



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

March 14, 2024

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

Cheryl Beckmann
Tim Redmond
Joe Fink
Sue 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

The Sound of God's Own Voice...

God's peaceful Spirit continues to move in our midst during Lent as we continue to learn about living the alternative Jesus way. This Sunday, in our reading from the Gospel of John, the voice of God rings forth from the heavens! It is the only time in John's Gospel that we hear the voice of God in such a way. What does God say? Come and find out, and/or you can read it for yourself - John 12:20-33.

Approaching Jesus' crucifixion, some might ask - Why does Jesus die on the cross? What could this mean for us? We consider these kinds of questions and more, especially from John's perspective, during worship on Sunday.

What is our call to action - How are we living out the shalom part of our mission statement, as individual members of Christ's body and as a whole?

I look forward to seeing you in worship my friends!

Shalom, Brother Fred

Join Us for Easter Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 24
10am Family Service

Mundy Thursday, March 28
6pm Soup & Bread
6:30pm Service

Easter Sunday, March 31
9am Contemporary Worship
11am Traditional Worship

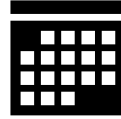


Worship Flowers

The flowers for Sunday, March 17 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 flowers for April, May, or June please contact Roberta Norman (401 226-7123).

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On the Calendar

Sunday, March 17 @
 10am – Contemporary
 Worship & Youth Connect

Wednesday, March 20 @
 6pm Having It My Way #2

Saturday, March 23 @
 11a-2p Eggstravaganza
 (rain or shine)

Palm Sunday, March 24
 @ 10am – Family Worship

Maundy Thursday, March 28 @ 6 pm – Soup & Bread
 6:30pm – Service

Easter Sunday, March 31–
 9am Contemporary Worship
 11am Traditional Worship

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

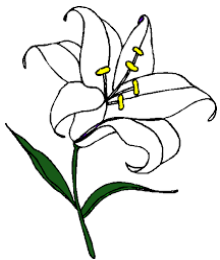
Tuesdays @ 9:30am
 Prayer Circle

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm
 Bell Choir rehearsal

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm
 AA Meeting

Thursdays @ 6pm
 Contemporary Singers
 rehearse *ALL welcome*

Thursdays @ 7:30pm
 Traditional Choir
 rehearsal



Lilies for Easter – Due 3/24

If you wish to donate lilies to decorate our church sanctuary for the Easter season, please complete the order form below and return it to the church office with your payment by **March 24, 2024**. The suggested donation is \$12. Following Easter Services, a deacon will deliver a plant to each of our members who are homebound, are over age 85, or who recently suffered the loss of a loved one. If you would enjoy delivering your plant yourself, please indicate below to whom you will be taking it.

Given by: _____

Check one: ☐ In celebration of: _____

☐ In memory of: _____

☐ In honor of: _____

What to do with your lily after Easter Sunday worship?

☐ I want to take the plant home with me.

☐ I will deliver the plant to: _____

☐ I want to leave the plant at church for someone else to deliver.

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____



We Need You for Worship

Deacons would love to have more folks available as **readers** (reading the scripture) and as **ushers** at church worship services (especially for the traditional service).

There is also a real need for **one more Deacon to join the board**. The Deacons support the plans of the Action committees that plan the traditional, contemporary and family services. They work on reaching out to the active members, new members, and friends of the congregation to make them feel welcome.

SO, if you are interested in helping out during the services or in serving as a Deacon, please contact Val Lowell, Sandi Robinson, or Jeff Healy.



Mac & Cheese for the Eggstravaganza

Christian Education and Church Family Life/ Hospitality are working together to make and sell Mac & Cheese at the Eggstravaganza.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

We need chefs to cook up the mac and cheese and bring it to the Eggstravaganza Saturday March 23rd (similar to the apple crisp for the pumpkin palooza).

Kits (recipe and ingredients) will be made up and ready for pick up Friday night March 22nd @ 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the kitchen.

To keep a count of what we need - Please contact Christine Grevstad (401 284-6483) christinegrevstad@hotmail.com



The Bistro at the Peace Dale Dinner Table

Tuesdays, starting March 12th @ 4:30 to 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

The Dinner Table is expanding in order to meet its overall mission to provide nutritious meals for children and their families, the alone, and the hungry. The Dinner Table began as an eat-in opportunity providing socialization. Then along came COVID with all its restrictions ... so we went to our very successful take-out model.

Alarmingly, 25% of our meals currently go to folks who are receiving only one meal. This leads us to the conclusion that many are eating alone. Some have expressed interest in a dine-in opportunity. We have volunteers expressing a desire to do more.... (Oh my, be careful what you ask for!)

Participation in the Tuesday Bistro does not impact eligibility for Wednesday and Friday meals. The Bistro is an added feature for those looking for a more social dining experience. Donations accepted. Tuesday night meals are served restaurant style and include soup/salad, entrée and bread, coffee, and dessert.

This eat-in Bistro opportunity is by Reservation Only. Call **401-542-0332 before 7:00 PM Sunday** to make a reservation for Tuesday. Reservations must be made each week.

We have learned a lot since we started in 2014. We hope this expansion will further assist those dealing with loneliness and food insufficiency. If you wish to **VOLUNTEER**, please email Darlene (dhermes44@gmail.com)

The first event was full of happiness and gratitude; see the photos on FaceBook.

Thanks for your support for this mission. Without you, this would not be possible.

Submitted by Sylvia Blanda

Having It My Way – Making Life Decisions

Church Family Life is sponsoring “Having It My Way – Making Life Decisions” a 7-session series that will help us to prepare for our last two phases of life. Each session is about 1.5 hours long. Topics include finances, estate planning, mental and physical health, living environment, end of life decisions and spiritual considerations with funeral planning.

The 2nd session Wednesday, March 20th @ 6pm will be “Managing Our Financial Impact” is led by Shawn Juenger, Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.

All programs will be open to the public so bring

relatives and friends. Each session will include a presentation, a questions & answer segment, and refreshments.

You may attend without signing up, but it would be helpful to be able to guesstimate numbers. **Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall or contact Jane** jane.stabile@ outlook.com 508 395-117

Come to the 3/20 session! You don't have to commit to all 7 sessions.



	Day/Time	Workshop	Organizer	Speaker(s)
1.	3/13, 6:30 PM	Overview – 8000 Days in Retirement a slide presentation	Jim Blackerby, CFP Emeritus	Jim Blackerby
2.	3/20, 6 PM	Managing Our Financial Impact	Kathy Bamford	Shawn Juenger, Financial Advisor
3.	4/8, 5:30 PM	Managing Our Estate Issues	Jim Blackerby	Attorney Jim Sullivan Attorney Olivia Labbe
4.	4/18, 5:30 PM	Our Mental & Physical Health	Jim Blackerby	Dr. Chris Van Hemelrijck/ Renee La Montagne
5.	5/1, 5:30 PM	Managing Our Living Environment	Jane Stabile Linda Jeans	Nicole Antonopoulos, Real Estate Agent/ Diane Lepore, Brightview CM Justin Oakley, Accessibility
6.	5/15, 5:30 PM	End of Life Decisions – Hospice & Funeral	Jane Stabile Linda Jeans	Lisa Wasson, Nurse Educator from Hope Health Veronica Houston, Funeral Director
7.	5/29, 5:30 PM	Planning Your Celebration of Life	Rev. Fred Evenson Jane Stabile	Rev. Fred Evenson Claudia Swain



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.



White Elephants

Yes, we will still take your items. Please no frames or books.

Jackie Kanis, Kathleen Royles and Jane Stabile have caught up on sorting and packaging up some of your wonderful donations. Thanks team! **Therefore, no work sessions for the next few weeks**

Church Family Life Events – Ideas for Fun

Church Family Life is gradually changing its focus from listing community events in the E-light and on the in-house bulletin board to promoting events open to our congregants particularly if it is any sort of get together. Please continue to bring in flyers and ask us to promote events that you are interested in.

Here are opportunities to connect with other PDCCers.

- A new series, "Having It My Way – Making Life Decisions," started. Next session Wed. 3/20 at 6:30 PM (see p. 4).
- The Sat. 3/23 Eggstravaganza offers a variety of fun for your youngsters (see p. 6).
- After the 3/24 Palm Sunday Family service, there will be a special collation to celebrate and thank Greg Blasdell for his incredible years of stewardship at PDCC as he leaves to start his new chapter (see below).
- Sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

3/15 & 3/16 – A Midsummer Night's Dream by the State Ballet of RI at Sappinsley Hall, Nazarine Center., Rhode Island College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave. PVD. Shakespeare's classic comedy of a wild night where the worlds of mortals and magical fairies collide. \$37 at 401 456-8144

<https://www.stateballet.com/>

3/15 at 6:30 PM & 3/16 at 8 PM, Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto at the Vets, 1 Avenue of the Arts, Providence. BRIAN RAPHAEL NABORS: Pulse; TCHAIKOVSKY: Piano Concerto No.1; BRAHMS: Symphony No.1 <https://www.riphil.org/events>

Through 5/19 – The Red Dress Exhibit at the Fuller Craft Museum 455 Oak St., Brockton, MA. "Originally sketched on a napkin in 2009 by British artist Kirstie Macleod, this global embroidery phenomenon has traveled the world, stitching together stories from 51 countries. Join us in celebrating the final stop of its US tour and explore the rich tapestry of voices and cultures that adorn this remarkable garment." FREE.

<https://fullercraft.org/exhibitions/the-red-dress/>



Party on Palm Sunday

Greg Blasdell has been a pivotal part of our church for many years. Sadly, for us, he will be moving on to a well-deserved retirement.

Sunday March 24th CFL/Hospitality will be holding a goodbye party after the service in fellowship hall.

All are invited to come say goodbye to our dear friend. Any refreshments brought in (finger food) would be appreciated.

Questions? Contact Christine Grevstad 401 284-6483 christinegrevstad@hotmail.com



Sharing More Joy: PDCC Podcasts

Interviews with members of our church family about the joys of their faith – the "Sharing More Joy" series – can be found on the church website under the News tab (<https://www.peacedalechurch.org/podcasts>).



Spring Rain Barrel Initiative: Harvesting Nature's Gift for Conservation

As we eagerly anticipate the arrival of spring, it's time to gear up for a season of conservation and sustainability.

One initiative gaining momentum is the collection of rainwater in rain barrels. This simple yet impactful practice involves harnessing the power of nature's precipitation for various purposes, from watering gardens to conserving water resources.

Why Rain Barrels Matter

Water Conservation: By capturing rainwater, we reduce dependency on treated water sources, conserving this precious resource for essential needs.

Environmental Benefits: Rainwater harvesting helps mitigate stormwater runoff, reducing erosion and pollution in water bodies.

Sustainable Gardening: Rainwater is naturally soft and free from chemicals, making it ideal for nurturing gardens, lawns, and plants.

Cost Savings: Utilizing rain barrels can lead to reduced water bills, especially for outdoor water usage during the warmer months.

More information and beneficial resources can be found on the following websites:

- [RI Rain Barrell Info](#)
- [MA Rain Barrels and other Water Conservation Tools](#)

JOIN US! For anyone, of all ages, interested in learning more about the "Green Team", please contact George Faucher at gfaucher@gmail.com and/or Don Hermes at dhermes33@gmail.com

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Green events!

Faith Climate forum, April 16

In person at host Location or Zoom webinar. An enriching day of faith, creation care, and community. The agenda is carefully crafted to inspire, inform, and empower clergy and congregations with actionable and practical guidance. For more information and to register: <https://nationalfaithandclimateforum.org>.

UCC Earth Summit (2nd): April 20th

Zoom webinar and in-person (Dartmouth College, NH) **Bill McKibben keynote "Energy from Heaven or Energy from Hell?"** 2.5 hour summit, features other grassroots leaders and videos showcasing the environmental ministries of Host Congregation (Church of Christ at Dartmouth College). To Register: https://ucc.zoom.us/webinar/register/9317026581054/WN_rYyzeGCVSliQ_kNEH5DPQg#/registration

Kiersten Sundell: April 23, 7:00pm

URI student Kiersten will give a presentation to PDCC and the community following her recent attendance at COP28 in Dubai. Don Hermes is coordinating event further details to be announced.

March Mission of the Month: Egg-a-Day - Haiti



A chance meeting on the flight back from Haiti to New York after Hurricane Sandy led two women to discover a common concern: the hungry children they had

seen during their visit. By the time the plane landed, the two had vowed not only to find a way to feed the children but were determined to find a way to help the Haitians in the communities they serve become self-sufficient and produce their own food. That was the birth of the Egg-a-Day Nutrition Program (formerly known as OneEgg Haiti) which has, since 2013, provided high-quality animal protein in the form of a hard-boiled egg to over 2500 children throughout Haiti. The goal is to make the program sustainable by educating individuals, especially school children, about how to raise their own food and chickens.

That had been happening, for the most part, until a few years ago when the already poverty-stricken country was plunged into chaos with the assassination of their president. Now, dangerous gangs control much of the country making it even more difficult to find or purchase food. But UCC contacts still have a few chicken farms and are able to deliver eggs to some schools and orphanages.

Egg-a-Day is funded by donations from churches and individuals in our conference. For several years, those donations were supplemented by additional

financial support from OneEgg.org, a charitable organization that ran a similar program in Africa. However, that organization is no longer in operation. Egg-a-Day relies solely on donations from individuals and churches. It does not take much - \$60 will feed a child an egg a day for one year.

More information on sneucc.org/egg-a-day. By the way, the children in Haiti love hard-boiled eggs

Peace Dale Congregational Church supports Egg-a-Day Childhood Nutrition Program as our Mission of the Month. You may donate funds 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, or 3) clicking the **Give now** button below to donate online (peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give). **Checks should be made out to PDCC with "Egg-a-Day" in the memo line.**

Thank you for your generosity,
The Missions Board

Give now

The February Mission of the Month has collected \$1,230 to-date for the Jonnycake Center for Hope.

Tabitha's Closet is Open

PAUSE in donations as we switch seasons in inventory. No more winter, please.

We will begin accepting donations of SPRING clothing on March 15.

Open
Saturdays
9:30a-12:30p

SHOP! Tabitha's Closet, PDCC's new clothing ministry offers **new and gently used clothing** for affordable suggested donations.

DONATE! We ask that donations be laundered and delivered in a clean bag, as we don't have a washer/dryer.

VOLUNTEER! We need you! Tabitha's Closet needs volunteers to help:

- 1) **sort and prep the clothing,**
- 2) **help in the shop** on Saturday mornings.

Please contact Galen McGovern, our volunteer coordinator at GalenMcGovern1@gmail.com.

For any questions or to learn more about the ministry, please contact Suzanne Faucher at gsfaucher@gmail.com

Youth Corner



WALK in the FootSteps of Jesus

Peace Dale Congregational Church

Family Worship Services 10 am

March 24

Join us to shout Hosanna, wave palm branches, rock the boat, and raise the roof

EggStravaganza

Egg Hunt, Egg Drop, Cascarones,
Food, and MUCH More



March 23

11 - 2

Peace Dale Congregational Church



GROUP
MISSION
TRIPS



Summer 2024 Peace Dale and Kingston Congregational Churches
Youth Mission Trip

JOIN FAMILIES WITH YOUTH IN MIDDLE AND SR. HIGH SCHOOL FROM PEACE DALE CONGREGATIONAL AND KINGSTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES TO HEAR ABOUT A WONDERFUL NEW COLLABORATION IN YOUTH MINISTRY! STARTING WITH:

JULY 14-20, 2024, YOUTH WORK CAMP

WOONSOCKET, RI

WITH GROUP MISSION TRIPS

Youth from PDCC and KCC are invited to spend a week in service to low-income homeowners in the economically challenged community of Woonsocket, RI. Join with 100s of other youth from around the country to show God's love in action, build relationships, have fun and grow closer to God! Group Work Camps are extremely well-run service weeks for youth and their adult chaperones. Check out GROUPMISSIONTRIPS.COM and come to our family info session on:

DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 2

TIME: 6:30 pm

PLACE : PEACE DALE UCC

261 Columbia St, Peace Dale, RI

RSVP or get more info:

Meg Kolodziej megkolodziej@gmail.com

Rev. Jan revjan@kingconqchurch.org



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.



Sharing More Joy: PDCC Podcasts

Interviews with members of our church family about the joys of their faith – the "Sharing More Joy" series – can be found on the church website under the News tab (<https://www.peacedalechurch.org/podcasts>).

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 Light, 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
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