

Red Oak Church News

May 2022

A Message From Pastor Ryan

Hello Red Oak Church!

Welcome to our first new quarterly newsletter! The past 3 months has been an incredible journey with Christ for us. In addition to an increase in our congregation size and worship attendance, we have a Junior Worship curriculum and rotation of volunteers, small groups that have filled up nicely, a great hospitality team, a new Youth Group, and a new Leadership Team made up of the pastoral team, deacons, and trustees. It is a great blend of the two congregations that have merged not only in name but in function as the body of Christ. We are so blessed.

Our attendance is steadily growing, and during Easter service we had 167 people in worship and 13 youth in just our Junior Worship alone (plus new teens and babies!). Praise God! As parking has become an issue, we are actively exploring ways to remedy this dilemma. It is a great problem to have. Thankfully, we are able to utilize the parking lot at the high school, and are looking into shuttle transportation to help bring people back and forth. If you are willing and able, please use the high school parking lot if you notice our lot getting full.

Finally, we were blessed to have one of our newer teens get baptized on Palm Sunday. We know heaven rejoices with us, and we pray for her continued growth in the Lord.

These are exciting times here at Red Oak. I ask you to continue praying for our church family, for our growth, and for our inward personal growth as followers of Jesus Christ.

To Him be all glory and honor! Blessings,



Baptism Congratulations

On Sunday, April 10th,
Anna O'Rourke was baptized
during the Sunday worship service.

*May God be praised for
her steps of faith!*



We encourage you to check the website regularly for the fastest way to receive updates and church announcements.

The link to the website:

<https://www.redoakchurch.org>

Sunday Service

Online Worship

Our online Sunday service will be posted weekly at 4:00 pm, on the Website by pressing the "latest sermon" tab on the home page. Use the link above for the website.

Television Broadcast Access:

Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
(West Spfld. residents) on the
Local Access TV Channel 15.

YouTube Access

Our YouTube channel has our entire catalog of services on it and can be accessed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8GUDsNc3M0pVctOyEn8Wvg>

Facebook Access

Follow us on Facebook to stay on top of notifications at:

<https://www.facebook.com/churchredoak>

Red Oak Church 337 Piper Road, West Springfield MA 01089 - Phone/Fax:(413-737-3753)

Website: www.redoakchurch.org - Pastor Ryan Bradley - Email: pastorryan@redoakchurch.org

Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Administrative Secretary: Bonnie Hill - Email: admin@redoakchurch.org

Church Happenings!

Easter Sunday Celebration!



We were blessed on Easter Sunday with a full church as we celebrated the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our service was filled with uplifting praise songs from our worship team, as well as an inspiring and meaningful message from Pastor Ryan!

We praise God as he continues to pour his blessings upon Red Oak Church!

Monthly Men's Breakfast

Submitted by Jim Brown

Praise God, we have so many people who are stepping out in faith and getting involved. The church is growing rapidly and so is the Men's Monthly Breakfast Group. Each month we meet on the second Saturday at 8 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast with a time of fellowship and prayer. This past month we had 18 men who came out, praise God!

Gathering together is so important. The better we know each other the more focused we can be in our prayers for each other. Men, if you'd like a reminder for the breakfast please send me a text, an email or let me know and I'll put you on the list. 413-626-2353.

Junior Worship

Submitted by Gayle Bradley

"For to such belongs the Kingdom of Heaven."

Junior Worship is a safe and happy place for children to learn about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and develop their faith while the message is being presented in the sanctuary.

Junior Worship has wonderful, caring, faith filled adults working with the children. It is extremely inspiring to watch the children respond and grow in their knowledge and faith.

As our church grows, we need more volunteers so that we can provide a safe place for the very young. Please pray for and consider this special ministry.

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Church Ministries

F³ Armor Run

Submitted by Brandy Morreale

The F³ Armor Run has been off to a great start. We have had a great group of kids getting equipped with the Armor of God!

We have so far started with prayer, put on the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of peace, and the helmet of salvation.

We can't believe we only have three more pieces to go and we then will be coming to an end of the program. We are looking forward to putting together a final run for both the kids and the church.



The Chosen

Submitted by Kathy Charland

This group is about so much more than watching a show. We compare what we're watching with Scripture, learning what is and is not written in the gospels, and often leading us to see details we didn't notice before. We take time to get to know one another and may have even had a spirited discussion about what the best ice cream flavors are!

We have been impressed by how many times the sermons during worship services have lined up with the themes in the episodes we're watching. We are intentional about applying what we're learning through action steps to open us up to God's work in us and to influence His kingdom.

The group has expressed the desire to continue meeting at least through the first season of The Chosen, and likely through subsequent seasons, so we are receptive to new members. I would be happy to get anyone who needs it caught up so they can jump in and join us!

"Come and see" - John 1:46b



40 Days of Purpose

Submitted by Jim Brown

Several months ago, I felt led by the Holy Spirit to put together 40-days of prayer leading up to Easter.

Each day there was a specific prayer that we as a church prayed together, but on our own. In addition to that prayer, we focused on our own individual daily praises and concerns.

Also, there was an email thread that many people commented on when they felt led to share during the 40 days. I believe God moved in many hearts, including my own.

We had over 50 people in the church sign up to do this. Praise God! I feel very blessed and humbled that God is using me and each one of us to further His Kingdom.

I pray you all have connected with God on a deeper level with praying every day for each other and the church.

Let's keep the momentum going. God is doing great things here at Red Oak, and.

You Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet!!

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ROC Church Ministries

Springfield Rescue Mission Visit

Submitted by Linda Lamothe

As part of our Mission Team, Nancy Barber, Lin Lamothe, Carol Teed, and Irene Thomson brought our generous donations of men's toiletries from ROC's Operation Hope Tote Collection to the Springfield Rescue Mission. Their new facilities are located in the former Orr Cadillac Dealership on Mill Street in Springfield.

We were given a tour of the place starting in the state of the art kitchen which provides meals for the men living there. This new facility can accommodate up to 60 men who spend a year there and are given clothing, toiletries, and linens for their dorm rooms. There are Chaplains there for their spiritual growth, and computer cubicles for their learning growth. The men attend classes regularly and can spend their leisure time in their lounge area.

The Springfield Rescue Mission also provides food and aid to the homeless. We should feel glad that our donations help those in need in our local community. Thank You to everyone who contributed to Operation Hope Tote!



Side by Side Ministry

Submitted by Lynne Fuller and Wayne Ramsey

We are in the process of training new side by side ministers to help the hurting people of our church. For example, anyone who is experiencing grief, divorce, loss of a loved one, loss of a job, etc., would greatly benefit from this ministry.

This is a one-on-one ministry. A minister is assigned to a hurting person for as long as he/she needs someone by their side to walk them through their hurt. Jesus will give you joy to encourage you as you bear your care receiver's burdens. This is the gift of servanthood. Jesus will be with you as you take each step in this journey. In fact, Jesus will go ahead of you to prepare the way for your ministry. Each situation is kept highly confidential.

If you have a heart for hurting people, have the gift of mercy, and want to give back to someone in need, then this is the ministry for you! If you are interested, you can reach us at: lynnefuller44@gmail.com. God bless!

Visitation/Shut-in Ministry

Submitted by Carol Teed

This vital ministry of keeping in contact with our church shut-ins is alive and well! Cards, notes and phone calls have been ongoing ways to stay in touch, and the good news is that personal visits are on the rise after a lengthy COVID related hiatus.

Every time a visit takes place, a card or note is sent, or a phone call is made, I am reminded of the joy it gives to both the giver and the receiver. If you have ever gotten a thinking of you card, note, phone call or visit from someone in your church family, you know what I mean.

If you would like to be a partner in this joyful ministry of our church, please call the church office and leave your name and phone number.

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Upcoming Events & ROC Info.

May Weekly Calendar

Every Sunday	9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m. Youth Group (through mid-June)
Tuesday Evenings	6:30 p.m. Tuesday Evening Service
Wednesday Evenings	6:00 p.m. F3 Armor Run (through May 18th) 6:30 p.m. Theology & Bible Study

Tuesday Evening Service

Join us for our mid-week Tuesday evening service from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. The service has a message and worship music, and is a prayer and praise service as well. We hope to see you either on Tuesday, and or Sunday for our worship services.

Theology & Bible Study with Pastor Ryan

The Wednesday night Theology and Bible Study with Pastor Ryan meets weekly at 6:30 p.m., here at the church as well as well as through Zoom. For more information, please email Pastor Ryan at pastorryan@redoakchurch.org All are welcome to join in!

Small Groups

Our small groups are up and running! If you are interested in joining a small group study, please sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex, or reach out to the church office at 413-737-3753 for more information.

Church Prayer Chain

If you are in need of prayer, please contact Helen Monko at 413-783 - 0602.

If you would like In - Person Prayer, Lynne Fuller & Wayne Ramsey have a live prayer team over the phone or through Zoom.

For more information, please contact the church office at 413-737-3753.

Are You Interested in Baptism or Membership Red Oak Church?

If you would like more information in Baptism or would like information about becoming a member her at ROC, please call the church office at 413-737-3753 or click on the email link for Pastor Ryan pastorryan@redoakchurch.org

Ways To Give: Please continue to make your checks out to "First Baptist Church" as we continue to wait for the Red Oak Church name change to go through.

- ≈ In Sanctuary: An Offering Box is available on the right hand side as you walk into the Sanctuary.
- ≈ By Mail: First Baptist Church, 337 Piper Road, West Springfield, MA 01089
- ≈ Online Banking: Set up automatic payments to the church at your bank.

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