



Peace Dale
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PDCC E-Light Newsletter

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

February 27, 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

Ann Northrup
Gail Twombly
George Faucher
Lori Heald
Trish Van Cleef
Andrew Burnap
Carolyn Curtis

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peacedalechurch.org

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

Last Week's E-Light

peacedalechurch.org/e-li

Transfiguration Sunday and Ash Wednesday *Luke 9:28-43*

This Sunday we will remember the story of Jesus' Transfiguration. What is that about, you ask? I invite you to read it before worship (it is included in the reading cited above). One question becomes, are we sleepily going through the motions of faith, or are we making it a point to live it out on a daily basis, including through prayer? What does your prayer life look like?

And next week we will hold an Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30 pm. This can be a great way to officially begin your Lenten Journey. At this service, you will be given the opportunity to receive the ashes on your forehead or on your hand (if you so choose). This service has kind of a contemplative feel, where music is played, words are spoken and sung, candles are lit and prayers are offered.

Hopefully, I'll see you at both services.

Peace and Joy, Brother Fred



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5 at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary

We invite you to an evening of introspection and contemplation. Please come and join us in sharing of quiet prayer, music and the sacramental ashes to begin our Lenten season. This experience will begin at 6:30pm and end at 7:30pm. Join us for all or a portion of this worship opportunity. The sharing of Ashes is a simple, vivid and tangible reminder of our humanness and our mortality. Through this tradition may we be reminded of God's grace and may it enhance our faith.



Worship Flowers

The flowers of February 23 were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Patti's parents, Bob and Barbara Moore, by Barry and Patti Gross.

The flowers of March 2 are given by Beth Morse in memory of the Morse and Martin families.

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.

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On the Calendar

No Praise Team or Traditional choir rehearsals this week.

Sunday, March 2 @ 10am
Traditional Worship with communion.

Sunday, March 2 @ after worship Eggstravaganza planning meeting

Sunday, March 2 @ 4pm
Piano Recital

Sunday, March 2 @ 5pm
Youth Bowling

Wednesday, March 5 @ 6:30pm
Ash Wednesday service

Sunday, March 9 @ 4pm
Piano Recital

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

Big Soup Party Thank You!



We had a blast – and a full house – Sunday with the Big Soup Party to benefit Dinner Table. One attendee said it was like Rocky Point: long tables of good food and sitting

with people you maybe didn't know but got to talk to. Thank you, thank you to all who cooked, helped, attended, and contributed. We did good for the Dinner Table budget so we can continue to provide sustenance and community.

Please make sure to **TAKE YOUR SOUP POT HOME** if you brought one. See the table in Fellowship Hall. Wally and Sylvia

Also, thank you to everyone who helped baked wonderful desserts.

Besides looking very pretty, they were so very yummy! We had over 25 people who helped this table look and taste so good. Thank you, Gabby





A JOURNEY IN MUSIC: FROM TIMELESS CLASSICS TO FRESH ORIGINALS

**TWO LIVE MUSICAL PERFORMANCES AT
PEACE DALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

KEYS & CLASSICS: A SOLO PIANO RECITAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND AT 4:00 PM

A SELECTION OF TIMELESS MASTERPIECES BY
BACH, LISZT, CHOPIN, BRAHMS, & VILLA-LOBOS.
FEATURING GERSHWIN'S RHAPSODY IN BLUE
– A CROWD FAVORITE!

~featuring~

**NATHANIEL
BAKER**
SOLO PIANO

SOME ORIGINAL SONGS

SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH AT 4:00 PM

A LIVE PERFORMANCE FEATURING OVER
20 ORIGINAL SONGS BY NATHANIEL BAKER
WITH A CONTEMPORARY FLAIR
– A REFRESHING DEPARTURE FROM CLASSICAL MUSIC.

BOTH CONCERTS ARE FREE WITH A RECOMMENDED DONATION OF \$20

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT BOTH THE CHURCH'S
MUSIC TEACHING PROGRAM AND NEWPORT SINGS

**PDCC & KCC Youth Group
Super Bowl**

Bowling, Burgers, and Fries

March 2 from 5 to 7 pm Old Mountain Lanes

To sign up, contact Meg Kolodziej (megkolodziejri@gmail.com)
or Vivian Skipper (vivian.skipper@yahoo.com)

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)

Help Assemble Church World Service Kits

We will be assembling kits on Thursday, March 13 @ 10am. Feel free to join us!

We will be assembling for the next two months (second Thursday @ 10am). 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

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. But 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. Newly created blankets can be dropped off at the atrium at the Senior Center.

Tues. 3/11 from 9AM – 3:30 PM RI Compost Conference & Trade Show at Rhode Island College hosted by RIC & the RI Food Policy Council brings together food waste generators, composters, food recovery organizations, regulators, legislators, and the public to network, to trade ideas and learn more about compost and the food waste ecosystem. Help us advance wasted food solutions in Rhode Island! \$40 adjustable. Info at <https://www.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:

<https://www.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/>

An Amazing Day

I thank You God for most this amazing day: for leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything which is natural which is infinite which is yes.

- E.E. Cummings



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

Tickets go on sale March 9th

PEACEDALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PRESENTS



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

February Mission of the Month: Rhody Outpost Food Pantry

For February, we are collecting **FOOD AND MONEY** to benefit Rhody Outpost, URI's primary pantry for the 25% of students facing food insecurity, offering both fresh and non-perishable food as well as personal care items at no charge. Founded through a partnership between URI and St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, the pantry is operated by the Dean of Students Office with help from student and community volunteers. Serving about 80 students weekly, Rhody Outpost is open two afternoons each week, year-round. The pantry provides a variety of food, including produce and dairy, and aims to meet the needs of many international students who prefer ingredients over processed foods. Read more at <https://web.uri.edu/rhody-outpost/>

There are **FOOD COLLECTION BOXES** in the church hallway.

FOOD:

- Gluten free pasta
- Cooking oils (including sunflower and olive)
- Rice (1 lb bags), lentils, alternative grains
- Non-dairy shelf-stable milk
- Spices
- Whole oats (not packets)
- Peanut, almond, and alternative butters

WINTER PRODUCE ITEMS:

- bananas, carrots, potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, peppers,

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS:

- Laundry Pods, Dish soap
- There is also an Amazon wish list for direct food deliveries:
[amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/HSZD8PGYCZC0/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/HSZD8PGYCZC0/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex)

QUESTIONS? Contact Stacy Saxon at stacysaxon@gmail.com. Thank you for your generosity!

Give now

PDCC supports the Rhody Outpost Pantry as our February 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 "Rhody Outpost" in the memo line** or 3) clicking the **Give now** button here to donate online (peacedalechurch.org/ways-to-give).

March Mission of the Month: UCC California Wildfire Relief

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

The **FEBRUARY** Mission-of-the-Month has collected \$1,031 to date in support of the Rhody Food Pantry.

**Tabitha's Closet → Spring
WINTER CLEARANCE NOW TO 3/8**



WINTER CLEARANCE

Flash sale
March 1st

Women's clothing
Fill 2 bags
\$10

Fill-a-bag



***\$10.00**

*suggested donation

February 8- March 8

Office door, downstairs
Peace Dale Congregational Church
261 Columbia St. Peace Dale RI 02879
Peacedalechurch.org

Open Saturdays 9:30-12:30pm
Monthly- Third Tuesdays 4-7pm

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.**

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

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

Eggstravaganza's Coming!

Save the Date!
April 12 @ 11 am – 2 pm



PLANNING MEETING:
Sunday, March 2 in Room 2C following the worship service. *Kids and adults welcome to the planning meeting.*

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

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.

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.

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