

# The Spire Lite

January 2023

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11



## Annual Meeting

The Upland Baptist Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22, 2023. This meeting will be held immediately following worship.

Those who are attending worship will remain in the sanctuary for the meeting. Those who are worshiping with us virtually will be able to be a part of the meeting through our live streaming.

We will stop the broadcast when worship is completed, then start a new broadcast for the meeting. You will have to click on live broadcast again to enter the meeting. People who are participating virtually will be able to text Pastor Brenda with questions and even cast their vote.

## Notice for Annual Meeting

At the January 22, 2023 Annual Meeting, a motion will be put forth to suspend the term limits for the positions of Chairperson, Ministry to Members Team Leader, and Worship Team Leader.

## Annual Reports

All members of the Ministry Council should submit their reports to the church office no later than **Thursday, January 8, 2023.**

Annual Reports should be available on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Annual Reports will be available to pick up during worship or from the church office by appointment. Financial Reports will be available at the Annual Meeting.



## Service Sunday

Our next Service Sunday is scheduled for January 29, 2023. We hope that you will join us as we worship through service on Sunday morning. We are working on all indoor options for our service projects this time. Stay tuned for more information.

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is Jan. 16

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is known as a day of service. The Community Affairs Association will hold an Annual MLK Cleanup of several parks and other areas located in Upland Borough. Join us at MacQueen Hall located at 224 Castle Avenue starting at 10:00 a.m. Please bring gloves! Trash bags and other supplies will be provided.

To sign up please email [mcrawford@uplandboro.org](mailto:mcrawford@uplandboro.org) or contact the borough office at (610) 874-7317. All children must be accompanied by an adult.



We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to Brian Fisher, owner of GeoTech Services, LLC, who serviced both the Church and Chapel boilers free of charge. We are grateful to have the peace of mind that our boilers are working well and that there is someone to call if we have a problem.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries for January and February

### January Birthdays

- 2 Jane Kofroth
- 6 Casey Klimek
- 17 Stephen Kalichak, Sr.

### January Anniversaries

- 28 Doris and John Fraim



### February Birthdays

- 11 Frank Kulp
- 20 Joan Decker
- 21 Janet Peterson
- 24 Iris Messick
- 27 Sue Kulp

### February Anniversary

- 17 Dave & Kathy Geveke



## Thank You, Christine!

Pastor Brenda and the Ministry Council would like to extend their deepest gratitude to Christine Cymbala for her assistance in the church office. Christine has filled in during these transitional months and has taken an enormous burden off Pastor Brenda, while making the tasks of the office run smoothly. We are very grateful.

We are expecting, in the near future, to have a permanent church secretary. Continue to pray for this position and the ministry the church secretary does with us.



## Christmas Card Greetings

These individuals and families sent a Christmas card to the church to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and blessed New Year.

We are excited that through their donations, we will be able to provide a meal to the Upland Police Department, the Upland Fire Company and the Upland Athletic Club in 2023.

Steph Abbonizio  
Judy and Barry Armstrong  
Connie and John Baxter  
Kim Buffington  
Normajean Colby  
Linda Cook  
Doris and John Fraim  
The Furniss Family  
Kathy, Dave, Ben, Noah, Nicole, Henry,  
Charlie, Anna, & Tom Geveke  
Jane and John Kofroth  
Sue and Frank Kulp  
Dick Ladd  
Joanne Long  
Iris Messick  
Charlene and Dan Miller  
Priscilla Mills  
Florence Osborne  
Darlene and David Pysher and Family  
Dawn Rafalski  
Rosie Richardson  
The Shaws – Brenda, John, Stephen,  
and Matthew  
Denise Sweeney  
Marge Waltman



## Devotional Thought...

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12 (NIV)

My wife's favorite hymn is "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing." She finds the lyrics about love inspirational. The hymn also happens to be one of Pastor Brenda's favorites, which is why we get to enjoy it so often. The text, about divine grace, was written in 1758 by Robert Robinson. The hymn is set to an American folk tune known as "Nettleton."

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Most modern hymnals, including ours, omit the final verse, which includes the following:

Come, my Lord, no longer tarry,  
Take my ransomed soul away;  
Send thine angels now to carry  
Me to realms of endless day.



As the prophet Samuel explained, the LORD has helped us in the past. And, God promises to help us now and forevermore.

Dear God, Thank You for helping us in the past. We can't do it by ourselves and we need Your help. Amen.

Dave Geveke



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