Jane Stabile further info. Soon please!

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Membership Notes

A Celebration of Life for **Joyce Vertz** will

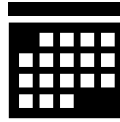
be held at Peace Dale Congregational Church on **Wednesday, June 3 @ 11:00 am** with a reception to follow in Fellowship Hall. Joyce’s obituary may be found at Avery-Storti

averystortifuneralhome.com/obituaries/joyce-vertz

Special Congregational Meeting, Sunday June 28

We need to have 35 members in attendance to have a quorum, so please plan to attend.

There will be a Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 28 following 10 am worship **to approve the budget for the next fiscal year 2026-2027. The meeting should be brief** as this is the only business to be conducted during the meeting.



On the Calendar

Saturday, May 30 @
3pm SNEUCC
meeting at PDCC

Sunday, May 31 @
10am Pentecost
Worship. Special
mission offering:
[UCC Strengthen the Church](#)

Wednesday, June 3
@ 11am Joyce Vertz
Celebration of Life

Thursday, June 4 @
5:30-8pm Tunes and
Tacos (p. 7)

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

Tuesdays @ 9:30am Prayer
Warriors / Prayer Circle

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm AA
Meeting

Bell Choir summer vacation

Thursdays @ 1-3pm Shawl
Knit & Crochet

Thursdays @ 6pm
Contemporary Choir reh

Thursdays @ 7:30pm
Traditional Choir rehearsal



Worship Flowers

The flowers of May 31 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 June or July, please contact Lynn McCall 401 742-3949.

Church Budget Year Ends 6/30

In 2025, PDCC established a fiscal year of July 1 through June 30; thus the Congregational meeting on June 28 is to approve the 2026-2027 budget.

As we approach the halfway point of 2026, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your continued generosity and commitment to our church family. Your gifts truly bring our ministries and community outreach to life.

Having member contributions as up to date as possible by the end of June will help us know how we did in fiscal 2025-2026. Thank you for your faithful support and for everything you do to make our community a warm, welcoming place for all!

Submitted by Jim Crisafulli, Treasurer

Sign Up for Dine with Nine by 5/31

**BREAK BREAD,
HAVE FUN, SHARE
SOME LAUGHTER**

June 5, 6, and 7 Church Family Life/Hospitality invites everyone to Dine with Nine.

This is a potluck dinner event or 9 (or 8 or 10) people of our church family to share dinner and friendly conversation at a host's home.

How it works:

- A host volunteers to host dinner at their home on a particular night.
- People sign up for dinner that night.
- The host coordinates with guests to bring something to support the meal.

This is a great way to spend time getting to know people you may have not interacted with or new members/participants in the church.

Our last Dine with Nine was a great success! Fun was had by all!! Let your Light Shine!

Sign up in Fellowship Hall by SUNDAY MAY 31st for your preferred date:

FRIDAY/JUNE 5th, SAT. JUNE 6th, or SUN. JUNE 7th.

****Please indicate if you would like to be a host.** (we need 3-5 hosts)** Being a potluck dinner makes hosting so easy!

QUESTIONS?? Christine Grevstad @ 401-284-6483; christinegrevstad@ hotmail.com



Brass Key Inventory & Stewardship

As part of our ongoing efforts to care for and responsibly manage our church facilities, we are taking a fresh look at how brass keys are distributed and tracked at PDCC.



Over the years, keys have been shared as needed, but we no longer have a complete record of who currently holds them. To ensure the safety and security of our building—and to be good stewards of our shared space—we're asking for your help with a simple two-part request:

1. If you have a brass key and no longer need it, please return it to the church office at your earliest convenience.
2. If you still have a need for the brass key you have, kindly let us know that you have one (interior? exterior? a specific room?) and briefly describe your ongoing need.

Please note: This request applies only to traditional brass keys, not to key cards which are already tracked and managed separately.

As we review responses, there may be situations where a key card can meet your needs just as effectively as a Master Key. Our goal is to ensure appropriate access while maintaining good oversight moving forward.

If you have a key — or have questions — please contact MaryLou at office@peacedalechurch.org or George at glfaucher@gmail.com.

Thank you for your help in keeping our church safe, secure, and well-managed.

you're invited

RI ASSOCIATION SPRING Gathering
and the
HISTORIC RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE
Annual Meeting

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026 AT 3:00 PM
PEACE DALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
261 COLUMBIA ST, PEACE DALE, RI

REGISTER

Southern New England Conference
United Church of Christ

Youth Connect Thanks You!

What an unforgettable year! Together, we attended the Jacob and Esau family reunion, invited the community to a great Pumpkin Palooza, visited a lions' den, followed a star to Bethlehem, created a magical Children's Christmas Village, and traveled to the River Jordan.

We were inspired to be a good neighbor by "The Good Samaritan," welcomed

young families and youth volunteers to our Eggstravaganza, planted seeds of faith, celebrated Earth Day, and had a blast at our *Phineas and Ferb*-inspired last family service before summer vacation.

And we did all of this and so much more—thanks to all of you!



Tabitha's Closet

Open Saturdays 9:30am–12:30pm

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.** Each week, we offer unique specials based on our inventory to keep shopping fun and affordable for our shoppers.

WE NEED BAGS – reusable shopping bags only. Thank you for your generous donations of paper bags; those we have plenty of at this time.

SPREAD THE WORD Each Saturday, ~35 people visit Tabitha's and find an item they need. We are working to spread the word about our ministry and the wonderful, large, inventory we have of clothing and shoes for the entire family. Please help us spread the word! **Email tabitha@peacedalechurch.org if you'd like an electronic poster or pamphlet to share, post or deliver to a local bulletin board.**

DONATE We are happy to accept spring and summer items until August 1 for men, women, and children, as well as costume jewelry. **Please hold on any donations that are not spring/summer; our storage space is limited and already full.** 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.

LATEST UPDATES on Instagram
#shoptabithasclose

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 We have an urgent need for additional Saturday morning shopkeepers

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 on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 am. If you're interested or have questions, please contact Lynne at tabitha@peacedalechurch.org

Men's "May"n Event



**ALL
MENSWEAR**

2 For 1*

Until May 30th

REMINDER
Redeem your
Pot-o- Gold
coins NOW!

Open Saturdays
9:30am-12:30pm,
3rd Tuesdays
(Sept-May) 4-7pm
*Suggested Donation

TABITHA'S CLOSET
GENTLY USED CLOTHING

SHOP FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
Office Door, downstairs
261 Columbia St. Peace Dale RI 02879
tabitha@peacedalechurch.org

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 "donation 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 – the Missions Board recently allocated first quarter funds raised to be sent to: RICAN (RI Center Assisting those in Need), St Peter's by the Sea (Community Food pantry), Rhody Outpost (Food Pantry at URI), and Peace Dale Dinner Table.

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



Help Our Gardens Thrive — Adopt a Bed at PDCC!

Our church grounds are one of the first things people notice when they arrive at Peace Dale Congregational Church—and those beautiful garden beds don't maintain themselves!

For many years, we've been grateful to Mary Roda for lovingly caring for the front beds. With Mary's recent move, we're looking for new volunteers to help keep our gardens vibrant and welcoming.

Would you consider "adopting" a garden bed? This simply means taking responsibility for light, ongoing care—things like weeding, watering, and occasional planting or tidying—on a schedule that works for you.

It's a wonderful way to:

- Spend time outdoors in a peaceful setting,
- Contribute to the beauty of our church home,
- Connect with nature and our community.

Whether you're an experienced gardener or just enjoy getting your hands in the soil, we'd love to have you involved!

Interested? Please contact George Faucher at glfaucher@gmail.com to learn more or to claim a garden bed. Thank you for helping PDCC continue to bloom!

Thursday Knit and Crochet

COME! Our Prayer Shawl makers and the I Care Shawl Project makers meet 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.

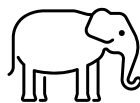


CONTACT (401) 580-1712

DONATE – Prayer Shawl/I Care Shawl Project will gladly accept donations of yarn, knitting needles,

or crochet hooks.

MULTI-GENERATIONAL – We consistently have adults and high school students participate.



White Elephants

We do collect year 'round however we have space limitations both to store and to sell. The next sale is Oct. 3rd - with **fall as our theme**.

Please no more summer items.

We do not take books, software, paint, clothing, mirrors, printers, liquids, furniture, big items. We love collectibles, kitchenware, decoratives, linens (only through Sept.), Christmas items, dishes, utensils, POTS & PANS, unwanted gifts, overstocks, items that deserve a home.

Come join the team and have some fun! Next work day **Fri. 6/5 from 10 to 11:30 AM**

Still missing 2 short tables from basement by the elevator.

jane.stabile@outlook.com

Singers and Ringers Summer Vacation



Our **singers** will be off for the summer after June 14. Our **bell ringers** are also



off for summer. Rehearsals will resume in the fall.

Come sing or ring with us! We welcome teenagers on up in age. Ability to read music is a plus. Ask a choir member after worship or send an email to office@peacedalechurch.org

Flower Children Welcome



Would you be interested in helping to ensure there are flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday Worship services? We field phone calls or email from

PDCC members/friends wanting to commemorate certain dates; we reach out to members and friends who have given flowers before. No physical labor required. **QUESTIONS** contact Lynn McCall 401 742-3949 or Claudia Swain.

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

Peace Dale Congregational Church is blessed to host the annual **Tunes & Tacos** music and art night on Thursday, June 4th from 5:30 to 8 PM. The enthusiasm, energy and talent of South Kingstown High School student musicians and artists is not to be missed. The sacristy literally SINGS & SWINGS!

Expect musical performances from Splendid Strings, eSKape and the Jazz Band. Also with an art sale, 50/50 raffle, dinner (w/meat & vegan options) and ice cream sundae bar. All proceeds support fine arts education in the SK schools. \$25 adults; \$10 kids 18 & under; free for 3 & under. It is an uplifting, community experience - not to be missed!



SK FINE ARTS BOOSTERS PRESENT

TUNES & TACOS



THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026

5:30 - 8:00PM • PEACE DALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

A night to celebrate SKHS student musicians and artists. Events include musical performances, student art sale, 50/50 raffle, dinner & ice cream sundae bar. (meat and vegan options)

PERFORMANCES:

Splendid Strings
eSKape
Jazz Band

\$25: ADULTS
\$10: KIDS 18 & Under
FREE: KIDS 3 & Under

All proceeds support
fine arts education
in SK Schools

Scan QR code for tickets or visit:
events.humanitix.com/tunes-and-tacos-2026



SK FAB
SOUTH KINGSTOWN FINE ARTS BOOSTERS
www.skfabboosters.org

May Mission of the Month: Shower to Empower



*Restoring Dignity. Building Trust.
Creating Pathways Forward.*

Imagine going days—or weeks—without a shower. No clean clothes. No place to shave, wash your hair, or simply feel human. For those living unsheltered in Rhode Island, this is daily life.

But dignity can arrive on wheels.

Launched in 2018 by House of Hope CDC in partnership with Team Williams and the City of Providence, Shower to Empower is a one-of-a-kind mobile outreach program that brings compassion, care, and connection to people experiencing homelessness—right where they are.

Our 20-foot mobile unit travels five days a week to Providence, Woonsocket, Pawtucket, and West Warwick. At every stop, it offers more than just hot showers. It offers hope - haircuts that renew confidence, medical navigation that restores health, basic necessities that remind people they are not forgotten, and case management and street outreach that open doors to shelter, treatment, and housing.

For someone sleeping in a tent, car, or under an overpass, a warm shower can mean the world—a moment to feel clean, seen, and cared for. But Shower to Empower is about more than hygiene. It's about trust. It's about connection. And it's about change.

Through daily interactions with our team, we meet people in their most vulnerable moments—with no judgment and no conditions. It's this consistent, compassionate presence that helps guide individuals from crisis to stability, from the streets to housing, from surviving to truly living.

Since its launch, Shower to Empower has delivered over 11.9K showers, 2.1K haircuts, 2.7K medical services, and 2K unique users—but the true impact goes far beyond the numbers. Each act of care is a seed planted—seeds that grow into new beginnings.

The June Mission of the Month will be Camp Lilac and the LGBT Task Force (at Hadwen Park Congregational Church).

The first Shower to Empower unit has been in service for eight years. This year, House of Hope and Team Williams LLC have partnered up to introduce a brand new unit into service. The unit is a customized 20'x8' trailer that includes showers (including one that is handicap accessible), heated floors, an area for case management, area for haircuts, and an enclosed private medical space.

Help us continue this work.

Help us empower change—one shower, one haircut, one conversation at a time.

Your support can restore dignity. It can rebuild trust. It can help change a life.

Thank you for your generosity,
The Missions Board

www.peacedalechurch.org/missions

The PDCC Missions Board has chosen to support Shower to Empower with your Mission of the Month donations this month. 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 "Shower to Empower" in the memo**

line or 3) clicking the

Give now button here to

donate online (peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give).

Give now



The May Mission of the Month has collected to date \$1,643.66 for Shower to Empower



Josie Fox/Missy Stark

Memorial

GOLF

TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH

25 Pinehurst Dr, Richmond, RI

Banquet, Raffle and

Prizes to Follow

1PM - 5 PM

SUPPORTS
TWO SKHS
SCHOLARSHIPS
AND
CLASS OF 2029

\$100
PER
GOLFER

For more information:
MKUTCHER@SKSD-RI.NET

Reserve your spot today!



Wakefield Rotary Club
Presents

Children's Festival

Sunday May 31, 2026
11:00AM - 4:00PM

featuring
Greg Lato
AWARD WINNING CHILDREN'S MUSICIAN

- Pony Rides
- Petting Zoo
- Games & Crafts
- Food & Raffles
- Touch-A-Truck
- Bouncy House
- and More!!!

\$30 Family \$10 Individual

Scan for more info and tickets.

South County YMCA Rotary Club of Wakefield

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).

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.



2026 PDCC Youth Calendar

Youth Connect is on break until fall.

Peace Dale Congregational Church

261 Columbia Street
Wakefield RI 02879

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