



2026

**THE SPIRE**  
**Wakefield Baptist Church**

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**Welcome Chip and Christina!**  
*And congratulations WBC!*

We always seem to have something to celebrate here at Wakefield Baptist, and this is a big one! The search process bore fruit, the conversations went well, the introductions were joyous and the vote was unanimous. Now, as Chip Northup joins our ministry team, we have a lot to look forward to: new relationships, new ventures in faith, new challenges to test and strengthen us, and new ways to invest ourselves in the mission and ministries unfolding before us.

Thankfully, this is not all on Chip's shoulders! We wear a common yoke around here, each of us hefting a portion of the load, each of us investing some "sweat equity" in the outcome, each of us lending whatever personal resources we may have. And, we always trust God to help us if any of that seems deficient in the moment. The Holy Spirit has a wondrous way of supplementing the gifts of grace we already have with fresh spiritual vitality when it is required.

Chip will be working very closely with our Missions and Discipleship team to plan and facilitate new ministry efforts. However, the real work will be accomplished as the rest of us join the endeavor, first through prayer, then by offering our abilities and efforts as opportunities arise.

The first step in that process is to get to know Chip and let Chip get to know you. Introduce yourself! Share your faith with him. Describe your experiences in ministry and how you feel God is calling you to share your faith with others. If you are reading this, you are a vital member of this ministry with an essential role to perform. So, as you get to know Chip, be in ongoing prayer for how God will shape this ministry to include us all as we further pursue the mission to which God is calling our congregation to fulfill.

***We will be blessing this new venture in faith during a special worship service on June 14 with an ice-cream social in our memorial garden afterwards.***

I hope you will be with us as the Holy Spirit continues to inspire and empower us as a congregation.

God bless you – Clay



## A MESSAGE FROM CHIP NORTHUP, OUR NEW MINISTER OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND DISCIPLESHIP

***“For nothing is impossible with God.” ~Gabriel to Mary, (Luke 1:37).***

I remember these 6 words on my business card at my first church. I know it's not Christmas when people usually mention this passage but this verse has been life-changing and I hope it will be for you too. Mary received a seemingly impossible call from the Lord from the Angel Gabriel that she would physically bear the Messiah. “How can this be?”, she asks. She was not yet married. The Angel went on to tell her that God's Holy Spirit would miraculously make this happen and he gives an example that her elderly cousin Elizabeth was with child and states, ***“For nothing is impossible with God.”*** It's a sentence we need to penetrate deep into our hearts. I have often thought situations were seemingly impossible and this verse would come to mind to trust the miracle-working, way-making God. Sometimes I would have just a tiny seed of faith and God would do the seemingly impossible. Miracles are easy for God, after all, He simply spoke the world into existence; He says, “Let there be...”, and guess what...it be!

Can we heed to these precious words today? Just like Mary, we are called, called to serve the Lord together. Let's believe what Mary did, that nothing is impossible with God.

I want to thank everyone for my calling here at WBC. The hospitality has been amazing for Christina and me. I'm still getting to know everyone and learning how to get around the church. I plan to be at church on Wednesday evenings. My number is (401) 218-1296 if you would like to visit, otherwise, feel free to call anytime to chat.

It's an honor to serve among you all and talk about, well, “possibilities”!

See you in church!

Chip

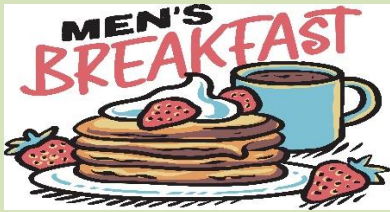


## **WELCOME CHIP AND CHRISTINA!**

Join us on Sunday, June 14 at 10:00 am for a special worship service as we welcome Chip Northup, our new Minister of Community Outreach and Discipleship and bless this new venture in faith.

There will be an ice cream social in the Memorial Garden following our service. Come and welcome Chip and Christina to our family of faith!





**The Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, June 6 at 8:00am. Join us for food, fellowship and devotions. We will be discussing the summer schedule. We will also be helping with the church cleanup downstairs. All men are invited to attend!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC FOR SUMMER**

If you would like to provide special music during the summer, solos, duets, trios, instrumental, etc., please see Pastor Clay Berry. We would love to have you share your music ministry with us!



**THANKS TO OUR CHOIR!**

Copies of our Annual Report for 2025 are available for anyone who hasn't received one. You can find them on the table in the sanctuary or in Fellowship Hall.

We have been blessed with a dedicated and talented group of people who sing in our choir every week! We are so grateful to them for sharing their voices to glorify God in song! The Choir will take a well-deserved break for the summer after singing on Sunday, June 14. Many thanks and blessings to all of you!



**CANONICUS RENEWAL**

**ARTICLES FOR SPIRE**

Tony Pappas, a leader in the newly formed Canonicus Ministries, Inc. has contacted our church to tell us about some of the plans, hopes and dreams for a revitalized Canonicus. He would like to discuss with us how we as a church and individuals may become involved. If you have an interest or questions, please contact Nancy Bancroft.

If you have a favorite poem, Bible verse, inspirational story, or anything else you would like to have printed in the Spire, please let us know! Call the office or send an email to [office@wbcni.org](mailto:office@wbcni.org).

# MISSIONS AND DISCIPLESHIP NEWS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF ALL MISSION PROJECTS!!



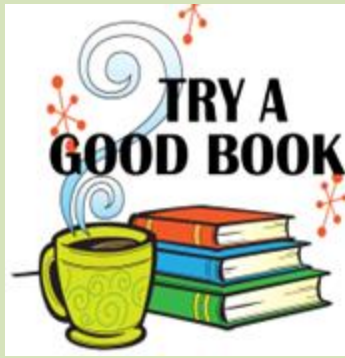
## Red Wagon Offering

We will continue our collection of paper goods and cleaning supplies for Warm Welcome House. After June 14, supplies will be delivered.

### June 21-July 26

The Community Market at St. Peter's by-the-Sea Church in Narragansett has requested donations of breakfast items (cereal, pancake mix, syrup, muffin mix, etc.) and summer picnic supplies (mustard, ketchup, relish, salad dressings, etc.)

The Community Market is a food pantry from St. Peters Church that is open on Fridays from 3-5pm to help those in need of food assistance in South County. Guests do not need to document their residence or financial need in order to get food.



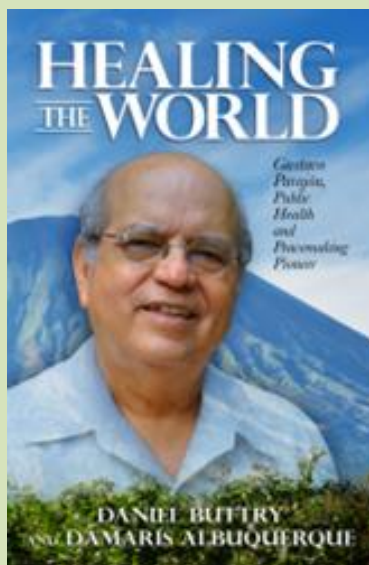
Want to read a good book?

**HEALING THE WORLD** is a biography of Gustavo Parajon, a Nicaraguan doctor and pastor known for his peacemaking efforts and providing rural health care including vaccinations and training locals in basic health practices.

His son Dr. David Parajon and David's wife, Dr. Laura, grew the health ministries of AMOS Health & Hope while serving as American Baptist medical missionaries in Nicaragua.

President Jimmy Carter said: *Gustavo Parajon, a true Christian peacemaker, dedicated his life to putting his faith into action with intelligence and compassion.*

While reading this book, you will discover the work of "one of God's special servants." If you want to borrow the book, put your name on the sign-up sheet. We'll pass the book from person to person





## **Church Cleanup, Saturday, June 6, 9-11 am**

This is an indoor project. We are reconfiguring some of the downstairs spaces, and some help is needed! Scrubbing a few layers of grime off tables, chairs and shelves; relocating some items for better organization of all our resources and moving some furniture to help set up an office for Chip, our new staff member.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**We can use your help!**



## **We Baptists do love to eat!**

We greatly appreciate all the work and wonderful food that is contributed to help make our Fellowship Time a success! Please see the list below for Sundays available in June and July if you can host our Fellowship time. The signup list is on the bulletin board. Please see Julie or Dian if you have any questions.

## **Thank you for your help!**

June 7	Janice Travers
June 14	Ice Cream Social- (see Julie for what you can bring)
June 21	<b>Open</b>
June 28	<b>Open</b>
July 5	Peter and Laura Vetter
July 12	<b>Open</b>
July 19	<b>Open</b>
July 26	<b>Open</b>

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATION**

*Rev. Dr. Clay Berry, Pastor*  
*Dian Arnold, Church Administrative Assistant*  
*Catherine Holloway, Minister of Music (choir)*  
*Chip Northup, Minister of Community Outreach  
and Discipleship*  
*Jim Paulhus, Sexton*  
*Julie Wardwell, Minister of Music (organ & piano)*  
**CHURCH OFFICE Phone/Fax (401) 783-2472**

**E-mail:**  
[Dian-Office@wbcri.org](mailto:Dian-Office@wbcri.org)  
[Clay-Pastor@wbcri.org](mailto:Clay-Pastor@wbcri.org)

[www.Facebook.com/WakefieldBaptistChurchRI](http://www.Facebook.com/WakefieldBaptistChurchRI)



**JUNE BIRTHDAYS:**

- June 2 Chris Wright
- June 7 John LeSuer
- June 15 Walter Cole
- June 15 Diane Paulhus
- June 30 Clay Berry
- June 30 Tina Perry

**Each Week**

**Sunday**

*Worship Schedule*  
**10:00 a.m. Worship\***

- Sundays** 6:00 pm Women's Step Study
- Mondays** 6:00 pm Men's 12 Step
- Mondays** 7:30 pm AlAnon
- Tuesdays** 10:00 am AA Book, Discussion
- Thursdays** 2:30pm Introducing Jesus

**June Meetings:**

- Tues. June 9 4:30pm** Trustees
- Tues. June 16 4:00 pm** Missions/  
Discipleship

**\*Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. in person and live on YouTube**

**A weekly email with announcements is sent each Thursday. If you are not receiving it and would like to, please contact Dian in the office by email ([office@wbcri.org](mailto:office@wbcri.org)) or phone (401-783-2472). If email is not convenient, we can mail it to you.**



**Happy Father's Day  
Sunday, June 21**



**SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH**

**Wakefield Baptist Church**  
**236 Main Street**  
**Wakefield, Rhode Island 02879**



***Men's Breakfast***  
***Church Clean Up***  
***Welcome to Chip and Christina and Ice Cream Social***  
***Happy Father's Day!***

***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.