



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

March 6, 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

Jim Blackerby
Kelly Cardente
Martha Beazley
Daryl Hays
Kathy Bamford
Laurie Nelle

Visit Our Webpage!

peacedalechurch.org

Follow us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch

Last Week's E-Light

peacedalechurch.org/e-li

Temptation and Turning the Clock Forward

Luke 4:1-13

Temptation. We pray about it as part of the "Lord's Prayer". What do you find tempting? What do you think Jesus found tempting? This Sunday is the first Sunday of Lent, and we will remember how Jesus apparently experienced some temptations. What did Jesus do; what can we learn from him?

This Sunday we will also turn the clock forward an hour. (Hopefully you will not succumb to any temptation to skip worship 😊) It's a reminder that time marches on, and how we live today matters. Let's come together as God's family, as the adopted children of God that we are, and consider how we might deal with our own temptations ~ hopefully helping us to follow Christ more closely. See you soon!

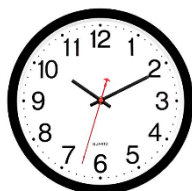
Shalom, Brother Fred



Worship Flowers

The flowers of March 9 are given to the Glory of God and in honor of all who work for justice for ALL by Don and Darlene Hermes.

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.



Daylight Savings Time Sunday

Remember to "SPRING AHEAD" this Sunday, March 9th

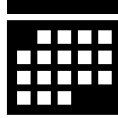
Plan Ahead: Pumpkins

The pumpkin truck will arrive Sunday, September 28 for our 10th Annual Pumpkins with a Purpose!



IN THIS ISSUE

A Journey in Music recital – 3/9
 Cabaret & Cuisine – 3/29
 Church Family Life Events
 Come Make Music
 Eggstavaganza’s Coming – 4/12
 Gift Cards with a Kick
 Help Assemble Church World Service Kits – 3/13
 Hospitality Needs Help Now!
 Introducing Your Church Treasurer
 Join the Green Team
 March Mission of the Month: UCC California Wildfire
 Old Time Community Dance – 3/16
 On the Calendar
 Once-a-Month Singers
 Plan Ahead Pumpkins – 9/28
 Prayer Matters
 Social Justice in Action
 Tabitha’s Closet – Changing Seasons to Spring
 Tabitha’s Closet Winter Clearance – 3/8
 What a Party!
 White Elephants – What Will We Take?
 Why Christians Need to be Passionate about Climate
 Worship Flowers



On the Calendar

Sunday, March 9 @ 10am
 Contemporary worship

Sunday, March 9 @ 4pm
 Concert Original Songs by
 Nathaniel Baker (p.3)

Thursday, March 13 @
 10am Women's Fellowship
 (p. 3)

Sunday, March 16 @
 10am Contemporary
 Worship

Sunday, March 23 @
 10am Family 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!

2nd Thursdays @ 10am
 Women’s Fellowship
 ALL WELCOME

What a Party!!!



On February 23, PDCC was THE
 South County Party Venue!

Over 110 community members
 sampled over 22 different homemade delicious soups
 and sampled an amazing assortment of homemade
 desserts.

Community members seated at long rectangular
 tables from the front of fellowship hall to the stage,
 made new friends and enjoyed a ruckus good time.
 We even had tables in the hallway.

The generous party participants contributed over
 \$3,000.00 to the Peace Dale Dinner table!

Thank you soup and dessert, creators, and all who
 helped set up serve and clean up.

It was a Big Soup Party! Thanks everyone for your
 support.

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)

To Benefit the PDCC Music Academy & Newport Sings

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

Help Assemble Church World Service Kits

Women's Fellowship will be assembling kits on Thursday, March 13 @ 10am. Feel free to join us!

This is an annual mission of PDCC and with the help of our congregation, we have increased the number of kits processed each year. These Hygiene Kits and School Kits are sent to areas around the world where natural disasters have occurred. Thank you for your help in making another successful year providing kits for Church World Service's world-wide mission.

Submitted by Judy Healy

PEACEDALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PRESENTS

Tickets go on sale March 9th



And



CUISINE



SATURDAY MARCH 29TH

Hors d'oeuvres at 6 P.M. Show at 6:30 P.M.

TICKETS \$30.00 ea.

Includes entertainment, appetizer, meatball and pasta dinner, dessert and beverage

TICKETS SOLD IN FELLOWSHIP HALL SUNDAYS FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICE

Contact Carol Edwards 401 783-2713 or Christine Grevstad 516 694-9154

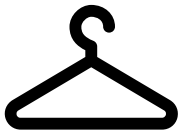
Proceeds to benefit the ministry of Peacedale Congregational Church

Peacedale Congregational Church 261 Columbia St. Peacedale R.I. 401 789-7313

Tabitha's Closet

FINAL WINTER CLEARANCE 3/8

2 Bags for \$10 Saturday 3/8/25 only



CLOSED MARCH 15 (For Seasonal Turnover) Reopening March 22

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.**

DONATIONS. Tabitha's will be accepting winter clothing donations through February 1st. 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

Tabitha's Closet has stopped taking winter donations. We will begin taking spring donations March 15.



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

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.

Tues. 3/11 @ 9AM – 3:30 PM RI Compost Conference & Trade Show at Rhode Island College hosted by RIC & RI Food Policy Council gathers food waste generators, composters, food recovery organizations, regulators, legislators, and the public to network, trade ideas and learn more about compost and the food waste ecosystem. Help us advance wasted food solutions in Rhode Island! \$40 adjustable. ric.edu/visitors-arts-events/events/2025-ri-compost-conference-and-trade-show

Tues. 3/11 at noon-2:30PM “The Pipes Are Calling: PPAC” Celebrating the season of St. Patrick as part of the Wonders of the Wurlitzer (organ) Series with house organist PE Krasinski & friends. <https://www.goprovidence.com/event/the-pipes-are-calling%3A-ppac-celebrates-the-season-of-st-patrick/50538/>

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

NEW Thurs. 3/6 from 1 – 3 PM, Fireside Chat with Farmer Ben at Wild Harmony Farm in Exeter. Explore the reasons why Wild Harmony Farm is so unique and different from industrial farms. Free but need to preregister at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fireside-chat-with-farmer-ben-tickets-1236181575369>

NEW 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>

NEW 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!

NEW 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**.

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 February 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



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

Introducing Your Church Treasurer: Jim Crisafulli

Greetings, Church Family!

I am honored to serve as your church treasurer and to help steward the financial resources that support our ministries, outreach, and mission. My name is Jim Crisafulli, and I look forward to working alongside our congregation to ensure transparency, accountability, and faithful stewardship of the gifts entrusted to our church.

Managing church finances is not just about numbers—it's about enabling the work God has called us to do. Whether it's funding community outreach, maintaining our facilities, or supporting various ministries, every contribution plays a vital role in Creating Shalom and Justice for All.

I welcome any questions or concerns you may have regarding the church's finances. Please feel free to reach out to me at jimcrisafulli58@gmail.com. I look forward to serving you and keeping you informed about how our financial resources are being used to support the Church's Operations and Missions

Blessings, Jim Crisafulli Church Treasurer

Old-Time Community Dance from our UUCSC colleagues

Sunday, March 16, 2025 – 2:30 to 5 pm

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 {uucsdre2@ gmail.com} or Harry Buffum at {hbuffum@ cox.net} for more info.

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.

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

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