



THE SPIRE



2026

WAKEFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH



The Lord is Risen! (Now what?)

Church bells ring it, choirs herald it, congregations shout it out loud:

The Lord is risen!

And the echo returns just as joyously:

He is risen indeed!

Then what? The disciples caught their breath and came to terms with a life-changing reality: One who had died has now risen, never to die again. They touched him to make sure, listened intently to what he had to say, then later watched in bewilderment as he ascended into heaven. The Spirit would come, the church would emerge, the mission would ensue. And on Easter Sunday, for years after thousands of years, we rejoin the celebration. *The Lord is risen indeed.*

What does it mean to us now? For many of us, that ancient call and response never grows old. It stirs within us throughout the forty days of Lent, it resonates in our souls as Holy Week intensifies our expectation, then it explodes on Easter Sunday: *The Lord is risen!*

And for all of that, it is Easter Monday that really matters. The day after, the weeks, months, and years. What do we do with this new life we are offered? How do we live by the light of the resurrection?

The first disciples waited and prayed then, freshly empowered by the Holy Spirit, they set about telling the news, unbelievable as it must have sounded. They formed fellowships, ate together, listened to the eye-witnesses to Jesus' ministry (the apostles), and began building new lives of faith and hope.

Most essential to that new life was their prayer, for prayer became the way in which they interacted with their Lord who is very much alive. Through prayer they could integrate their lives into his and experience eternity in each moment they shared with him. Prayer informed their actions, their decisions, and their hopes for the rest of humanity. Through prayer, the Holy Spirit was able to guide them to others who needed the Good News. It also helped them realize the new Spirit-given resources that empowered their ministries, gifts of grace and love, gifts of word and deed.

All of that is now at work in our own congregation as we wake up on Easter Monday ready to live the life Jesus just gave us on that eternally new and refreshing morning of the First Day of our eternal lives.

The Lord is risen indeed! Let's go and greet him!

God bless you - Clay

HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday, March 29 at 10:00 a.m.

A special worship service observing Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 5:30 p.m.

A candlelight service of song and communion remembering Jesus' Last Supper on the eve of his crucifixion.

Good Friday, April 3 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The sanctuary will be open for those who wish to stop by the church for prayer at the cross. Guided prayer will be offered during the first hour.

Easter Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.

A joyous celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.



Saturday, April 4th at 8:00 a.m.

in our Fellowship Hall

We hope all the men will join us!!

Wakefield Baptists on Mission in Our Community and the World



Red Wagon Offering for April

Red Wagon needs:

Until further notice, we will be supporting the Rhody Outpost Pantry at URI. Their wish list includes the following: chicken breast, tuna, sardines, cooking oil, cereal, jelly, popcorn, toothpaste and tooth brushes.

GOOD NEWS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

South County Habitat for Humanity recently acquired three new lots at the Village at Broad Rock in South Kingstown. This Spring they will break ground on three new homes there. You can follow updates on Facebook.

Hopefully our church will find ways to support this project helping families in our community. If you have ideas, speak to a member of the Mission and Discipleship Ministry.



(Missions continued on next page)

(Missions continued)

JUST SO YOU KNOW...

Perhaps the following from the Rhode Island Community Food Bank's Spring newsletter will help us better understand the needs of our Rhode Island communities.

The **RI Community Food Bank** has 137 member agencies. Each year the agencies see a spike in visitors in November. These statistics show this past November was like nothing seen before.

Guests Served	
Nov. 2019 – 64,026	Nov. 2020 – 76,484
Nov. 2022 – 79,939	Nov. 2025 – 102,892

Fall 2025 Weekly Food Distribution by RI Community Food Bank

While the Food Bank expected to distribute 279,000 pounds of food per week, during this past fall their distribution skyrocketed.

Week of October 19:	334,349 pounds
Week of October 26:	374,157 pounds
Week of November 2:	464,096 pounds
Week of November 9:	449,366 pounds
Week of November 16:	472,276 pounds

This helps us understand the enormous task that the RI Community Food Bank and its member agencies have as they help meet critical needs for families, disabled and elderly.

Here at Wakefield Baptist Church, we are grateful for all who are able to support our Red Wagon Food Ministries that serve several local agencies.

Thank you! And God bless you



Some News from Our Card Ministry

From our card ministry friends who want to increase their ministry in a few ways.

We need **more used cards** to supply what we use to recycle to make new cards. We can use birthday, get well, anniversary, sympathy cards...just about anything EXCEPT Christmas cards. At this point we have enough Christmas cards. Cards may be put into the labeled container in Fellowship Hall.

We will be **creating a Card Caddy** in Fellowship Hall so anyone who wants to pick up a card to send to someone may do so. Whether it's a card that says *get well, thinking of you, I care, Happy Birthday* or some other sentiment, please pick up what you can use, write a note, sign it and you can send it on its way. Do it during Fellowship Hour after worship and it will be done! A card can be a bright spot in a person's day.

Come join us! We gather in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 to work together and chat. We help each other out and have good fellowship. Come some week and give it a try!



There is a sign-up list for Fellowship Hour on the Church Bulletin Board. Please put your name down if you are willing to take responsibility for Fellowship Time on a particular Sunday. If you would like to contribute food or help in some other way (setup, cleanup), please see or call Julie, Dian, or Sue B. The Hospitality Team will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you!! We greatly appreciate your help!

Each Week

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship

Sundays 6:00 p.m. Women's Step
Study

Mondays 6:00 p.m. Men's 12 Step

Mondays 7:30 p.m. AlAnon

Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. AA Book Discussion

Thursdays 2:30 p.m. "Introducing...Jesus"
Bible Study

Thursdays 3:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Ministry Meetings

Tues. April 14 2:00 p.m. Discipleship/Missions

Tues. April 14 3:00 p.m. Worship Ministry

Tues. April 28 3:00 p.m. Ministries Council –

If not listed, please contact your
Ministry/Committee leadership about meeting
plans.



**PLEASE MARK YOUR
CALENDAR:** Wakefield Baptist
Church's Annual Meeting will be held
on **Sunday, May 17** following
worship. Please plan to attend this
very important and informative
meeting!

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

The Rev. Dr. Clay Berry, Pastor

Dian Arnold, Church Administrative Assistant

Catherine Holloway, Minister of Music, Choir

Jim Paulhus, Sexton

*Julie Wardwell, Minister of Music, Organ &
Piano*

CHURCH OFFICE Phone/Fax (401) 783-2472

E-mail:

Dian-Office@wbcni.org

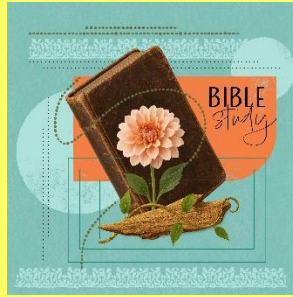
Clay-Pastor@wbcni.org



April Birthdays

4 Barbara Juliano
10 Jay Wang
13 Jaqueline Lindstrom
19 Judith Smith
25 Sean Enes
28 Jeff Sargent

*We would love to add your birthday to this
list. Please call the church office and let us
know so we can add your name.*



Introducing... Jesus

Reflections on the Gospel of John

Thursday afternoons at 2:30

All are invited to join us for prayer, reflection, and conversation as we seek know and grow closer to Jesus Christ in faith. Together, we hope to learn more about the Bible, listen to Jesus as he teaches us the faith, support one another in prayer, and grow closer to God.

Even if you haven't been with us, we'd love for you to join us, and we promise you won't feel behind! We'll help you catch up and feel part of the group. If you have any questions, just speak with Clay.



Wakefield Baptist Church
236 Main Street
Wakefield, Rhode Island 02879-3512

A decorative graphic with a light green background. It features several butterflies in purple, blue, and yellow, and various flowers in pink, red, and orange. The background has faint, swirling patterns.

April Events

Thursday Bible Study
Holy Week Services
Men's Breakfast
Easter Celebration Service
Ministries Council Meeting
Prepare for Annual Meeting in May

This Church lives to introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know and love him, to deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know and love him, to demonstrate Christ's way of love in service to the world.