



Peace Dale

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*An Open and Affirming Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

E-Light Newsletter

September 30, 2020

Hope

**Hope is the light,
and shining from afar,
leads onward,
as though a guiding star.**

**Hope is the anchor:
holds our vessel fast
in troubled seas
until the storm is past.**

**Hope, like the seed
that sleeping in the earth,
holds life within,
and promise of rebirth.**

**Hope, the caterpillar's
dream of flight
fulfilled with outspread wings
and colors bright.**

**Hope is the spark
that turns our faith to flame
and leads us each
to service in His name.**

- Cate Ludlam



Aprons in Action



Congratulations to Gabby Klensch

Gabby has been chosen as the recipient of the South County Habitat for Humanity's Mark Smith Volunteer of the Year Award. Gabby has been an active volunteer with the organization since 2015. She volunteers in many capacities, cashiering at the SC Habitat ReStore, answering phones, and processing donations for resale.

Gabby has also been a strong volunteer advocate, recruiting others to join this wonderful organization. Congratulations Gabby!

★ Youth Group Opening Game Night Recap ★

The PDCC Youth Group kicked off a new year with a game night. Prior to the event, gift bags were delivered to welcome the participating middle and high school students. Tom, Ed, and I welcomed a wonderful group of young people into our home via Zoom on Saturday evening for our game night. After establishing some important game night ground rules, we started the night off with an indoor scavenger hunt. Tom and I named items, one at a time, that were popular when we were teenagers and asked if the game night participants could find the items in their homes. Vinyl record albums, cassette tapes and Rubik's Cubes proved to be the most difficult items to find while stamps (remember sending letters?), paperbacks (no e-books), and, surprisingly, VHS tapes were found by almost everyone.

We also played Will It Float: The COVID-19 Edition. We predicted whether or not items that have become all too familiar to us the last few months would float, for example, a small bottle of Purell, a spool of thread (used for making masks), and a plastic spice jar (representing all of the cooking we've been doing). Following this fun science experiment, we tested our musical knowledge during a few rounds of Name That Tune.

Wally Yong joined us halfway through the evening for a "commercial break." Wally enthusiastically promoted the Pumpkins with a Purpose Patch (now open everyday through October 31 from 10:30 am until dusk to benefit the Welcome House). Next to Wally's appearance, one of the highlights of the evening was a game we called Word It Out. We created word clouds using words that describe ourselves and words that describe our lives right now.

The evening ended with a game of charades. Our talented group not only impressed us with their acting, they made us laugh and happy that we had signed up for game night. Our next event will be a movie night on October 24, 2020. Kateri Wheeler and Caroline Zedella are helping us organize this event. Stay tuned for more information. -Meg Kolodziej

First Virtual Annual Meeting of the Southern New England UCC Conference

This meeting was held via Zoom last Saturday and attended by Pastor Fred and three delegates from our church: Wally Young, Deb Shaw and Joanne Haynes. There was amazing worship, inspiring speakers and efficiently executed business. And a new Executive Minister for the Conference was elected.

https://www.ucc.org/news_goodwin_elected_first_executive_conference_minister_in_ucc_southern_new_england_conference_09292020?utm_campaign=kyp_sept29_20&utm_medium=email&utm_source=unitedchurchofchrist

To see more about the meeting go to this link: <https://www.sneucc.org/newsdetail/first-virtual-annual-meeting-a-success-new-executive-conference-minister-appointed-14316636>

Dinner Table Update and Information!

Please visit this link for a very important and long anticipated update regarding the PDCC Dinner Table!

<http://www.peacedalechurch.org/wp-content/PDCC/dinnertableupdate.pdf>

For information on how to order a meal, please see this second link:

<http://www.peacedalechurch.org/wp-content/PDCC/DinnerTableReboot.pdf>

To learn how you can help with the dinner table please see this link:

<http://www.peacedalechurch.org/wp-content/PDCC/DinnerTableHelpNeeded.pdf>

"Let your smile change the world; but, don't let the world change your smile."

-Kathy Rancourt

UPDATE FROM THE COVID TASK FORCE

The Covid Task Force (CTF) met yesterday, September 29th to discuss the recent Covid virus data and how it affects our efforts to reopen the church. We have all heard the Governors campaign to “Take It Outside” and we considered the possibility of having an outside worship service. However, there was great concern about the recent spike in the positivity rate of the virus in Rhode Island. There has been a significant outbreak at Providence College, and many students at URI, particularly in the Greek Life system, have also tested positive. Plus yesterday the Pawtucket School District reversed its decision to return to in-person learning due to an outbreak in one of their school buildings. The other area of consideration was how much work would be involved to have the outdoor worship. It would take considerable coordination with advanced sign-ups of members and families, assigned seating, strict social distance requirements, just to name a few. The CTF was very concerned about the safety of meeting in person at this time, so the recommendation was to begin the planning process for in-person worship in the church when it is safe to do so.

The CTF is in the process of putting together three documents for the executive board’s consideration. The first is the parameters we are following that will help us determine when it is safe to resume worship services. Important data to consider is the positivity rate of the virus in Rhode Island and especially in southern Rhode Island. The other is the R factor, which is a measurement of the virus’ capacity to spread.

The second document will be the protocols we will have to follow to ensure the safety of those who attend services. We will be following the state’s guidelines to reopening religious services, which can be found here.

https://reopeningri.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Religious-Service-Phase-3_Final.pdf?189db0&189db0

We will also be considering our conferences guidelines which you can find here.

<https://www.sneucc.org/phasingforward>

The last document will include the volunteers needed to help with worship services. This will need to be an integrated plan with input from all boards and committees. We know that when we return to worshipping inside the church, the services will look very different, but with the efforts of our wonderful church members and faith community, we will be able to worship our Lord Jesus Christ in person again.

Faithfully submitted by Carol Vetter, Church President

**Green Team
Wednesday, 9/30/20, Zoom
Meeting at 6:30 p.m.**

**“OUR MISSION IS TO PROMOTE
CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PRACTICES IN OUR CHURCH, OUR
HOMES, AND OUR COMMUNITIES.”**

**We invite all interested persons to our
ZOOM meeting (contact Don Hermes,
dhermes33@gkmail.com to be invited)**

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Please read about and consider signing this petition supported and promoted by the national UCC that addresses “racism as a public health crisis. The disparities that have existed for centuries in health outcomes for Black and Brown communities have been painfully highlighted amidst the pandemic.” Become aware and click to make a difference.

https://p2a.co/d0MEqzV?fbclid=IwAR1ovHF77yqZh9K17yNeA-0YHvuyMp6mAZgKmoZs_qjpL5Fgj2lvWrURx30

Stages of Freedom an organization out of Providence provides workshops, speakers, live performances, historical walking tours, youth swimming lessons and exhibits on black life and culture.

Here is a refreshing link from Stages of Freedom. Listen to the Broadway star Norm Lewis sing “No One is Alone” by Stephen Sondheim.

<https://www.stagesoffreedom.org/forum/make-new-friends/listen-to-broadway-star-norm-lewis-sing-no-one-is-alone-by-stephen-sondheim>

The Pumpkins have arrived!

It was amazing to watch over 3,500 pumpkins to be unloaded and arranged on pallets all over the church lawn and sidewalks. There were over 65 volunteers of all ages taking part in this process.

Special thanks to:

- Sodco for delivering and lending over 130 pallets and for providing a forklift for unloading many, many, boxes of pumpkins
- Emmet Johnson from Sodco for delivering and unloading the pallets
- Richard Hodgson for unloading the pumpkins with the forklift and delivering boxes all over the patch while avoiding all the volunteers
- Chris Smith from Whalers for not only providing a Whalers pallet jack but spending the afternoon moving double stack boxes on pallets to the back of the trailer for the forklift to unload
- Pet Swain for traffic and ground control getting the pumpkin boxes to the correct location and having volunteers there to empty the boxes.
- Don Lowell for breaking down over 75 huge double lined thick cardboard boxes and stacking them out of the way for recycling
- Jet Vert and Greg Blasdel for setting up the timers, cords, posts and lights to illuminate our Pumpkin Patch each evening
- Steve Stabile for installing our banner at the Church ST corner and installing our rain shelter canopy
- 85 volunteers unloading pumpkins and arranging them on pallets
- 7 URI SAE Fraternity Brothers for unloading and placing over 130 pallets on the church lawn in under 30 minutes
- Over 30 SAE Brothers and other URI students unloading and placing the pumpkins all over the church lawn and sidewalks
- Tom Kolodziej for helping install our banner and always filling in empty spaces with new pumpkins
- Many others who spent 3 hours unloading, placing and making our Pumpkin Patch such a beautiful October community event
- All of you who support our Patch with purchases and volunteer time to greet our visitors and sell Pumpkins With A Purpose to benefit Welcome House and the Navajo Reservation workers in Farmington New Mexico that grow our beautiful pumpkins

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

YOUTH CONNECT

The staffing for our Youth Connect Sunday service this week 10/4 has expanded - Wahoo! Come share your morning with Aimee leading the candle lighting; Brady in the design and execution of an ice breaker activity; Daniel in 2 roles, adding a piece of music and teaching us the Lord's Prayer in sign language and Dante leading us through the closing prayer. Let's not forget Scott's discussion of the story. I am on the search for more participants. IT COULD BE YOU!!

This week we will hear the story of Joseph (not Mary's husband) who was a relative of Sarah and Abraham whom we've been learning about. Joseph had 11 brothers. WOW! We learn about his being his father's favorite, some of Joseph's dreams and an amazing coat his father gave him. All of these create one BIG SITUATION! Come and find out what happens to Joseph. An amazing story. It should be on TV.

If you want to show something during the talent portion have it ready to go. We love folks who pre-tape a talent like singing, dancing, showing and explaining something they've made (how about a Lego design or an invention) or anything musical or a short poem or something you've written. The Lord welcomes all your efforts. Plus we love to celebrate them! Just let me know so we can schedule you. We only have the service once a month now. If you have something less complicated, like showing a picture you made or telling us something - you don't have to pre-schedule. So start thinking of your way to participate and start practicing and/or producing!

Get your lights ready, set your calendar for Sunday, 10/4 at 9:30 AM and be ready to laugh and enjoy being together. Jane

The Zoom link will be sent to parents by Sat. and again on Sunday AM.

ARE YOU A "SOMEONE"?

So Mary and Martha sent someone to tell Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." (John 11:3)

In our apron-wearing church, there are many ways that we show our love for others; letting our light shine. We offer food and belongings to the poor in spirit. We strive to be good stewards of God's creation as we can. We comfort the sick and lowly with shawls. We teach our children about the love of Christ. The list goes on...

And we also have a team whose task it is to lift up the names of those with needs to God in prayer.

Do you remember the story of the one who, on a day long ago, went to Jesus on behalf of a friend who was sick? In that moment, no other action was more vital than letting Jesus know that HIS friend was sick. Yes, someone went to Jesus on behalf of Lazarus. And because someone went, Jesus responded, and a miracle happened.

God moves through our prayers to accomplish HIS great good in the lives of HIS people. One of the best ways to love others is to pray for them, because through our praying we open the door to the help only God can provide. When we pray for others, we love them in HIS strength.

Our faithful circle of pray-ers also let Jesus know the names of those who need healing, love, support, and comfort. Our prayer "warriors" are being someone! And we welcome all who wish to join in.

With gratitude to Max Lucado and the Holy Spirit for inspiration

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Will meet via Zoom on Thursday, October 8th at 10 AM. Come for some discussion a bit of devotion and to meet other church ladies. We need to catch up!! Open to all ladies, should we discuss adding men?

Join Zoom Women's Fellowship Meeting
10/8 at 10 AM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86352964057>

Meeting ID: 863 5296 4057

Upcoming Worship Services, Meetings, & Events at Peace Dale Church

Prayer Circle meeting via Zoom – Tuesdays at 9:30am (ongoing weekly meetings)

Prayer Shawl Gathering Via Zoom – Fridays at 2:30pm (ongoing weekly meetings)

Youth Connect Via Zoom – Sunday October 4 at 9:30AM

Zoom Fellowship Meeting: Sunday, October 4 at 10:00AM

Online Worship Service via YouTube on Sundays

Please send Ashley items for the church calendar at
office@peacedalechurch.org



We would like to wish a happy birthday to the following people:

Rebecca Nonnenmacher	10/01	Timothy Ulmschneider	10/11
George Morse	10/01	Jack Totten	10/11
Mary Ellen Morse	10/01	Margaret Douglas	10/12
Susan Lawson	10/02	Robert Ramaker	10/12
Walter Prescott	10/05	Sven Soderberg	10/12
Jesse Humes	10/05	Matthew Turco	10/13
Olivia Finnegan	10/07	Jacquelyn Kanis	10/13
Max Cummiskey	10/08	Gail Hopfer	10/14
Nancy Hays	10/09	James Balnaves	10/14
Eric Carlson	10/10	David Nelson	10/14
Jason Bamford	10/10	Daniel McGovern	10/14
Edward Lawson	10/11		



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PDCC Now on Amazon Smile

Please see the following link to read more about what Amazon Smile is and how to use it!

<http://peacedalechurch.org/wp-content/PDCC/amazonsmileinfo.pdf>



Donate to PDCC from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader to give through PayPal. Thank you



Peace Dale

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Our Mission Statement:

"EMPOWERED BY GOD'S GRACE, WE WELCOME ALL, LOVE ALL,
AND SEEK JUSTICE FOR ALL. UNITED IN SPIRIT, THE JOURNEY MAKES US ONE."

SENIOR MINISTER:

THE REV. A. FRED EVENSON

FRED.E@MAC.COM

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

NATHANIEL BAKER

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

CHERYL VON EHRENKROOK

TODDLER CARE PROVIDER:

LAUREL SMITH

SEXTON:

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VOLUNTEER YOUTH CONNECT ADMINISTRATOR:

MEG KOLODZIEJ

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PASTOR EMERITUS:

DR. LAWRENCE A. WASHBURN

**Be sure to visit our website
for all sorts of information related to PDCC!
peacedalechurch.org**

PDCC welcomes your input.

*If you have anything you'd like included in the newsletter, please forward your request(s)
to the church office (before noon the day before the newsletter is published)*

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