



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

March 13, 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

Don Hermes
Matthew McGovern
Richard Adham
William Wallace
Cheryl Beckmann
Tim Redmond
Joe Fink
Susan Parkinson
Mary Szrom

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

Repentance and Making Amends?

Luke 13:1-9

On this second Sunday of our Lenten journey we will ponder what it might mean to not only say we are sorry, but to try to make it right. And one question that arises is - when are we to do this? Another question is do we do this? Let's come together and praise our gracious God who offers us so much, including second chances ~ and sometimes it might take even more chances; fortunately God's grace is sufficient. I invite you to read the above Bible reference. Realizing, that our time on earth is limited, the question becomes how will you spend the balance?

Let's spend some time together this Sunday in worship and in fellowship!

Peace and Joy, Brother Fred

Worship Flowers



The flowers for Sunday, March 16 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara's mother, Janet Smith, by Rod and Barbara Gilbert.

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, April, May, or June please contact Roberta Norman at (401) 226-7123.

Eggstravaganza Planning



Join us for a planning meeting on Sunday 3/16 @ 11am in Room 2C. Children and adults are invited!

Dinner Table Thank You



We give thanks to Sweenor's Chocolates for their recent donation of many, many, many individually-wrapped chocolates for inclusion in our Dinner Table meals.

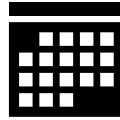
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Membership Notes

- ❖ Shirley Anderson passed away March 10. Her family welcomes anyone who feels called or was especially close to Shirley to join them at a graveside service on Saturday, March 22 @ 2pm at the Riverside cemetery (169 High St, Wakefield). [Obituary on Avery-Storti website.](#)
- ❖ Iris Nedwidek passed away March 7. A Celebration of Life was held Tuesday, March 11. Her obituary may be found on [the Avery-Storti website.](#)
- ❖ From our former minister Rev. Paul Bizer about his son Matt who grew up in our Church. "Fortunate to attend the successful defense of the doctoral dissertation of the now Dr. Matthew Bizer, PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering. I wish I had a vocabulary to describe the day."



On the Calendar

Thursday, March 13 @
choir rehearsals cancelled

Sunday, March 16 @
10am Contemporary
Worship

Thursday, March 20 @
6pm Praise Team

Thursday, March 20@
7:30pm Traditional choir

Sunday, March 23 @
10am Family Worship

Sunday, March 30 @
10am Traditional Worship

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

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

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

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm
AA Meeting

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

Hospitality Needs Help Now!

Our Coffee Hour Teams for the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month need additional members.



What is involved? Setting up a serving table, coffee, and goodies. Clean up after coffee hour is over.

Time required? One Sunday a month, an hour before church service and an hour after.

We have teams set up so there are always hands to share the work. If you can help us to continue providing fellowship with a smile and cup of coffee please contact:

Christine Grevstad
christinegrevstad@ hotmail.com
516 694-9154 (home)
401 284-6483 (cell)

Tabitha's Closet

CLOSED MARCH 15 (For Seasonal Turnover)
Open Tues 3/18 @ 4-7pm

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.**



PDCC's
Eggstravaganza
April 12th, 11am-2pm
Food, fun and games!

GET WHAT YOU NEED, PAY WHAT YOU CAN!

Open Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm
Join us Monthly for Third Tuesdays at
Tabitha's from 4-7pm
*Suggested Donation

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



DONATIONS. Tabitha's Closet has stopped taking winter donations. We are taking spring donations. We ask that all donations be paused for the month of February while we offer our final winter inventory. We will be accepting spring/summer clothing donations beginning March 1st.

We ask that donations be laundered and delivered in a clean bag, as we don't have a washer/dryer. 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 gsfaucher@gmail.com or lynnehandayan@gmail.com

March Mission of the Month: UCC California Wildfire Response

On January 7, 2025, wildfire activity began in Los Angeles County, California. The blazes continued for several days fueled by Santa Ana winds in excess of 80 mph. These fires burned over 57,660 acres and claimed an estimated 29 lives.

Since the onset of this disaster, the [UCC Global HOPE](#) team has communicated with the Southern California and Nevada Conference Minister, ecumenical partners, and a national network of voluntary organizations active in disasters (VOAD) to shape our long-term response.

The National Ministries of the United Church of Christ (NMUCC) is committed to accompanying communities that have been impacted by climate-caused disasters throughout the entire long-term recovery process. This process often takes many years after disasters have faded from daily news cycles. Beginning in the hours after a disaster strikes, our goal is to ensure that communities have access to the resources that they need. As communities begin to move into longer-term recovery, we continue to collaborate with other ecumenical and community partners to ensure that communities are well supported throughout the recovery process.

As we continue to pray for and support those who experienced unimaginable loss, we invite you to support the UCC's recovery efforts. Your gifts will support the community's long-term recovery efforts as the Global HOPE team works with local communities to ensure an equitable approach to their long-term recovery. For highlights of ongoing UCC recovery efforts, visit <https://www.ucc.org/2025-california-wildfires-special-appeal/>

Thank you for your generosity!

The Missions Board

PDCC supports the UCC California Wildfire 2025 Relief Effort as our March 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 "UCC CA Wildfire" in the memo line** or 3) clicking the **Give now** button here to donate online (peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give).

Give now

DINE WITH NINE

Break bread, Sip wine, Share some laughter!!

It's Time for Dine with Nine Again!



This April 4, 5 and 6, Church Family Life/Hospitality would like to invite everyone to a Dine with Nine event.

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

One person volunteers to host the dinner at their home while others that sign up for dinner that night contact the host to bring something to support the meal.

The host will coordinate the meal with everyone contributing their part.

This is a great way to spend time getting to know people you may have not interacted with, or new members who have just joined the church.

Our last Dine with Nine was a great success! A lot of fun was had by all!! Let your Light Shine!

Sign up in Fellowship Hall by SUNDAY MARCH 29th for your preferred date:

**FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH
SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH
or SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH**

****Please indicate if you would like to be a host.****

(Being a potluck dinner makes hosting so easy!)

Questions?? Call Christine Grevstad @ 401-284-6483

**Submitted by Christine Grevstad
(christinegrevstad@ hotmail.com)**

Church World Service – School Kits & Hygiene Kits

What a great time we had assembling School Kits and Hygiene Kits to be given to the Church World Service. Many thanks to the congregation for all the donations of notebooks, pencils, soap, and other personal hygiene items.



Kits are used as part of the Church World Service mission response in areas around the world where natural disasters have occurred.



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

From the PDCC Green Team

Why Christians need to be more passionate about the Climate Crisis

Christians have long embraced the call to care for creation, and the escalating climate crisis makes that mandate even more urgent. Here are several key reasons why Christians should be concerned and take stronger action against the climate crisis:

1. Biblical Mandate for Stewardship

The Bible teaches that the Earth is God's creation entrusted to humanity's care. In Genesis 2:15, humans are charged with tending and keeping the garden—a call that extends to protecting the environment today. This stewardship implies not only reverence for nature but also a responsibility to ensure that our actions do not harm the delicate balance of life that sustains all creation.

2. Protecting the Vulnerable and Pursuing Justice

Climate change disproportionately affects the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable communities around the world. From extreme weather events to food and water insecurity, these impacts deepen existing inequities. For Christians, whose faith emphasizes loving one's neighbor and standing up for the oppressed, acting against the climate crisis is a matter of social justice. It means advocating for policies and practices that safeguard those who are most at risk.

3. Moral Responsibility and Ethical Living

Environmental degradation and climate change raise significant moral questions. By neglecting the health of the planet, society not only harms the natural world but also compromises the well-being of current and future generations. Christians are called to act ethically, and this includes addressing the root causes of climate change such as overconsumption, wastefulness, and unsustainable practices. Embracing a lifestyle that respects God's creation reflects core Christian values of humility, responsibility, and care.



4. Intergenerational Accountability

The effects of climate change will be felt for generations to come. Christians are encouraged to think beyond the present moment—to consider the legacy left for children and grandchildren. By taking strong action now, believers can help ensure that future generations inherit a livable, thriving planet rather than one degraded by the consequences of inaction.

5. Witnessing Through Action

Strong advocacy and tangible action on climate issues can serve as a powerful witness to the world. When Christians actively engage in sustainable practices and call for environmental justice, they embody the principles of love, hope, and renewal central to their faith. This proactive stance not only fosters community resilience but also encourages others to reflect on how their lives intersect with God's creation.

In summary, addressing the climate crisis is not simply a political or scientific issue—it's deeply rooted in the ethical and spiritual traditions of Christianity. By caring for the Earth, protecting the vulnerable, living responsibly, and ensuring a sustainable future for all, Christians can meaningfully contribute to the global effort against climate change.

JOIN US! 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

Church Family Life Events

Sat. 3/15 at 2 PM – “The Vanishing Elephant” a PPAC Sensory-friendly performance – open to all! “This incredible story of resilience and friendship, inspired by true events, comes to life through large-scale puppetry, illusion, and magic!” \$5 See details and accommodations at:

ppacri.org/events/detail/the-vanishing-elephant

Sun., 3/16 @ 2:30 to 5 pm – Old Time

Community Dance. Family-friendly event, all ages welcome. Contras, Circles, and Square dances taught by caller Henry Chapin. Music by The Peace Dale String Band. No experience needed. Wear comfortable, soft-soled shoes. Free Admission (donations gladly accepted). Potluck snacks at the break. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County 27 North Road, Peace Dale, RI Contact Lee Cowan at {uucscdre2@gmail.com} or Harry Buffum at {hbuffum@cox.net} for more info.

Tues. 3/18 at 6 PM – Suzanne Nelson Author Talk with Wakefield Books at Narragansett Library about her new book *The Librarians of Lisbon*. Inspired by real historical figures, award-winning author Suzanne Nelson’s adult fiction debut follows two American librarians recruited for a spy mission to Lisbon at the height of World War II. Free but need to reserve

<https://www.wakefieldbooks.com/event/author-event-suzanne-nelson-narragansett-library>

3/22 at 4 PM; 3/23 at 1 PM – “Are the Crayons Quitting?” This original adaptation includes Rhode Island artists, composers, and designers who collaborated with Artistic Director Danielle Genest to bring this charming, hilarious, and relevant book to life. It’s a unique, funny and heartwarming performance for all ages! At the Keats Theatre at St Andrews School, 63 Federal Rd, Barrington, RI <https://newportcontemporaryballet.org/performance/are-the-crayons-quitting/>

Join Lisa Hollister, Program Manager at URI’s Onsite Wastewater Resource Center to learn all about how a septic system works!

Tues. 3/25 @ 6-7PM – Can I Flush That? Septic System Webinar sponsored by South County Habitat for Humanity of RI. Virtual! The link will be sent out prior to the event. FREE - all attendees will be entered to win a \$50 gift card. Click here to register:

<https://form.jotform.com/250144484840152>

Learn about both conventional and advanced onsite wastewater treatment technologies. Tips and best

practices for maintaining system performance.

Frequently asked questions about **septic systems**. The importance of private drinking water including how to **test your well water and maintain your well**.

Ongoing – RI Wind Ensemble Band Instrument Renewal Drive (BIRD) Across Rhode Island, hundreds of used band instruments sit in storage rooms, attics, closets, and basements. At the same time, hundreds of school children are denied the opportunity to play music in their school band because they can’t afford to buy or rent an instrument. These instruments need some light work costing anywhere between \$50-\$200 per instrument. Your tax-deductible gift will support the goal of this initiative. Want to donate an instrument? Info at: <https://www.riwe.org/bird>

Ongoing – the SK Senior Center has joined with Project Linus to be a drop-off location for new, handmade blankets. Project Linus is a national organization that presents blankets to children who are seriously ill, traumatized or at risk, distributing them to hospitals, DCYF, Child & Family RI and Make a Wish. Drop off at the atrium at the Senior Center.

Cabaret and Cuisine – Cancelled

Due to Unforeseen circumstances, the Cabaret and Cuisine event has been cancelled.

REFUNDS for tickets can be picked up at the church during office hours.



White Elephants – What Will We Take?

The cellar is cleaned up and **we are ready for some mid-sized boxes** (about the size reams of paper come in) preferably closable. No current workdays scheduled.

We love your hand me overs but have space limitations. So, here are the guidelines:

WE WILL TAKE:

- ✓ Kitchen items, dishware, vases
- ✓ Plug-in items that work preferably with manuals
- ✓ Table lamps, ornamentals, storage pieces, Christmas decorations
- ✓ Accessories of all sorts, trinkets, collections,
- ✓ Personal care items
- ✓ Toys, games, arts 'n craft & sewing, knitting supplies
- ✓ New or like new small stuffed animals,
- ✓ tools, gardening items, desk items, mid-size Sports equipment
- ✓ PUZZLES
- ✓ Linens – and only for the spring sale (5/17) we will take pillows & mirrors

PLEASE NO:

- × Frames
- × CD's, books, records
- × Furniture
- × Clothing – donate appropriate items to Tabitha's Closet
- × Printers, computers, and related supplies
- × Luggage
- × House paints

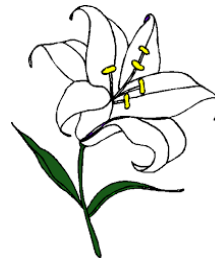
SUGGESTION: cut this out and save.

THANK YOU for consistently donating. If you're not sure if we will take an item call Jane Stabile and ask. 508 395-1172

Eggstravaganza's Coming!



Save the Date!
Saturday, April 12
@ 11 am – 2 pm



Easter Lilies

Watch for an order form next week.

Come Make Music!



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 or check the Breeze EVENTS calendar or check the On the Calendar feature in the E-Light (on page 2). If you are interested in a Once-a-Month commitment, see below for contact info to sing with Family Worship Services.

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 March 23**). 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

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 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 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

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