



THE SPIRE



Wakefield Baptist Church



Our Prayers for the World An Advent Vigil

Worrying, waiting, watching and wondering – four states of mind that move us from anxiety to adoration. Advent, the four weeks of preparation before Christmas, can be a season of spiritual renewal as we reinvigorate our hope and focus it on the promise of Jesus' coming – first in Bethlehem, then again at the close of this age and the dawn of the one yet to come.

Sadly, this Advent may also be a season of suffering for so many in our world. Sensitive to the needs of others, let us rededicate ourselves to praying for those who suffer, so they may come to know the peace, love, and joy which God offers us through the Gift of his Son, Jesus Christ.

To help inspire our own reflections, a guide containing some key Scriptures and prayers will be available at the church. This brochure is just a simple reminder to pray for what the world so desperately needs right now: to know the gift of God's grace given so freely through Jesus Christ.

If you would like to come together and pray as a group, we'll be holding weekly prayer gatherings each Wednesday in our chapel. Two times are offered: 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Come for any or all of these as your schedule allows.

All are welcome! Bring a friend!

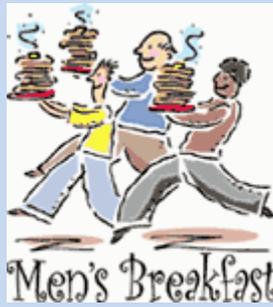
On Wednesday, December 3, we will pray for the renewal of hope. God's promises assure us that God is working throughout creation to bring restoration, healing, and salvation to those who "sit in darkness."

On Wednesday, December 10, we will pray for peace. Jesus was born to offer us what we have never been able to offer ourselves, reconciliation with God that enables us to bring peace to others.

On Wednesday, December 17, we will pray for the restoration of joy. When sorrow is replaced by that sense of well-being and assurance that all will be well, sensations of joy emerge to remind us that we have been visited by God in a profound new way.

On Wednesday, December 24, we will celebrate the arrival of Love. Christ is born, God's love in the flesh has come among us. We rejoice in the fulfilment of our Advent hope as we gather at the manger of our Lord. Our service begins at 5:00 p.m.

God bless you - Clay



FOR ALL!

PLEASE SIGN UP!

Men's Breakfast, Saturday, December 6, 8:00 am

Everyone is invited to Men's Breakfast this month! If you plan to attend the breakfast prior to helping decorate the church sanctuary and other spots, or help with the **Welcome Christmas** event, **please sign up on the bulletin board so there will be enough food for all.** We will be decorating the church following breakfast before the **Welcome Christmas** event begins at 10:30am. So please join us for great food and fellowship as we beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas season!



WELCOME CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 10:30-2:00PM

Preparing for Christmas, for children of all ages, accompanied by an adult. Nativity Dress-Up and Photos, Christmas Crafts, Greens Arrangements, Free Lunch. Children can select gifts from Santa's Workshop for family members.

Invite friends and family. **If you can assist in any way, please contact Jan Travers. We need help with crafts (assembly only), greens arrangements, free shopping room, and gift wrapping.**

We are looking for Christmas decorations that you no longer use and can be passed on. Also, gently used items that could be used as gifts. These items can be brought in at any time- the sooner the better. Deliver downstairs or leave on the front of the stage in Fellowship Hall.



Choir Cantata:

Shout the Good News!

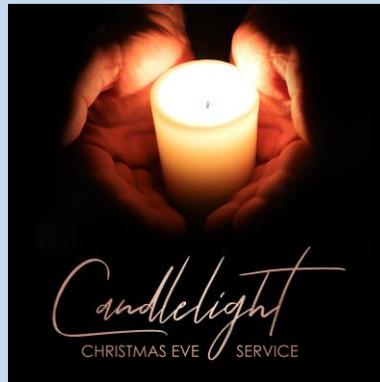
Christmas Messengers in Scripture and Song

By Lloyd Larson

Presented by the

Wakefield Baptist Church Choir

Sunday, December 21 at 10:00 a.m.



Christmas Eve

Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.

*We'll gather at the manger of the Lord
to behold the Light of the World
shining brightly in the face of a newborn baby, Jesus.*

Come, and behold. Come, and be thankful.

Come, and worship!

Wakefield Baptist Mission Ministry Helping our Neighbors



Red Wagon for December

Thank you for all your support throughout the year for our Red Wagon Ministry.

During the month of December any type of food would be wonderful.

People need to eat 365 days a year and there are always needs.

Thank you again for your support.



GIVING TREE TAGS

You will find the tree, with tags, in the hallway outside the baptistry.

Please return gifts no later than December 14th. Please tape the tag to the gift.

You don't have to wrap the gift.

Thank you for your support in all Mission Projects! The Mission/Discipleship Ministry wishes you a very blessed Advent and Christmas season!



2026 Epiphany Project

Each year, on the first Sunday in January, we hold a special celebration as we remember the arrival of the Magi – the three wise men who came to honor the baby Jesus then went forth to spread the news of his birth to the wider world.

In honor of that event, we have traditionally partnered with some of our American Baptist Global Partners serving in other countries as a way of joining this great global effort to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This year, we want to introduce you to Aaron and AmyEstelle Trout, now serving in Southeast Asia, where they are sharing the Good News with unreached and underserved populations. Their family farm currently functions as a food bank for those in need in their local community, and they look forward to using the land for more training and enrichment opportunities. AmyEstelle works to build relationships with women, teenagers and children through hospitality and music. Aaron uses his gifts and professional experience in art to engage with and nurture local artists.

One of their specific needs is to obtain a vehicle so they can better reach and serve the surrounding area. We look forward to getting to know the Trouts and becoming partners in their work. Stay tuned!

Search Committee Update

After gaining input from the Ministries Council, the Search Committee re-titled the position to better reflect the responsibilities of the new person we are seeking. **Minister of Community Outreach and Discipleship** is the position we are listing with the ABCUSA personnel system, sending to near-by state Executive Ministers, and sending to other appropriate places to inform potential candidates.

The financial aspects for the position have been approved by the Ministries Council. This information was included in the stewardship letter sent to all in early November.

We are in the process of putting our church profile, a community profile, and the ministry position description on the church website, as well as other pertinent documents. We are moving ahead (although it takes more time than we want) praying that God will continue to guide us and that the best match for our congregation will be made. Please continue to pray for the committee and its work.

Search Committee: Nancy Bancroft, Diane Paulhus, Rebecca DeLuise, Gayle Laurent-Reposa, Christopher Wright.



COFFEE HOUR – WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for Fellowship Hour these past few months. Your willingness to help is very much appreciated!

A new sign up sheet has been posted for December, January and February.

We are also accepting cookies, breads and other sweets that can be frozen as well as cheese and crackers that can be used if there is a week when no one is able to host.

Thank you!

Julie, Dian, Sue

Your Hospitality Team



WBC Snow Policy

In the event of heavy snowfall, please keep the following in mind:

For Worship: An abbreviated service of worship will be held for those who can safely travel to church. If you have any doubts, then we encourage you to stay safe, and stay home. If you have responsibilities for the morning and can't make it in, then please call Clay Berry at home (789-5061) by 9:00 a.m.

Services will be canceled if we lose power or heat, or if a state of emergency is mandated by the authorities.

Every effort will be made to make the service available on YouTube, but this will depend upon our tech crew making it in for the service!

For meetings & studies: such meetings will be canceled if travel advisories or warnings are posted due to weather conditions in Washington County. If in doubt, please contact your group leader.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Carol Stuart
- 8 Bonnie Patterson
- 15 Dick Patterson
- 17 Whitney Bancroft
- 21 Sandra Lindstrom

We would love to list your birthday. If we don't have it, please call the office and let us know

Each Week:

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday 6:00 pm Men's 12 Step
7:30 pm AlAnon

Tuesday 10:00 am AA Book Discussion

Thursday 3:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday 6:00pm Women's Step Study

Meetings, etc.

Tuesday 12/2 3:15pm Worship Ministry

Wednesday 12/3, 12/10 & 12/17 10:30am and
6:00pm - Advent Vigil

Saturday 12/6 8:00am Breakfast for everyone
and decorating church

Saturday 12/6 10:30am Welcome Christmas

Tuesday 12/6 4:30pm Trustees

-Tuesday, 12/11 2:00pm Missions/Discipleship

Wednesday 12/24 5:00pm Christmas Eve Service

-CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

The Rev. Dr. Clay Berry, Pastor

Dian Arnold, Church Admin. 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:

Clay-Pastor@wbcri.org

Dian-Office@wbcri.org

Website: wbcri.org

www.facebook.com/WakefieldBaptistChurchRI

Office Hours Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm



Reminder- The Communion Fund is here to help anyone in our congregation through a tight spot. Please let Pastor Clay or any Deacon know of your need. All info and disbursements are confidential.

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



*There will be an intergenerational service with
Candlelight at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve as
we anticipate and celebrate the birth of our
Savior.*

December Events

*Sunday Worship each Week at 10 am
12/6 Breakfast for All with Church Decorating,
Followed by Welcome Christmas Event
12/21 Worship and Christmas Cantata by our
Choir
Christmas Eve Worship*

A Blessed Christmas to All!

***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.*