



Peace Dale  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

# PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

May 15, 2025

## 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

Ed Holt  
Gary Bower  
Maria Cassaday  
Priscilla Amchambault  
Kerry McCarty

### Visit Our Webpage!

peacedalechurch.org

### Follow us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch

### Last Week's E-Light

peacedalechurch.org/e-li

## Family Worship Sunday, May 18 ...last one until fall

This Sunday @ 10am join us for our final family service before summer vacation. You won't want to miss singing some of your favorite songs, seeing a few of the photographs we have taken this year, and welcoming special guests from some of our favorite Bible stories.

Help us continue to tell God's story.

Links to youtube videos of the music are on the church website if you want to check them out ahead of time. [Peacedalechurch.org](http://Peacedalechurch.org)

## Friday 5/16 – Climate Change Film Festival

Join us here at PDCC for 10 short films from 4 Continents in 2 hours that examine the artistic and human responses to Climate Change. **See page 4 for more information.**

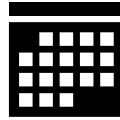
Free and open to the public. Registration is not necessary. Snacks will be available. Sponsored by your Green Team and our local colleagues at St. Augustine's Episcopal, Kingston Congregational, and the UUCSC.

## Saturday 5/17 – PDCC Spring Sale with Blessing of the Animals @ 10am



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## On the Calendar

**Thursday, May 15 @ 6pm**  
 Praise Team rehearsal

**Thursday, May 15 @ 7:30pm**  
 Traditional Choir rehearsal

**Friday, May 16 @ 6:30pm**  
 Climate Future Film Festival

**Saturday, May 17 @ 10am**  
 Blessing of the Animals,  
 10am-2pm Spring Sale

**Sunday, May 18 @ 10am**  
 Family Worship Service

**Thursday, May 29 @ 6pm**  
 Praise Team rehearsal

**Thursday, May 29 @ 7:30pm**  
 Traditional Choir rehearsal

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

**Tuesdays @ 9:30am**  
 Prayer Warriors /  
 Prayer Circle ALL WELCOME!

**Tuesdays @ 4:30pm**  
 Bistro Dinner at Peace  
 Dale Dinner Table

**Tuesdays @ 6:30pm**  
 AA Meeting

**Tuesdays @ 6:30pm**  
 Bell Choir rehearsals  
 ALL WELCOME!

## White Elephants



The sale is coming! Please save the date (5/17) and for the most fun join in helping (yes, you can shop too.)

Contact Jane to sign up.  
 jane.stabile@ outlook.com or 508 395-1172.

### WORK DAYS:

**Friday** 5/16 from 10 to 11:30 AM

**Saturday** 5/17 call Jane for time windows

## Worship Flowers



**The flowers for Sunday, May 18 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents and of sister-in-law Cathy Romano by Bea and Bruce Macgregor.**

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 May 25 or June 1, or beyond, please contact Roberta Norman at (401) 226-7123.**



## PDCC Seeks Director of Music

Our open position for Director of Music and Organist has been posted on several websites. You may also view the posting on the church website.

## 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 10,000 showers, 1,800 haircuts, and 2,300 medical services—but the true impact goes far

beyond the numbers. Each act of care is a seed planted – seeds that grow into new beginnings.

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.

More information on [thehouseofhopecdc.org/shower-to-empower/](http://thehouseofhopecdc.org/shower-to-empower/).

Thank you for your generosity,  
The Missions Board

PDCC supports Shower to Empower as our May Mission of the Month. You may 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](http://peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give)).

**Give now**



# Climate Future Film Festival

**Friday, May 16, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m.**

At Peace Dale Congregational Church (PDCC)

Sponsors: PDCC, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Kingston Congregational Church and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County.

10 short films from 4 Continents in 2 hours examine the artistic and human responses to Climate Change – explored through drama, documentary, dark comedy and animation.

Films include "Sacrificed" from Canada, directed by David Sanchez. This film explores how the parents of 15-year-old Flavie deal with their daughter's civil disobedience as part of her activism. In "I Want You to Panic" from German Director, Moritz Hoffman, we see how two people view an event in two widely differing ways. American Director Jason Whalen's documentary, "The Mud on Their Hands," leads us through the journey of rebuilding a town torn apart by Hurricane Katrina and the challenges of protecting the next generation from rising seas during storms.

Free and open to the public. Registration is not necessary. Snacks will be available.

TEN AWARD-WINNING SHORT FILMS FROM FOUR CONTINENTS  
EXPLORE THE HUMAN AND ARTISTIC RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE



CREDIT: M. Mann, T. Slater, F. Slater

## CLIMATE FUTURE FILM FESTIVAL

HONORARY JUDGE:  
**BILL McKIBBEN**  
FOUNDER OF THIRD ACT

DRAMA - DOCUMENTARY - DARK COMEDY - ANIMATION

**Friday, MAY 16, 2025 6:30PM**

PEACE DALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
261 Columbia Street, Wakefield, RI

Free and open to the public  
Snacks will be available

Brought to you by  
St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Kingston Congregational Church, Peace Dale  
Congregational Church, and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County



## Good-Bye Weeds!



For those of you who are following the ecologically beneficial practices of invertebrate habitat sustainability, the caterpillars, bees, and especially birds thank you. By leaving those leaves and flower stems on your beds

until we have a sustained period of 50 degrees in the evening for a week, the insects have a safe place to rest until the cycle of renewal begins once again.

In keeping with a safe environment for all creatures including human beings, there is another practice we can follow for those pesky weeds that crop up in our walkways and driveways. (did you know you can eat many of them when they are young and tasty ... but that's for another time.)

An **easy to make, inexpensive, non-toxic solution** appropriately called "organic" Roundup can be used to kill them. But as it is non-selective, care must be exercised not to let it come in contact with desired plants or grasses. The most effective application method is to apply on a still, warm sunny day. The weeds should yellow and die within a number of hours.

Make sure to completely wet the leaves and then apply to the center of the plant. This will not kill the seeds so expect that you will have to reapply as new weeds emerge.

### NON-TOXIC ROUNDUP

1 Gallon white vinegar

1 ¼ cups salt

2-3 Tbsps. dish detergent

Add vinegar and salt to large pot.

Bring to low-medium heat, enough to dissolve salt.

Add dish detergent.

Cool to room temp.

Fill spray bottle.

Good-bye weeds!



# Sabbatical and Vacation

Hello, my faith family! I have some news to share with you. During a portion of the summer months, I will be taking some sabbatical leave. You may be asking, why do ministers take sabbatical leave? According to the UCC – (2024 Clergy Compensation Guidelines for the SNEUCC) – “Sabbatical, leave offers a time of sustained study, travel, and personal and professional renewal, enabling ministers to be of greater service within their ministry setting over time.” This section on sabbatical leave also says, “To meet conference guidelines a church should offer 12 weeks of paid sabbatical leave every five years.” (It’s bolded in the guidelines.) I plan to take a total of 7 weeks sabbatical leave during the summer months beginning on June 19th (I took some leave time in 2022).

## Some Sabbatical Plans are as follows:

As part of the Green Team’s efforts of helping our church become a Green Church we are now sometimes incorporating prayers that allude to and/or are related to environmental stewardship. During my sabbatical I will be putting together a collection of prayers, written by others or by myself, for use during worship services, as environmental stewardship prayers. My goal will be to compile a collection of 30 such prayers.

Hopefully this will help us focus on our goal of becoming a green church, and ultimately help facilitate our mission of being called by Christ to create shalom and justice for all (including All creation).

Also, during my sabbatical, I hope to speak with representatives of at least 5 Green Teams from the UCC and/or other denominations. I plan to visit some of the churches I am contacting. Hopefully this will yield some information about what other churches are doing in terms of environmental stewardship, and/or what they are doing in terms of creation justice. I wonder, if in these churches, the Green Team functions as the Creation Justice Team? Do they see it all as basically the same thing? Do they see their own efforts contributing to creation justice ministries? What do they hear our “still speaking God” saying to them and through them?

I have registered for an event on 6/21/25 at Wolfe’s Neck Center for Agriculture and the Environment in Freeport Maine entitled “Green Teams Gathering”. It’s organized by the BTS Center - “Spiritual

Leadership for a Climate-Changed World”. You can find out more about that through this link - [thebtscenter.org/green-teams-gathering-2025/](https://thebtscenter.org/green-teams-gathering-2025/). Are you interested in joining the green team and coming too? You can register for the event through that link.

## Coverage during this time

In addition to my sabbatical, I will also be taking 4 weeks of vacation time. This all adds up to me being away from the church/out of the pulpit, from June 19-Sept. 4. But don’t worry, the Deacons have a plan! They are assigning one Deacon per pastor/speaker and they will connect with them to help facilitate the pulpit coverage during my absence. The Rev. Steve Sayer and The Rev. Enid Watson will be handling emergency pastoral care calls and funerals during this time – Rev. Sayer will be on call from June 19 – July 7 and Rev. Watson will be on call from July 7 – Sept. 4. You can reach them through the church office and you can also find their phone numbers in Breeze and contact them directly.

By the way, Pastor Emeritus, The Rev. Dr. Larry Washburn will be in the pulpit on 2 of the Sundays while I’m on leave.

## Coming Back...

After I return, I plan to have the above-mentioned prayers to share with you, as well as some information and hopefully some good ideas that I will have gathered from talking with Green Team members from other churches. Thank you to the Executive Board, thank you to you, PDCC - our faith family, for allowing me this sabbatical leave. I do appreciate it! And of course, I appreciate the vacation leave I will be taking as well.

May God bless us during the time we will be apart. Hopefully you will benefit from having others in the pulpit, and we will all find some sabbath rest this summer. May this experience rejuvenate us personally and help motivate/inspire us in terms of our mission, “to create shalom and justice for all” - especially when it comes to Environmental Stewardship and Creation Justice.

Peace and Joy, my Siblings in Christ,

Brother Fred

## Come Make Music with Us!



Our Praise Team, Traditional Choir, and Bell Choir welcome you! Rehearsals are once a week, typically in the evening. Ask a choir member after worship about rehearsal dates, check the Breeze EVENTS calendar, or check the On the Calendar feature on page 2.

## Once-a-Month Singers



We have a somewhat animated group who sing with the family service the 4th week of each month (**next up is May 18**). You do not need to read music, just enjoy singing together and show it. I

email you videos and music/lyrics of all the pieces ahead of time so you can practice. We rehearse just once at 9 AM before the family service. **Feel free to try us out. CONTACT** jane.stabile@outlook.com or 508 395-1172



## 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)

## Tabitha's Closet

**Buy One Get One Free until May 31**

Open Saturdays 9:30am–12:30pm.  
Open third Tuesday of each month 4-7pm during Bistro.

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.** Tabitha's Closet is accepting **spring & summer donations.** We ask that donations be laundered and delivered in a clean bag, as we don't have a washer/dryer. See [peacedalechurch.org](http://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 [gsfaucher@gmail.com](mailto:gsfaucher@gmail.com) or [lynnehandayan@gmail.com](mailto:lynnehandayan@gmail.com)

**LATEST UPDATES** on Instagram  
[#shoptabithascloset](#)



**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE\***  
**UNTIL MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> 2025**

Open Saturdays 9:30-12:30pm  
Third Tuesdays 4-7pm



Office Door from Parking Lot,  
downstairs  
Peace Dale Congregational Church  
261 Columbia St. Peace Dale RI 02879  
[peacedalechurch.org](http://peacedalechurch.org)

\*Suggested donation

## Church Family Life Events

PLEASE DO keep posting your flyers on the Event Bulletin Board. For more coverage send your details to [jane.stabile@outlook.com](mailto:jane.stabile@outlook.com) ahead of time to appear in the E-Light.

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**Here are some sites I use to find events.** Why not try them out when you are looking for something to do. I am going to start tapering off listing events in the e-light but will maintain the bulletin board.

- <https://heyrhodymediaco.com/hey-rhody-newsletter/>
- <https://patch.com/rhode-island/narragansett/calendar>
- <https://narlib.org/>
- <https://patch.com/rhode-island/narragansett/calendar>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ourtownsk/events>
- <https://www.facebook.com/skpubliclibrary>

**Daily 10 AM to 4 PM, Save The Bay's Hamilton Family Aquarium is now open!** 23 America's Cup Ave, Newport, RI This one-of-a-kind 7500 square foot destination brings you face-to-face with the critters and species that live beneath Bay waters, and informs us about the issues that challenge the health of this beautiful natural resource. Family Fun - Save The Bay

**Usual hours 9 AM to 4 PM Roger Williams Park Zoo & Carousel Village.** Enjoy the Zoo's amazing animals, nationally recognized events, and award-winning educational programs. FREE for mothers on Mother's Day. Visit -Roger Williams Park Zoo

**Sat. 5/17 at 10:30 – 11:30 AM Xen's Critters: Cute and Cuddly!** Children, families come to the Maury Loontjens Memorial Library to learn about and pet some small mammals these include bunnies, a chicken, a duck, ferret, and more! Registration is required and begins on May 2nd. <https://mauryloontjens-ri.whofi.com/calendar/event/1269885>

**Sun. 5/18 at 5:30 PM 60+ Supper Club** at Haversham Tavern, 336 Post Rd, Westerly, RI. Enjoy local restaurant dining with friends new and old. Reserve through the Wakefield Senior Center, call 401 789-0268 ext.2.

**NEW Tues. 5/20 from 11 AM to noon, Sock Hop with Bob** Tremblay at the Wakefield Senior Center, 25 St. Dominic Rd. We had a great time in March dancing to oldies and making new friends. Bob has just the right selections to get us on the dance floor at the beautiful senior center. **No preregistration required.**

**Wed. 5/28 Two shows 4 & 7 PM, RISD Apparel Design Runway Show Collection 2025** at Waterfire Arts Center. Every spring, Apparel Design seniors debut a unified body of work in the department's senior thesis show. The show lets students work across mediums to share the latest fashion emerging from RISD studios. \$25 PP [risd.edu/academics/apparel-design/senior-thesis-show](https://risd.edu/academics/apparel-design/senior-thesis-show)

**Sat. 5/31 @ 6 – 10:30 PM Light on the Water, A Night of Hope** for the Domestic Violence Resource Center. The Dune's Club, 137 Boston Neck Rd., Narragansett. The evening begins with cocktails and a silent auction followed by a seated dinner and dancing to the tunes of the Boston based band, Hot Mess! (Our favorite band.) Tickets <https://dvrsc.org/events/> Order soon; if desired, ask to sit at Jane & Steve Stabile's table. For some of us this event is becoming a tradition.

**NEW Sun. 6/1 @ 3-4:30pm Songs of Faith – Building Community, Building Hope.** Local area churches and their choirs coming together to combine their voices in worship and praise. Free will offering to benefit South County Habitat for Humanity. At Wakefield Baptist Church, 236 Main Street, Wakefield.

## 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.



## 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 E-Light newsletter, 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)