



# THE SPIRE



2019

## WAKEFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH



### A Prayer of Exaltation

by St. Francis of Assisi

Jesus died for our sins so we may know the joy of a loving relationship with the One who created us. He rose again to glory so that we might rejoice in the presence of a holy God. He has become our high priest so that we may worship with hearts over-brimming with praise. He has poured out his Holy Spirit upon us to inspire our prayer and turn it into song.

St. Francis was one such soul fully embraced by this divine source of inspiration. His most famous prayer begins: "Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace..." Thankfully, we have many of his expressions of devotion and praise, one of which is this celebrational prayer. We don't know exactly when or why he composed it, but it comes to us as a gift we may offer back to God in response to his unconquerable grace now at work in creation through his Son, Jesus Christ.

Our Creator, Redeemer and Savior,  
you are the only true God,  
in you is the fullness of goodness,  
you are the true and sovereign good.  
You alone are good, loving, gentle, sweet and lovable,  
holy just, true, and fair, kind, innocent and pure.  
In you is all pardon, grace and glory for all the repentant,  
for the just, for all who share your joy in heaven.  
Let nothing separate us from you.  
Everywhere, at any place,  
at any hour and at any time, daily, ceaselessly,  
let us truly and humbly believe in you,  
love, honor and worship you,  
praise, bless and glorify you,  
serve you and give thanks to you,  
most high, sovereign, eternal God,  
Trinity and Unity,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Creator of all things and  
Savior of all who have faith in you,  
who put their hope in you and who love you.  
You are without beginning or end,  
unchanging, invisible, ineffable and inscrutable;  
you are sublime and great, mild and lovable,  
the source of joy.  
We desire you above all else  
forever and ever. Amen.

As we gaze at God in prayer, may our own souls be as exalted in praise! Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ shall come again, and we all, with unveiled faces, shall behold the glory of the Lord. Let us pray in that direction and orient our lives to take us there as we follow our Lord in faith, and in faithful service. God bless you all -- Clay

## ***God's Word to us for*** **April**

### **Luke 18:35-43**

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

**Reflect** on the power of God's mercy as he extends help to those who neither earn or deserve it. God persists in offering relief where it is least looked for, and he calls upon us to be extensions of his gracious work. Consider where Christ's mercy is needed most urgently today.

**Pray** for sight. Ask the Lord to open our eyes and show us those whose need is robbing them of hope. Pray for open ears so we may hear the cries and respond to the pleas of those begging for mercy. And pray that Christ will accompany us and supply us as we answer his call.

**Share** God's mercy and act on behalf of the weak and undeserving. Share the little you have and trust God will multiply it to his glory.

**The Healing Team**  
**will meet on Thursday, April 4 at 10:00 a.m.**

We invite anyone with an interest to come and discover more of what healing entails and how you can be a part of this ministry. All are welcome!

### **Worship Opportunities During Holy Week**

**Palm Sunday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m.**

*Come wave a palm with us as we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.*

**Maundy Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m.**

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

**Good Friday, April 19 from 12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m.**

*The sanctuary will be open for a simple vigil for those who  
wish to stop by the church for prayer at the cross.  
Guided prayer will be offered from noon to 1:00.*

**Easter Sunday, April 21**

*Son-Rise Service at 6:30 a.m.  
followed by a Pie Breakfast  
Celebration Worship at 10:00 a.m.*

## The Season of Easter

*The Lord is Risen!* With that shout of glory, we enter THE most significant of all seasons of the church year as we live out the resurrection of Jesus.

Jesus left death behind him and invites us to share in his glory. So, our worship will be joyful and filled with light and songs of celebration as we honor God for the hope he has secured for us through the eternal reign of his Son.

The color of the season is white – a sign of our eternal new beginning and the purity restored to us through Christ's sacrifice and rising to new and everlasting life.

*"The Great 50 Days"* is an ancient term for the season of Easter, which continues until the day of Pentecost, when the Easter cycle is completed through the promised sending of the Holy Spirit.

The hope secured for us through the resurrection of Jesus Christ sets the tone for every Sunday of the year, whether it be the hope of repentance, the solace of grief, or the triumph of answered prayer and new life.

### JOIN US FOR:

**"Moses"**, a production of **Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania**, will be presented at the Wakefield Baptist Church on Palm Sunday afternoon at 4 PM. This DVD is offered by Walt and Margie Cole as an offering of praise to God. A light sandwich meal will also be served. The movie is a musical about two and a half hours long. During this Holy Week, we remember our Lord's entrance into Jerusalem during the Jewish Passover. This story of Moses traces the history of the establishment of the Jewish nation leading to Passover as well as the promise of the arrival of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. A sign-up sheet will be posted soon. Please make plans so proper arrangements can be done.



# Wakefield Baptists on Mission in Our Community and the World



## Red Wagon

We continue to collect personal care items: deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, shaving

cream, razors, etc. Basic foods, especially proteins, are needed.

Our community partners can also use paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent and cleaning products.

The donations for the Harvest Acres gift baskets (see related article) can be put into the Red Wagon.

## Habitat HAPPENING!

### Saturday, April 27

At Wakefield Baptist Church

The event runs from 10 am to 3 pm. We'll be selling hot dogs, burgers and desserts from 11 am to 2 pm. Come by for some fun and a quick lunch.

A friendly, fun event for the whole family, sponsored by area churches with South County Habitat for Humanity.

"Buy a Stud" and write a message on a 2 x 4 that will go into a new Habitat house. Browse the raffle items, including a quilt. Make a donation in honor of a loved one by purchasing a Mother's Day or Father's Day card.

Guess how many nails in the jar and win a prize! Try your hand to see who is the fastest and most accurate with a saw, hammer or drill.

There will be a "faster pastor" contest, too!

Kids can play with construction trucks, see who can erect the highest tower, build a wall and draw their own house designs.

Get information about affordable housing needs in southern Rhode Island, find out about current Habitat projects, and how to become a Habitat homeowner or volunteer. Learn about the Habitat Young Professionals and the very active URI Habitat chapter.

Invite family, friends and neighbors to come.

*(continued in next column)*

**Save your yard sale items** for drop off the week of the sale, from Sunday to Friday, April 21 to 26. Please do not leave items before that week.

**Volunteers are needed** to help with food, activities, set up, clean up, etc. We also would like to have several "hosts" at the event to welcome people and direct them to the sale inside, the restrooms, and be a friendly face. Speak to Diane Paulhus, Diane LeSuer or Nancy Bancroft if you can help in any capacity at the **Habitat HAPPENING**.



## Home Repair for Seniors

South County Habitat for Humanity is testing out a new *Critical Home Repair* program for local seniors. Adults 65 and older, who own their own home and can provide proof of homeowner's insurance, may be eligible for this program. They plan to help with small home repair projects, and will provide more information upon request.

If you are interested or have someone in mind who is in need of this service, email [alicia@southcountyhabitat.org](mailto:alicia@southcountyhabitat.org) or call 401-213-6711, x3.

## Rainbow Run/Walk for Harvest Acres Farm, Saturday, May 11

Join the fun for this family friendly day of activities including from 9:00 am to noon, including the 5K run/walk. Walkers, runners, volunteers, spectators wanted to participate and enjoy the festivities of the day.

Our mission board will make a few **gift baskets** for the raffle and welcomes donations: children's books, puzzles, and crafts; bath and body items; bird and garden items.

Please see our church bulletin board for more information about Harvest Acres.

## REORGANIZATION UPDATE.

Progress is being made in the work of the Church Administration Reorganization Committee. On March 16 we held discussions with those interested in the **Hospitality Ministry** and the **Worship Ministry**. We are launching these for a trial period that probably will last for at least a year before any permanent decisions are made.

**Hospitality Ministry**. Joyce Kagels has volunteered to coordinate this new area of ministry. At this time, the ministry includes these teams:

Summer Picnics - John LeSuer, team leader

Funeral Collations - Joyce Kagels, Julie Wardwell, team co-leaders

Easter Breakfast -

Sunday Fellowship - Joyce is recruiting teams to work one month at a time.

Welcoming -

Men's Breakfast - Whitney Bancroft, team leader

Each team will have a team leader. Discussions generated some exciting new ideas and we hope many more will join us by serving where you have an interest as we begin to implement some of them. This design is created specifically to help us all serve where we have interests and skills.

QUESTIONS? Ask us!

**Worship Ministry**. The teams in the Worship Ministry are divided into two areas.

Organizational teams (logistics)

Ushers - Barbara Juliano, Liz Crandall, Jay Wang

Greeters - Barbara Juliano, Liz Crandall, Jay Wang

Acolytes - Dana Crandall, Rosie Enes

Flowers and Decorations - Rosie Enes, Dana Crandall, Anita Easterbrooks, Barbara Juliano

Sound System - Liz Crandall, Jay Wang

Supply Preachers scheduling - Jay Wang

Creative Leadership (worship design)

Seasonal Emphases - Julie Wardwell, Bonnie Pateerson, Donna Maggi

Celebration Services - Julie Wardwell, Bonnie Patterson, Donna Maggi

Music - Anita Easterbrooks, Julie Wardwell, Diane Paulhus, Jill McGuire, Bonnie Paterson, Rosie Enes

Other Art Forms - Julie Wardwell, Jill McGuire, Dana Crandall, Donna Maggi, Rosie Enes

These teams are not "full." Indicate any area in which you have an interest. Please feel free to ask questions or tell us where you might like to serve.

The Reorganization Committee will continue to make suggestions for trial in the ministry areas of Discipleship, Missions and Trustees. Watch for these developments so you might find the specific area of service for you to carry out your interest and calling. It will be a long process and we want to "try it on" before we make any recommendations for final decisions. Please give us your feedback and ask any questions you may have.

Nancy Bancroft, Chair, Church Administration Reorganization Committee



### **Welcome House Meals**

*Thank you so much to the Deacons for supplying food for a meal for Welcome House.*

Make sure you check out the **Wakefield Baptist Church Facebook Page and website** ([www.wbcni.org](http://www.wbcni.org)). Thanks to all who have contributed!

### **Important News!**

**Our email addresses have changed:**

**Clay:** [pastor@wbcni.org](mailto:pastor@wbcni.org)

**Dian:** [office@wbcni.org](mailto:office@wbcni.org)

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
**Saturday, April 6 at 8:00 a.m.**

**Please plan to join us!**



### *From the Holloway Family*

Dear Church Family,

Words cannot express the heartfelt gratitude my family and I feel for you all. Ron was diagnosed on January 9<sup>th</sup> and from then until his March 15<sup>th</sup> passing and beyond, this church has upheld us in prayer and in deeds of kindness.

Visits in the hospital and at home by the Pastor, Deacons and friends all made this journey more bearable and filled with the divine presence of the Holy Spirit. The visit from the choir meant so much to Ron. He even was able to sing along with the choruses of some of the hymns.

Cards, phone calls, meals and the incredible reception following the memorial service were all appreciated and reflect the love of Christ delivered by His servants here at Wakefield Baptist Church.

Ron dearly loved this church and served it to the best of his ability for many years. Thank you for honoring him so beautifully at the memorial service and reception. Many, many people commented on how personal the pastor made the service, how beautiful the choir sounded and how the reception was beautiful and delicious.

A friend wrote a note on a card sent to me that touched my heart. It said may Ron rest in God's peace and wake in God's light and may we know that we are surrounded by Divine and human love. Because of our faith, we know Ron is now in God's light and all I have to do is look to you'dear friends, to know the Divine and the human love.

With love and God's blessings,

Cathy Holloway and Family

## Each Week

### Sunday

*Worship Schedule*

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

\* *Child care provided*

<b>Mondays</b>	12:30 p.m.	Just for Today
	5:30 p.m.	Women's Step Study
	6:00 p.m.	Men's 12 Steps
	7:30 p.m.	Al Anon
<b>Tuesdays</b>	9:30 a.m.	Church Women United (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)
	10:00 a.m.	AA Book Discussion
	7:00 p.m.	ACOA 12 Steps
<b>Wednesdays</b>	7:30 p.m.	Positive Steps
	12:30 p.m.	Just for Today
	6:00 p.m.	Women's AWOL
<b>Thursdays</b>	10:00 a.m.	Healing Team (1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday)
	6:00 p.m.	ACOA
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:30 p.m.	VASA (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
	7:30 p.m.	Al Anon
<b>Fridays</b>	12:30 p.m.	Just for Today
<b>Saturdays</b>	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast (1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday)
<b>Sunday</b>	6:00 p.m.	Women's Step Study

### **Board Meetings**

Thursday	Apr. 11 - 11:00 a.m.	Missions
Saturday	Apr. 13 - 9:00 a.m.	Trustees
Tuesday	Apr. 16 - 6:30 p.m.	Deacons

### CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

*Rev. Dr. Clay Berry, Pastor*

*Dian Arnold, Administrative Assistant*

*Catherine Holloway, Minister of Music(Choir)*

*Keith Sousa, Sexton*

*Julie Wardwell, Minister of Music (Organ, Piano)*

**CHURCH OFFICE PHONE/FAX (401) 783-2472**

**E-mail:**

\*Dian-[Office@wbcri.org](mailto:Office@wbcri.org)

\*Clay-[Pastor@wbcri.org](mailto:Pastor@wbcri.org)

**Web Page: [www.wbcri.org](http://www.wbcri.org)**

**\*Please note new email addresses!**



## April Birthdays

<b>3</b>	<b>Anita Easterbrooks</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Barbara Juliano</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Jay Wang</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Jaqueline Lindstrom</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Ashlyn Gadrow</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Judith Smith</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Kaeli Grace Waggoner</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>Don Hardy</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Sean Enes</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>Jeff Sargent</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>Scott Kisiliwicz</b>

*We would love to add your birthday to this list if we don't have it! Please feel free to call the church office and we will add yours to the list.*



Our Deacons have been very active in visiting and taking Communion to our shut-ins. They ask that you continue to pray, visit, and send cards to our friends in Christ who are in nursing homes or at home.

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



*Men's Breakfast*  
*Palm Sunday*  
*Maundy Thursday Service*  
*Good Friday Service & Vigil*  
*Easter Worship Services & Pie Breakfast*  
*Mind of Christ Bible Study*  
*Healing Team*  
*Welcome House Meal/Donations*

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