



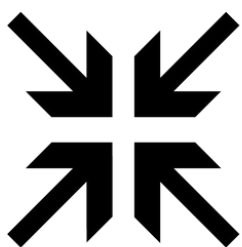
MAY

- & -

JUNE

Messenger

2025



Wakeman
Congregational
Church

NEWS FROM THE DIACONATE BOARD

Easter this year was celebrated with a beautiful sunrise service at the wooden cross located on the northwest corner of the church property. People were then welcomed into the church basement for breakfast, followed by church service at 10:00 am in the sanctuary led by Pastor Janet Ross.

On Sunday, May 11, we will recognize all the women who are present in the church with a small gift to celebrate Mother's Day.



We will recognize the following graduates on Sunday, June 8:

Ethan Baker
Hazel Green
Bobbie Murdock
Victoria Turczyk

If you know of anyone else who is graduating, please contact JoDee Palmer at 216-401-3705.

On Sunday, June 15, we will recognize all the men who are present in the church with a small gift to celebrate Father's Day.



Weather permitting, all church services during the months of June, July and August will be held outdoors in the pavilion.

For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

~Isaiah 61:11

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I do not know when I have been so impressed with a congregation!

It wasn't just the thoughtfully planned and executed presentations at our Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 27 ...

- Brenda Friend walked us through the hard work of the Trustees to get the parsonage up to sellable standards and the desire to get a top-notch realtor to capitalize on this good work.
- Susan Hazel led us through a thorough consideration of the proposed lift project:
 - Steve Dillon offered an overview of other accessibility projects this congregation has undertaken in previous years (Sanctuary-level restroom, building the Pavilion, renovating the Outreach Center)
 - John Krumwiede explained the water damage to the church building foundation that has occurred because of the deterioration of our current ramp
 - Joni Ledinsky offered her engineering expertise to evaluate the work of Janotta and Herner and to explain in detail the proposed project
 - Kenny Green explored the financial resources already available from our existing funds (\$280,000 of the possible \$430,000 for the project).
 - Melinda Dalton reported from the Stewardship Committee, already poised to launch the \$150,000 campaign to raise the remaining funds needed to install a lift.

Each presenter gave witness to their research, as well as their own prayerful consideration to this project.

As faithful and faith-filled as each presentation was, I was equally impressed with the way in which you engaged in thoughtful conversation following the presentations before an “overwhelming majority” voted to move forward with this lift project, “Lifting Up to the Lord.”

As one person said following the meeting: “I’m excited to see who God is going to bring to us because of this project!”

May your own heart be lifted up to the Lord as we work together to fulfill this mission God has given us.

With love and blessing,

Pastor Janet



TRUSTEES NEWS

The members of Board of Trustees have been busy working on two church projects these past few months.

- Sale of the Parsonage:
 - The exterior of the house and shed have been power washed, the back porch was repainted, the front porch was decorated and the yard has been mowed and flower beds updated. The interior of the house updates included replacing the air conditioner, installing new kitchen flooring, and adding some touch-up painting and new curtains.
 - On April 29th, they signed a contract with Tina Hormell from ReMax Realty to sell the property. She has begun to advertise the sale, and will soon host an open house for potential buyers.
- Lift Project:
 - Members of the Trustees met with Janotta & Herner on April 29th to sign a contract with them for the Handicap Accessible project. Once permitting has been approved, their company will begin to work on repairing the church’s foundation, adding a new entryway onto the west side of the building, and installing the new lift.
 - The timeline for this project includes approximately two months for the permit process (so we won’t see any construction during this time), and then completion of the project by the fall.

TREASURE REPORT

TREASURER'S MONTHLY SNAPSHOT 3/31/2025

1st Qtr	General Operating Income	\$48,084.77
1st Qtr	General Operating Expense	<u>\$ 25,809.87</u>
	Income Exceed Expense	\$22,274.90
	Year to Date GO Income	\$48,084.77
	Year to Date GO Expense	<u>\$25,809.87</u>
	Income Exceed Expense	\$22,274.90
	Budget Year to Date	\$31,962.50
	Budget Items Spent Year-to-Date	<u>\$27,050.04</u>
	Under Budget	\$4,912.46

Ken Green, Treasurer

Notes:
1st Qtr General Operating Income of \$48084.77 Includes \$26500.00 in Prepayed Pledges.

CLOTHING CLOSET DATES



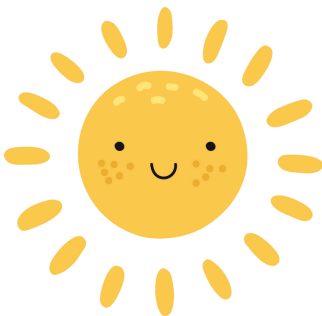
May

- May 3rd 9 to noon
- May 8th 5:30-7:30
- May 17th 9 to noon
- May 22nd 5:30-7:30
- May 27th 9 to noon



June

- June 7th 9 to noon
- June 12th 5:30-7:30
- June 21st 9 to noon
- June 24th 9 to noon
- June 26th 5:30-7:30



July

- July 5th 9 to noon
- July 10th 5:30-7:30
- July 19th 9 to noon
- July 22nd 9 to noon
- July 24th 5:30-7:30



CHILDREN OF OUR CHURCH



VBS

JUNE 23-26
9AM-12PM

14 ABBOTT ST
WAKEMAN 44889

 **Wakeman**
Congregational
Church

REGISTER NOW



SCAN
ME! >>



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ROAD TRIP!

**"The LORD your God is with
you wherever you go."**

(Joshua 1:9)

**Please be on
the look out for
a list of items
needed listed
in the back of
the church.**

**Volunteers
needed**

We are in need of volunteers!

If you feel called to help please
scan the QR code to fill out our
Volunteer Form.

You can also reach out to Olivia in
person, by sending an email to
wakemanchurch@gmail.com ,
or calling 440-839-2316

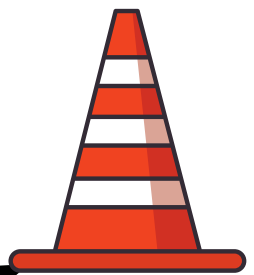
Check out our Volunteer board next to the calendar by
the pastors office!

Areas to volunteer:

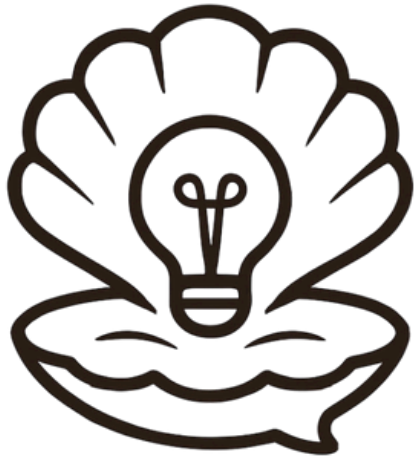
Prayer
Decorating
Building Sets
Craft leader
Recreation leader
Station helper
Group leader
Technology/Sound system
and more....



SCAN ME



PEARLS OF WISDOM



Twelve people attended our first gathering of the Pearls of Wisdom senior group, and they all had a wonderful time of fun, faith, food, and fellowship. Participants played several games, offered personal prayers of gratitude, had a delicious meal together, and found fellowship during every moment of the gathering.

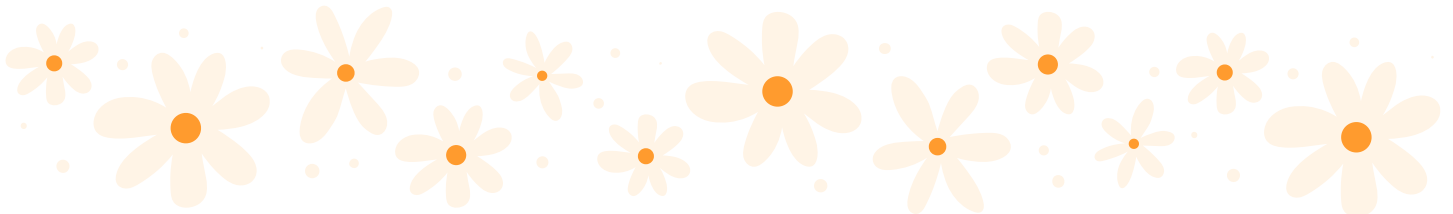
We'd love to have you join us for our next gathering so that you can be part of this amazing group! If you need transportation, call Pastor Janet (330-605-7417), and we'll get you there to join in the fun.

Please plan to join us at our second gathering:

Date: Wednesday, May 14th

Time: 11:00 to 12:30

Place: Outreach Center



Everyone agreed that Pattie Eschen's salad recipe was a MUST HAVE:

For dressing: Mix together

½ C white sugar

1 TBL mustard powder

½ TBL kosher salt

pinch red pepper flakes

1/8 tsp black pepper

1/8 C white vinegar

¼ C water

1 garlic clove (pressed or minced)

1 C vegetable oil or corn oil



Dress salad: Romain lettuce, tomatoes, bacon, feta cheese and red onion.

THEY'RE WATCHING...

Every Sunday morning before Worship Service, Pastor Janet meets with four youth, Roman Turzyk, Isaac Dalton, Lucas Dalton and Adah Thomas. These weekly classes are preparing each of them to be confirmed and become a member of the Wakeman Congregational Church.

If you were a little church mouse listening to this Confirmation Class a few weeks ago, you would have heard them discussing the things that are meaningful to them during worship services.

How did our confirmands respond? They stated that they noticed how our members gather together each Sunday to praise God, and like to spend time being together. They like when Pat Canfield claps each Sunday and yells out “Beau-ti-ful!” after Keely plays the opening hymn on the organ. They also notice when Pat and other members raise their hands up to God when singing hymns.

Remember: They're watching, they're learning, they're becoming... It starts with us.

**Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.
1 Corinthians 16:13**

UPDATE TO THE MESSENGER

We hope that you enjoy reading the Messenger as much as we enjoy putting it together. Our church members do so many interesting activities that it's always fun to write about you!

Starting with the next issue, we are going to offer the Messenger to you through email. We know that many of you have stated that you would prefer to read the newsletter on your computer.

If this option appeals to you, please email Olivia at the church (wakemanchurch@gmail.com) stating you'd like to receive the Messenger through email, and we'll get that change made. If you still prefer to receive a paper copy of the Messenger, we will continue to mail it to you, as we have in the past. We want all of our readers to enjoy reading the Messenger, no matter what format they prefer!

ABAGAIL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN



Our annual collection for Abigail Pregnancy Center is planned **from Mother's Day, May 11th through Father's Day, June 15th**. During this time, baby bottles will be available at the back of the sanctuary for your use. You can use your baby bottle to collect coins or cash, or write a check (made out to Wakeman Congregational Church) for the support of Abigail.

The Abigail Center tries to capture the heart of Galatians 6:9: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." They sow seeds of hope and love with the help of volunteers and contributions from supporters like our church family.

The center's ministry continues to grow and flourish, and now includes parenting classes, client visits, counseling, ultrasounds, pregnancy tests and items given out from their baby boutique.

Their future goals include raising local awareness of the Abigail Pregnancy Center, expanding their programs to reach more individuals in need, and moving into a larger facility in Willard to serve more clients in that area.

Thank you for joining in this campaign to help Abigail's staff improve the lives of local families and children.

WELCOME TO A NEW CHILD OF GOD!

Carli Ashley delivered a baby boy on April 9, 2025. Baby Ezekiel Richard, joins his family including his dad, Richard, big sister, Adeline, grandparents, Darnel and Tim Patrick, and great-grandma, Mona Dauch. Congratulations to the Ashley family!



CHURCH SERVICE - ONLINE



Roman Turzyk has volunteered to video Sunday church services for those members who were not attend to attend Sunday Worship. You will be able to find the recordings on Facebook (True Wakeman Congregational Church) and on the church's website (www.wakemanchurch.net).



ANNIE, JR.



Four members of our church family were recently involved in the Western Reserve School's production of Annie, Jr. Dan Stober was creative director of the show, and devoted many hours to help make the show a success. Theresa Murdock was the official seamstress, and worked on several of the performer's costumes for the show. Adah Thomas performed as "Duffy," one of the orphans living with Annie, and Isaac Dalton was Sandy (Annie's dog), a servant and a townspeople. The show was fantastic, and we are proud of our church members' contributions to this musical!



SCHOOL-COMMUNITY CARING KIDS

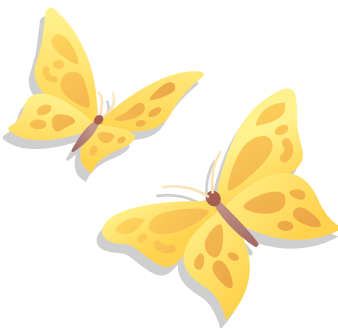
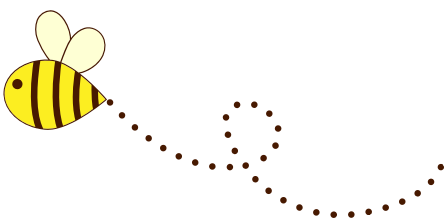


Wakeman Congregational Church, along with several other area churches, participates with Western Reserve Elementary to offer a school-community activity, Caring Kids. The program begins each fall, when every elementary classroom is paired with a community member for the school year.

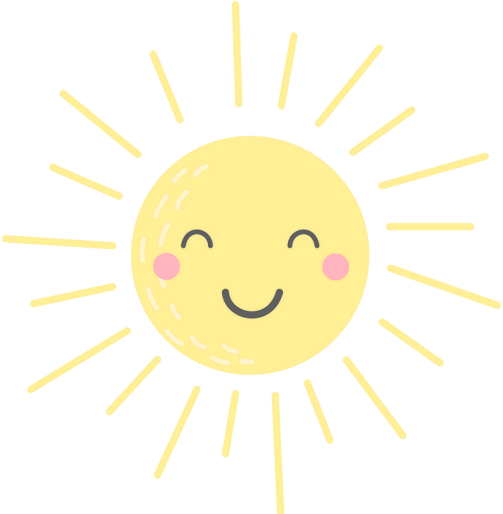


The program works by having each classroom make a monthly project to be shared with their “community friend”. These projects are varied, and include booklets with class stories or art work that can be hung up or shared with visitors. The students love making things, and by the springtime, many of them have developed a bond with their community friend.

An important element of the program includes a volunteer who visits the community friend each month to deliver the classroom project. This program has been a wonderful link between our school children and community members, and is a blessing to teachers, students, “friends” and the volunteers who deliver the monthly projects.



Current community friends from our church include Terry Hilaman, Ruth Stackhouse, Paul & Marg Brookover, Paula Koester, Eleanor French, Ginny Grady, Mona Dauch and Pat Canfield. The volunteers who deliver these monthly projects include Joel Ross, Kathy Pickett, Darnel Patrick, Ken and Dan Green, and Melinda Dalton.



We are always looking for community members who would enjoy being part of this program and receive monthly visits. We also appreciate the help from all of the volunteers who make the monthly visits. If you know of someone that would like to be a “community friend” or if you are willing to volunteer to make monthly home visits, please talk to Melinda Dalton.

TEEN SPOTLIGHT ON GARRETT BAKER



Short Bio: I'm 15 years old and I am a freshman at Western Reserve High School. I live with my brother, Ethan, and my parents, Julie and Chad. I play baseball, basketball and I was on my school's academic challenge team. I like to code and read web novels. I am good at math.

Hardest thing you've ever done: Present a book report to my class alone. (I have stage fright.)

Favorite Bible verse: Psalm 73:26 *My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.*

Best advice you've been given: Treat others how you want to be treated is something that I learned as a child, but it's still good advice.

Real life hero: My mom, because she will always be there for me.



Song at the top of your playlist:

I don't have a favorite song, but I love country, and my favorite artists are Nate Smith and Morgan Wallen.

Go-to place to pray: My bedroom



Favorite comfort food:

Cereal

Favorite vacation: This year's spring break we went to Gatlinburg, Tennessee and saw a bunch of cool places for hiking. Near the end of the trip, I was on a massive rope bridge with a glass bottom in the middle of it.



Occupation you'd like to pursue after high school:

Software Engineer