



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

January 12, 2023

CHURCH SERVICE 10:00 AM

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thurs 10am-1pm
(401) 789-7313

Contact Us

SENIOR MINISTER:

THE REV. A. FRED EVENSON

FRED.E@MAC.COM

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

MARYLOU McMILLAN

OFFICE@PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG

Birthdays

Sandra Bellantoni	1/14
Tacy Hackey	1/15
Kim Kimball	1/16
William Nelle	1/17
Alex Dowgiallo	1/18
Erica Manchester	1/18
Janice Allen Cofone	1/19
Emma Bugbee-Casara	1/19
Allen Hopfer	1/20
Zola Kneeland	1/20
Nancy Holley	1/21

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<http://www.peacedalechurch.org>

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[Facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch](https://www.facebook.com/PeaceDaleChurch)

Last Week's E-Light

Martin Luther King, Jr. Howard Thurman & Jesus

You won't want to miss this Sunday, especially on such an important weekend. This is the weekend that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be remembered and celebrated and hopefully we will all ponder the ideals he stood for and ask ourselves - how we are working towards his "dream"?

There is a book, it is said, that Dr. King often carried with him called *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman. It's pretty clear that Dr. King was inspired by Howard Thurman so we will take some time during worship on Sunday and explore this book that Dr. King carried around.

Just to whet your appetite, in one place Thurman writes of Jesus, "Here is one who was so conditioned and organized within himself that he became a perfect instrument for the embodiment of a set of ideals – ideals of such dramatic potency that they were capable of changing the calendar, rechanneling the thought of the world, and placing a new sense of the rhythm of life in a weary, nerve-snapped civilization."

Come to worship, and to hear what Thurman had to say; such things that so inspired Dr. King, that we would continue to celebrate him, and the Good News he preached, so many years later.

I'll see you on Sunday!

Shalom, Bro. Fred

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Youth Connect Winter Schedule
Youth Group Super Bowl 2/5



On the Calendar

Family Worship Service

Sunday, January 22

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 19

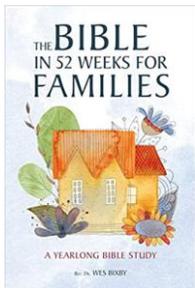
Sanctuary

Worship Flowers



The flowers of Sunday, January 15 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their mothers by David and Carol Anne Hayes.

Flowers are a beautiful way to remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion or simply give to the glory of God. Anyone interested in donating flowers please contact CarolAnne Hayes at (401) 487-9127 or carolhayes44@gmail.com. Opportunities are available for January and February flower donations.



Bible Study: Feasting on God's Word

Beginning on Thursday, January 12, 2023 @ 4pm in the Community Lounge. Contact the Rev. Dr. Jean Simpson jsimpsonucc@gmail.com

We are excited to offer a Bible study that will take us through the Bible in a year beginning in January! We will be using a book entitled, *The Bible in 52 Weeks for Families*, by Wes Bixby. Books are available in the church office (\$16). Let's dive in and see what our still speaking God has to say, today.

Contribution Envelopes



Contribution envelopes are available on the table in the hallway outside of Hoxie Lounge. If your envelopes are missing, there is a sign-up sheet there as well.

Submitted by David Nelson

Loving Kindness

Last Sunday we talked about the gifts the wise men brought Jesus, and our own presence that we might offer each other (thereby offering it to God as well). We were also reminded of what Micah says we are called to offer God – the commitment to doing justice, Loving Kindness and walking humbly with God (Micah 6:8). '

The interfaith group I was referencing suggests a week of Kindness to help focus our attention. Here's a list of suggestions to help you practice the fruit of the Spirit that is Kindness:

- Sunday: Pray for First Responders, send a thank you note to a local fire station.
- Monday: Do a good deed or act of service. Drop off donations of nonperishable food items at Johnny Cake Center.
- Tuesday: Reach Out and Write, connect with someone who has impacted your life.
- Wednesday: Pay it Forward, repay others rather than the person that helped you. For example, pay for the person's coffee behind you in line. You could also help serve the Wednesday night meal that we offer our community.
- Thursday: Thank an Educator, recognize a teacher, mentor or school staff member that has made a difference.
- Friday: Senior Smiles, brighten the day of a senior citizen. Saturday: Neighborly Nod, do something kind for your neighbor, take their dog for a walk, bring them goodies or just spend time together!

May God bless us as we all work to build God's Kind of world. J

Shalom, Bro. Fred

The Life and Ministry of Larry & Lenore Washburn

With a title that is both descriptive and makes one smile, "The life and ministry of the Reverend and Mrs. Lawrence A. Washburn and their 33 years of ministry to the Historic Peace Dale Congregational Church UCC of South Kingstown, Rhode Island" makes for very interesting reading.

Last year we learned that Larry Washburn, who served this church for over 30 years, had written his memoirs. We encouraged him to send a copy to us for an opportunity to read them. Darlene Hermes saw this as an important document to have permanently with Peace Dale Congregational Church and worked diligently with Larry to bring this to a final product. This "book" provides an intriguing view into a young man growing up on a farm in Connecticut, but called to serve God as a minister and how he found his way to Peace Dale Congregational Church. It provides stories of how he helped this church to grow and become a major part of community, leading in providing subsidized and elderly housing. He also gives insight into the church, community and national social movements.

Larry led a varied an interesting life, continuing to farm in South County, and learned to sail not long before he retired. Sailing became one of his and Lenore's major ventures in retirement. But he never really retired as he became a full-time minister in Florida and then an interim minister into his late 80s. He and Lenore continue their life adventure today.

CHECK IT OUT!

One copy of this "book" is available for check out in the Church Office at MaryLou's desk. It is available to take home for a few days or a week but we request you to return it soon so that it will be available to many. Check it out, read it, sign it, and return it for the next reader. Enjoy!

→ **If you want to read it but are unable to come by the church, call the office (789-7313) to see what we can work out.**

Coat Give Away 1/28

As you may know, an aspiring Eagle Scout from Troop 138 ran a coat drive over the Christmas holiday and presented what was donated to PDCC. There are many gently worn but lovely winter coats, blankets, some clothing, children's toys and gloves, scarves and hats.

We have dispersed many of the gloves, scarves and hats through the Dinner Table. Now we are planning a coat giveaway for Saturday, January 28th. We will be advertising to our Dinner Table guests, to Jonnycake members, and through social media. (Ad is below.)

If you have clean, gently worn coats, hats, scarves and gloves that **you would like to donate, we will gladly accept them. Prior to Jan. 27th**, please leave them on the table at the bottom of the stairs headed to the bottom floor. (The same location for bazaar items.)

If you are interested in volunteering on the 28th for the give away or for set up on Friday, the 27th starting at 6:00 PM, please text Wally (401-258-2114) or Sylvia (401-439-3541).

**Coat Give-Away
Saturday, January 28th, 2023
9AM - 12 PM**

Peace Dale Congregational Church
261 Columbia Street



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

If you need a warm coat to finish out the winter season, come to Peace Dale Church's Coat Giveaway. We have gently used coats, blankets, scarves, hats, gloves, some clothes and children's toys.

**Take what you need.
Donations to the Peace Dale Dinner Table
accepted, but not required.**

Church Family Life Events



Dine with Nine Sign up by JANUARY 29TH

This FEBRUARY 10TH, 11TH, or 12th, Church Family Life (CFL) would like to invite everyone to a Dine with Nine. The idea is to share a potluck meal and friendly conversation with 8 (or 6 or 9) other people from the church family – make new friends and see old ones, welcome newer members, talk with people you might not have engaged with, put names to faces you see at Sunday Service or one of our programs.

Our event in November was a great success with 35 people participating. A lot of fun was had by all!! Let your Light Shine!

Sign up in Fellowship Hall by Jan. 29th for your preferred date: FEBRUARY 10TH, 11TH, or 12th.

***Please indicate if you would also like to host a Dine with Nine ***



Church Family Life Move Night!!!

January 20th, come join us to see

A MAN NAMED OTTO

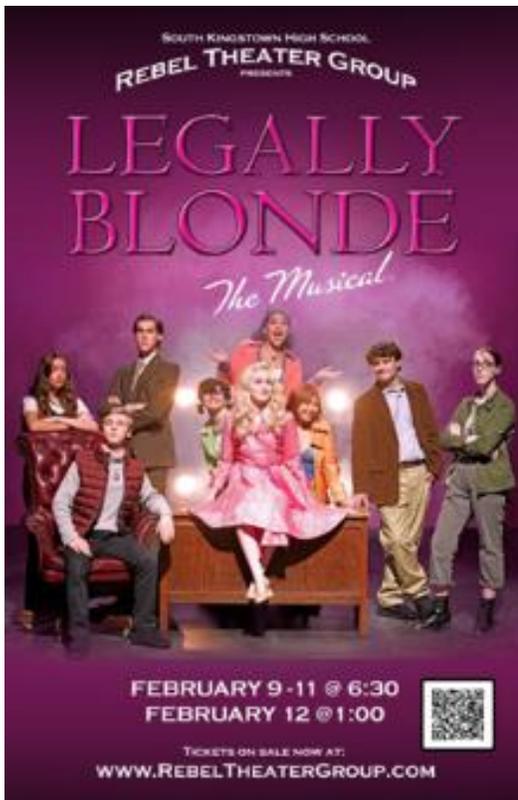
starring Tom Hanks @ South County Commons

When a lively young family moves in next door, grumpy widower Otto Anderson meets his match in a quick-witted, pregnant woman named Marisol, leading to an unlikely friendship that turns his world upside down.

FRIDAY JANUARY 20TH @ 7:15 p.m.

South County Commons @ 30 Village Square Drive, South Kingstown RI 02879

<https://allsouthcountycinemas.com/thisweek/a-man-called-otto>



South Kingstown High School Theatre

See our own Aimee Clarke in the SKHS production of "Legally Blonde" February 9 through 12. Daniel Wheeler and Brady Clarke, of our church youth, are also involved.

Buy tickets online at [this link](#) or by scanning the QR code on the poster.

Want more events?

For a list of lots more RI fun options, from sports to music, open [THIS LINK](#) .

CFL Events submitted by Jane Stabile/ Christine Grevstad

Worship Design for PDCC

Greetings from the president. This past Tuesday the executive board unanimously passed the recommendation of the Worship Design Taskforce. The board would like to thank the taskforce for their tremendous work on behalf of the congregation.

Below is the **taskforce summary** that was presented to the Executive Board for approval, followed by the **next steps** we will take to implement this recommendation as a faith family at PDCC, followed by a summary of the Congregational Worship Preference **Survey results**.

Worship design Taskforce Recommendation

The Worship Design Taskforce met five times over the course of the last five weeks. Our discussions were driven by the principles of our covenant – with respect, thought and the greatness of the church foremost. My thanks to all involved for their commitment, insight and courage.

This was not an easy task. Our congregants are passionate about their spiritual beliefs. This was reflected in the survey results and comments and within our task force members – among our fourteen participants we had advocates for every possible variation of service imaginable. However, a core guiding principle underlined our discussion – that we need to strive for excellence.

Our recommendation is to continue with one 10:00 AM service. One service each month will follow a traditional format. One service each month will be a family-oriented service that will follow either a contemporary or traditional format depending on the theme of the service. The remaining services will follow a contemporary format. We believe this format honors much of what we value and love about our church:

1. The surveys indicated that a significant majority of our congregation prefers a 10 AM service, particularly families.
2. The survey and comments, as well as the task force members, indicate that we want an established, consistent time for our service.

3. Our recommendation addresses the desire for a true Traditional service while acknowledging the strong preference for a joyful Contemporary service.
4. Having two different styles of services allows each to be excellent in those ways that are organic to their style. Without limiting either, these can briefly be summed up as contemplative reverence for the Traditional style and energetic celebration for the Contemporary style.
5. One service each month will be a Family Service. The task force unanimously agreed that the Family Services have been tremendously well received and that it will be a draw for new families - the lifeline for our church in the long run. The task force believes that the Family Service should take on the format that fits the theme of the service so that families will experience both traditional and contemporary styles.
6. The recommendation addresses the desire of many in our congregation to worship together as a united body of Christ for as long as the sanctuary allows for comfort and safety. The task force recognizes that we are a growing community (we have added 29 new members since returning from COVID) and that at some point we may need to add a second service simply to safely and comfortably accommodate all. However, we also acknowledge that at this point our attendance numbers suggest that the energy created by 100 or so attendees will be diminished by splitting that number and that recruiting inspired volunteers to conduct two services will be a major challenge.
7. Related to the previous point, one service will provide opportunities for our entire congregation to celebrate the joy of children in our congregation. Our goal is that the children of our congregation will be a part of all services.

8. One service will facilitate the following:
 - Coffee hour will be a time for our entire community to join together in fellowship and will be much easier for hospitality to run and organize.
 - CE possibilities such as adult bible study on Sunday will be easier to organize.
 - One service will allow time for our senior minister and music minister to expand their current outreach. In fact, we see it as an expectation for our ministers.
9. The future expectation of church growth is expected to be from the contemporary style of worship.

There are drawbacks to consider.

- There will be members that will be disappointed that they can't attend a traditional service each week, and those that will be disappointed that they can't attend a contemporary service each week. There is also a not insignificant minority that are in favor of a blended service. Our hope is that our church will be a place where we joyfully worship no matter what the style. In time, we may grow to a point where our attendance dictates an additional service(s). That will be a great problem to have, but we are not at that point in attendance or volunteer commitment.
- For some, 10:00 AM may be too early. But for a significant number of survey respondents it is the best time.
- The concern that we are paying our ministers for two services has been brought forward. We acknowledge that concern and thus have the expectation that the time saved in not creating and delivering two services will allow for more minister outreach.

The task force believes that we can transition to this format by Lent. We recommend that the Executive Board commission a worship planning committee headed by the deacons but inclusive of

other dedicated volunteers for each type of service that will create a general framework for each service. The deacons will then work with Fred in implementing the specific services on a month-to-month basis.

It's also important to note that we are still emerging for COVID and that churches in general, as will our congregation, will need to evolve and change. This format is not etched in a tablet delivered to Moses.

As noted above, this was a difficult decision. I want to thank all of the participants in the task force: Sylvia Blanda, Barbara Gilbert, Jeff Healy, Eve Keenan, Meg Kolodziej, Don and Val Lowell, Kerri McCarty, Jane Stabile, Kateri Wheeler, as well as Fred Evenson and Nathaniel Baker as staff. They were wonderful to work with.

Respectfully,
Peter Swain on behalf of the Worship Design Task Force

Next steps

The Executive Board is now assembling two new groups – one to plan the structure of the traditional service and one to plan the structure of the contemporary service. We want each group to consist of members that are passionate about the service they are planning and that have the long-range success of the church in their heart.

The Board has assembled a preliminary group of members that will be recruiting additional members. If you have an interest, or a recommendation, please see either Jeff Healy, Peter Swain or Pastor Fred. These will be small groups that will need to work with diligent speed to be ready be for Lent. Accordingly, we will want to be selective and balanced in this assignment.

Respectfully,
Peter Swain, President, On Behalf of the Executive Board

Congregational Worship Preferences

Results of PDCC survey 2/27/22 are based on the 28 surveys received.

* means the item/s scored high within this category

Top Priority ... frequent thing at PDCC.... [example: more than 1x month!]

Choir music specifically connected to fit sermon theme

Detailed slides tied to illustrate specific sermons

Using different versions or ways to present scripture

Second Priority ... regular but not weekly thing at PDCC [example: 1x month]

*Participatory worship involving the congregation actively [hands, cards, verbal]

*Using live ZOOM to include people worshipping at home.

*Sermon and service theme tied to current events

*Sermon and service theme tied to Christian Living

Interactive responses from congregation during the sermons

Service length of 60 minutes or 50 minutes [9 people circled 60minutes]

Sunday focus on an in-depth examination of a single scripture

Reflection/Message spread through the service

Physical interaction to mark special events/celebrations [ex: Shalom at end of last service]

Physical interaction for prayer [ex: the Blessing Circle as benediction for last service]

Pastor greets congregants as they enter Fellowship Hall

Third Priority... occasional thing at PDCC [example: 3-4 x year]

*Honoring Individuals or groups within worship service

*Opportunity for "Acts of Faith" within worship [ex: dissolving paper/letting go in last service]

*Interpretative scripture in unusual ways [Interactive Jonah Scripture w/slides and sound effects]

*Embodied prayer [specific body motions connected w/prayer words and theme]

*Printed copies of the sermons available [6 people wrote in suggestions of putting it online]

*Live interaction with home worshippers visible on screen [via Zoom]

Spiritual Study

Congregational Calendar for a month of corporate prayer [topics or people]

No priority

Evenly split on Benediction from the back or front!

Side Note: Nothing on the survey had an AVERAGE response of preferring not to do it again, but a few surveys scored an occasional individual item as "please do not do it again."

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observances

January 22 @ 10 am

Three women from the Langston Hughes Center – April Brown, Kai Cameron and Eugenie Rose Belony – are presenting Langston Hughes' poetry on Sunday, January 22, at 10 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County (27 North Road)).

January 25 @ 6 pm

Harriet Tubman: A one-woman presentation of by Janice Curtis Greene. Poster (right)

January 29 @ 10 am

Internationally-lauded and award-winning Brazilian-American storyteller Antonio Rocha is presenting on January 29, at 10 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County (27 North Road).

Submitted by Don Hermes

RHODE ISLAND BLACK STORYTELLERS PRESENTS:

FUNDA FEST 25 JANUARY 14-29, 2023
A SANKOFA CELEBRATION OF BLACK STORYTELLING

HARRIET TUBMAN

A one-woman presentation by
JANICE CURTIS GREENE

Wednesday, January 25
South Kingstown High School
215 Columbia St, Wakefield, RI 02879
6 - 7:30 p.m.

In anticipation of
the PBS documentary
**HARRIET TUBMAN
VISIONS OF FREEDOM**

Airing February 12 at 9 p.m.
on WSBE Rhode Island PBS



Rhode Island PBS **RIBS**
In collaboration with
Beloved Community Advisory Board of South Kingstown

fundafest.org

PDCC YOUTH GROUP SUPER BOWL

BOWLING, BURGERS, and FRIES

February 5 at 5 PM OLD MOUNTAIN LANES

To SIGN UP, CONTACT Meg KOLODZIEJ (MegKOLODZIEJ1@GMAIL.COM).





PDCC Youth Winter Calendar 2023

January

- 1 Sunday Happy New Year—No Youth Connect
- 8 Sunday Youth Connect 10 am
- 15 Sunday Martin Luther King Weekend—No Youth Connect
- 22 Sunday Family Service 10 am
- 29 Sunday Youth Connect 10 am

February

- 5 Sunday Youth Connect 10 am
Youth Group Old Mountain Lanes 5 pm
- 12 Sunday Youth Connect 10 am
- 19 Sunday School Winter Break—No Youth Connect
- 25 Saturday Youth Group Shelter Sleepover 2/25-2/26 PDCC
- 26 Sunday Family Service 10 am

March

- 5 Sunday Youth Connect 10 am
- 12 Sunday Youth Connect 10 am
- 19 Sunday Youth Connect 10 am
- 25 Saturday Youth Group PDCC 6:30 pm
- 26 Sunday Family Service 10 am

All preschool through high school students are welcome. For more information, please contact Meg Kolodziej (megkolodziejri@gmail.com).

Following massive flooding across nearly three-quarters of the country, the United Church of Christ is issuing an appeal in support of the people of Pakistan. Pakistan has been enduring severe monsoon weather since June, with rainfall equivalent to 2.9 times the national 30-year average. To date, more than half of the country's 160 districts have been declared 'calamity hit' by the government, a number that is expected to increase as rain and flooding continues.

With more than 33 million people affected by the flooding so far and an estimated 6.4 million in need of humanitarian assistance, this response is greatly needed. Through our membership in the ACT Alliance and contributions to its Rapid Response Fund, the United Church of Christ is already supporting early relief efforts. Emergency food and water, medical supplies, temporary shelter kits, and protective services are being offered by ACT members Community World Service Asia and Norwegian Church Aid.

Your gift to the United Church of Christ's Pakistan Response Fund will help maintain this relief work and support the long-term recovery for vulnerable persons and affected communities. Farmers and livestock owners will receive the seeds, feed, and vaccines they need to restore their livelihoods. Pregnant women – of whom an estimated 650,000 are affected – will receive maternal health services. Protection services will ensure the creation of safe



Figure 1: Shelter Kits being distributed

spaces for children and other vulnerable populations. Psychosocial support and trauma resources will be provided. Through our work with global partners and the ACT Alliance, your gift will be joined with others to bring hope, healing, and a helping hand to our neighbors in Pakistan.

Please place your donation in the Mission of the Month basket during worship services – or click the give now button – and our collective donation will be sent to this fund.

Additional information is available on the United Church of Christ website at <https://www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/pakistan-emergency-appeal/>

Thank you, The Missions Board
Submitted by Suzanne Faucher

Give now



Figure 2: Health Worker sharing awareness

Donate Supplies to Church World Service Kit Projects

Please help us collect supplies! When Women's Fellowship met in September, we decided to continue the Church World Service (CWS) Kit Projects our church has participated in for years.

Last year, with donations from the PDCC congregation, we assembled 39 Hygiene Kits and 28 School Kits. In 2021, CWS distributed 83,760 Hygiene Kits and 33,240 School Kits to disaster victims, families in refugee camps, and impoverished communities in our country and around the world.

Supplies needed for Hygiene Kits



- Cotton hand towel (approx. 15x28 to 16x32)
- Sturdy wide-tooth comb with at least 6" of teeth
- Fingernail or toenail clipper
- Bath size bar of soap in original package
- Toothbrush in original package
- 10 standard size Band-Aids
- (We have enough face cloths)

Supplies needed for School Kits



- Blunt round-tip scissors
- 3 70-count bound notebooks totaling 200-210 pages
- 12-inch rulers
- Large erasers (no pencil cap erasers)
- Unsharpened pencils with erasers
- Boxes with 24 crayons
- (We have enough handheld pencil sharpeners)

We also need handmade cotton bags/cloth handles for School Kits. See Sally Bradley for the pattern.

Join us! Women's Fellowship meets the second Thursday of the month @ 10am in Hoxie Lounge.



year's totals!

Kit supplies can be left in the Boxes at the church entrance and in Fellowship Hall. Most items can be found at Job Lot or the Dollar Store. We spend our January to March meetings assembling the kits which are delivered in April. Hopefully with your help, we can beat last

Submitted by Judy Healy



Breeze: The Church Directory

Every member of and active participant in the church should be able to access Breeze, which is the directory of our church with names and contact information for all of us.

You may use the directory for church business (contacting others on your committee, calling someone because you have forgotten what you said you would bring to an event, etc.) As the "Look Up Contributions" article shows, Breeze also offers some convenient information to you.

- Go to Breeze through the web at peacedalechurch.breezechms.com
- Breeze is linked from the church website on the News page at peacedalechurch.org/news
- Breeze is also available through a downloadable app (search breezechms).
- Accessing Breeze requires that you have an account and password.

If you do not have a Breeze account, please contact Darlene at dhermes44@gmail.com

Submitted by Darlene Hermes

Ways to Support PDCC

Amazon Smile for PDCC



Generate donations to the church when you shop on smile.amazon.com

and select Peace Dale Congregational Church as your benefit organization.

Gift Cards with a Kick



RaiseRight™ Every retailer gives money back to the

Formerly ShopWithScrip

church for the money you spend.

- RaiseRight table sales will be available on Sundays in Fellowship Hall after worship.

Thanks to all for your continued support throughout 2022 and enjoy the Christmas season with family and friends!!! Here's a link to the full listing of cards available...

<https://www.raiseright.com/shop>

Questions? Contact Deb Shaw at dkshaw5@cox.net



Prayer Matters...

Prayer Matters in the E-Light provides a way to share a request for prayer more broadly within the PDCC community.

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 contact Rene Lamontagne at her number found in Breeze. These requests are shared only with members of this group.
- To request your prayer be included in the published **Prayer Matters** in the weekly E-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, Wakefield RI 02879

(401) 789-7313

peacedalechurch.org

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