



Peace Dale

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

E-Light Newsletter

August 5, 2020

UPDATE FROM THE COVID TASK FORCE

The COVID task force has begun meeting to discuss the criteria for reopening our church building and returning to in-person worship. We will be taking a very data driven approach and studying the statistics published by the Rhode Island Department of Health. We will also be using the phased-in approach as outlined by the Southern New England UCC Conference's Guidelines : <https://www.sneucc.org/phasingforward>

One important statistic is achieving eight weeks of a continual decline in the COVID case counts in Rhode Island. Last week we experienced an increase in case counts, so we are definitely not there yet. But the good work of the church continues. We will proceed with our online Sunday worship service as well as holding meetings by zoom.

We pray for patience and hope in this very difficult time. As it is written in Galatians 6:9, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Pastor Fred Evenson

Eve Keenan

John Golberg

Joanne Haynes

Carol Vetter

Aprons in Action



We are fortunate to have many stewards of our church building. This week we would like to thank Joe Fink for all his hard work and dedication. Whether it's working with our landscapers or finding a company to fix a leak in the roof, Joe is on the job.

Thank you, Joe!

The Green Team has been meeting to further our mission "to promote conservation and environmental practices in our church, our homes, and our communities." To that end we are examining our practices regarding recycling and composting in the kitchen to avoid waste and limit any use of Styrofoam.

We are promoting recycling education by encouraging wider viewing of the informational videos from the Johnston Landfill:

- A. **Sorting and processing recyclables**, https://youtu.be/Jda_9_30-WU
- B. **Building a safe landfill**, <https://youtu.be/RYhQQziYA3s>
- C. **Composting at the landfill**, <https://youtu.be/dVK7jgZC74E>
- D. **Hazardous waste disposal**, <https://youtu.be/rqzHixZZr0Y>

We are also promoting wider awareness of climate change by making available the book Climate Church, Climate World by Jim Antal and encouraging reading and discussion. The book is available at the church.

Some of our group attended a webinar by Climate Action Rhode Island to learn more about how we can support change in the way our society uses energy and specifically taking action against the investments in fossil fuels. Chase Bank heads the list of banks investing in fossil fuel, while Washington Trust heads the list of banks that do not.

We are continuing to pursue potential programs and speakers to further awareness of climate change and broaden our efforts at promoting green practices in our church and wider community.

Improving our Communication with our members and volunteers

Peace Dale Congregational Church is moving to a new Church Management System called Breeze, that will provide numerous benefits to our congregation. As we have learned from the past months where social distancing has moved us more and more to working remotely, we need to have systems in place to allow us to communicate with each other in new ways. Here is a brief list of the benefits of this new system:

1. It will improve our communication with members and volunteers by better organizing our member and volunteer data and providing for communication through mail, email, phone and text.
2. It will create a single, accurate database to provide a church directory. This will eventually replace the Church on-line directory.
3. Breeze is a cloud-based system that runs on computer, phone or I-pad
4. The program allows membership and church participant information to be easily loaded into and accessed by administrators to create groups, directories, and reports. Individual users can access their own information, such as giving records, as well as church directories.
5. Breeze will take our current data and import it into our Breeze system.
6. It will facilitate the organization of small groups, committees, and volunteers such as those who participate in the Dinner Table each week.
7. A new calendaring system will better communicate activities, meetings, etc at PDCC
8. It will consolidate all our financial information in one place so that you as an individual giver can see a report of what you are giving. And pledging can be done through this new application as well.
9. Members and volunteers will be able to access information from the system remotely through a computer or phone application. When the system is fully functional you will receive an invitation to become a user.

The migration of our church data will occur over the next several months, in phases, with a target to have the new system fully functional by mid-October. Along the way the system will be thoroughly tested to make sure it is operating as expected before moving fully to the new system.

Joanne Haynes is the project manager and Darlene Hermes is the technical manager. She is working closely with the Deacons to make sure the data in our membership roles is accurate and with David Nelson and Mary Louise McMillan to assure that all financial data and operations are covered.

Updates on our progress will be reported in subsequent E-light articles.

We look forward to this new church management system making all our operations and communication a BREEZE!



Peace Dale Congregational Church

Story Hour

Sunday mornings at 10
via Zoom
July 26 – August 16

If interested, please contact our
Youth Connect Preschool Teacher
Susan Krochin at skrochin@hotmail.com
for more information.



Curbside Pick Up for Scrip will be held this Sunday August 9th from 12:30-2:00pm.

Since we have started Curbside pick-up in June, we have had over \$11,000 in sales!!!

Please contact Deb Shaw (dkshaw5@cox.net) with any questions. Thanks for supporting SCRIP and PDCC!!

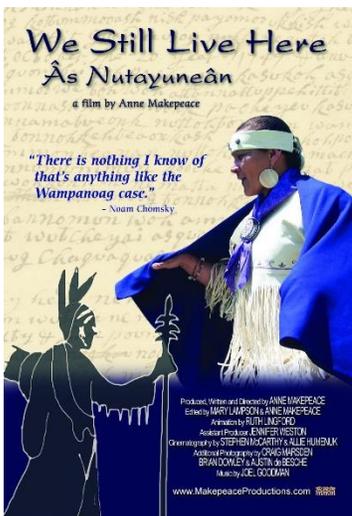


Helping Families Stay in Their Homes

Please see the following link for more detailed information about this month's mission, Neighbors Helping Neighbors RI <http://www.peacedalechurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/NeighborsHelpingNeighbors.pdf>

Job Posting

The Board of Christian Education is looking for a new Director of Youth Group(s). To view more about this job posting, please see the following link. <http://www.peacedalechurch.org/wp-content/PDCC/PDCCjobposting.pdf>



Documentary Discussions

Next week, August 12th, we will be watching *We Still Live Here - Âs Nutayuneân*, a documentary about the cultural revival of the Wampanoag Tribe and specifically their work to bring back their formerly lost language.

The stream will begin at 5:30pm with the discussion following at 7pm.

As always please [SIGN UP](#) for the email list in order to receive the link to the stream and discussion.

Hope to see you there!

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)

Zoom Fellowship Meeting: Sunday, August 9 at 10:00AM

Zoom Story Hour: Sunday, August 9 at 10:00 AM

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:

Nathan Erban	08/05	Mary Lou Northup	08/13
Marin Holden	08/06	Ellen LaPlante	08/13
Artemis Ramaker	08/07	Anna Nerbonne	08/14
Sandra Robinson	08/07	Corinne Baud	08/14
Amy Fratiello	08/07	Grace Levi	08/16
Sharon Lankford	08/07	Teagen Bannon	08/17
Earl Clarke Jr.	08/11	Heather Etter	08/17
Luke Lacilla	08/11	Kim Salisbury-Keith	08/17
Catherine Beazley	08/12	Natalie Hunter	08/17
Arthur Dawley	08/12	Joan Machata	08/18
Lloyd Beckmann	08/12	Thomas Ford	08/19



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>



**Follow us on
Facebook!**

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



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. Thanks



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:

MARY DEPIETRO

VOLUNTEER YOUTH CONNECT ADMINISTRATOR:

MEG KOLODZIEJ

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

ASHLEY DIGREGORIO

OFFICE@PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG

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)*

**261 COLUMBIA STREET, PEACE DALE, RI PHONE 401-789-7313 WEB PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG
EMAIL OFFICE@PEACEDALECHURCH.ORG**