

# The Spire

January 2024



*"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."*

~Ezekiel 36:26

## Annual Meeting

The Upland Baptist Church Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 28, 2024**. This meeting will be held immediately following worship.

Those who are attending worship will remain in the sanctuary for the meeting. Those who are worshipping 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, and 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 votes.

## Notice for Annual Meeting

At the January 28, 2024 Annual Meeting, a motion will be put forth to suspend the term limits for the positions of Property Team Leader and Communication Team Leader.

## Annual Reports

All members of the Ministry Council should submit their reports to the church office no later than **Tuesday, January 2, 2024**.

Annual Reports will be available on January 14th. 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.



## Food Bank

Thanks to your donations and the Scouting for Food event, the Food Bank was able to provide Christmas Dinner bags for over 50 residents!

If you'd like to donate something for the month of January, we'd love some dish soap.



## A Successful Giving Tree

There were 39 gifts 📺 taken to Fair Acres before Christmas to celebrate the Giving Tree Ministry (aka Angel Hot Line). Thanks to all who participated.

Love God! Love Others!



## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is Jan. 15

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 AM. 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.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries for January and February

### January Birthdays

- 2 Jane Kofroth
- 22 Marge Waltman
- 29 Makenzie McGonigle

### February Birthdays

- 1 Richard Ladd
- Tommy Waltman
- 9 Priscilla Mills
- Jim Levi
- 11 Frank Kulp
- 20 Joan Decker
- 21 Janet Peterson
- 24 Iris Messick
- 27 Sue Kulp

### February Anniversary

- 17 Dave and Kathy Geveke



# 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 and the Upland Fire Company.

- Barry and Judy Armstrong
- Kim Buffington
- Normajean Colby
- Linda Cook
- Dave and Kathy Geveke
- John and Jane Kofroth
- Frank and Sue Kulp
- Joanne Long
- Iris Messick
- Dan and Charlene Miller
- Priscilla Mills
- The Pysher Family
- Dawn Rafalski
- Rosie Richardson
- The Shaw Family
- Denise Sweeney
- Marge Waltman



## Saturday, January 6

Church Undecorating 9:00 AM

## Sunday, January 14

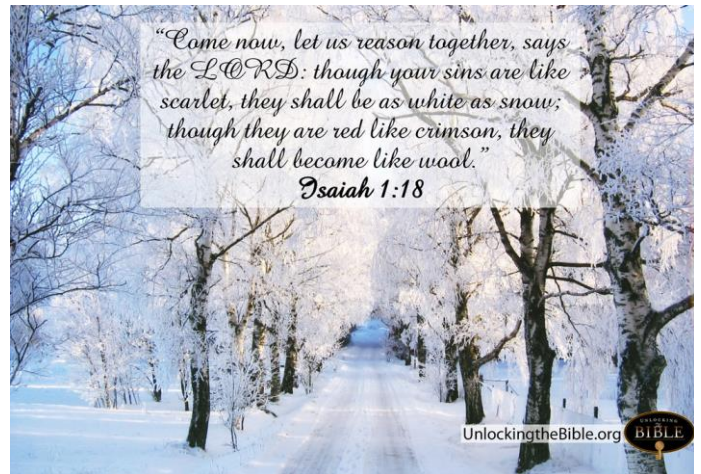
Sunday Social Brunch 11:00 AM

Join us for a time of fellowship after worship. If you'd like to provide anything, please sign up on the sheet in the back of the church.

## Tuesday, January 23

Board of Directors Meeting 6:45 PM

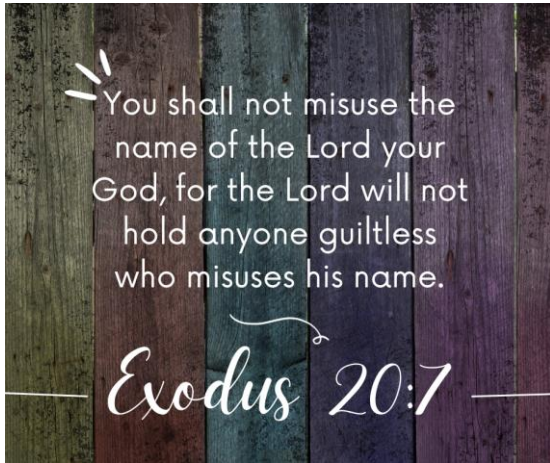
Ministry Council 7:15 PM



## January Small Groups

Please note the date change for the first Small Group Meetings in January. Both the Noon and 7:00 PM Small Groups will meet on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting, you will cover chapters 5 and 6.





## Devotional Thought...

The name of God is holy. It is sacred. It is special. But how many times do you hear or maybe you, yourself, use His name in an unholy manner? Let me tell you a story. Our dog, Benny, has been having a hard time controlling a certain behavior. He has been scratching lately and the vet put him on prednisone. Well, this medicine has made Benny very hungry. As a result, he searches anywhere for food which has included our

jackets hanging up on the laundry room hooks. In the last few weeks, Benny has destroyed three jackets, ate a whole box of dry pasta, and devoured a cupcake right off the kitchen table. I could go on and on with a longer list, but I am certain you get the idea.

Now, one particular jacket was a brand-new Harley-Davidson jacket that Frank had had a mint inside the pocket when he visited church one day to check on the heater. Well, this small, wrapped mint caught the nose of our "beloved" dog, Benny! As I said earlier, this was one of three jackets destroyed. When I walked into the laundry room that day, my eyes bugged out seeing this new jacket laying on the floor ripped to shreds. Before I could scream out at Benny and use some unsavory language, there was a card next to the jacket on the floor with the above Bible verse on it. This card stopped my mouth in its tracks! I did not misuse the name of God (when I certainly could have). It is not a habit of mine to do such a thing, but I have known it to happen in my 67 years of life.

From that day on, I will remember to never say our Lord's name in vain. This verse will remind me of the importance of keeping my words in check, especially when God is called upon. Please check your words, too, when you are angry or very upset. It is not worth being held guiltless misusing His name BECAUSE... It is holy. It is sacred. It is special.

~ Sue Kulp

Love God  Love Others

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