

The Spire Lite

November 2020



"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 4:6-7



Abundance of Blessing

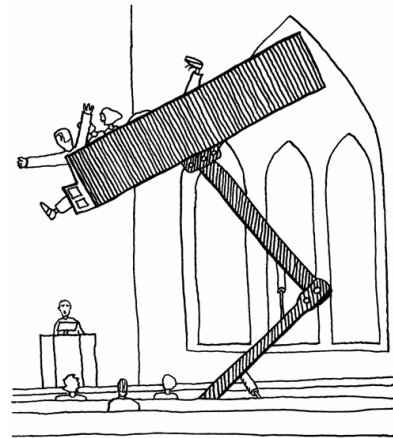
If you would like to help a family enjoy Thanksgiving dinner, you are invited to donate \$10 for a turkey, or \$30 for a Thanksgiving meal. All donations will be used by the Upland Baptist Food Bank to provide meals for our community.

No matter how you donate, through the website, by mail, or by putting it in the offering plate, please make your donations out to Upland Baptist Church and mark your donation: *Abundance of Blessing* in the memo or note line.

We will be taking Abundance of Blessing donations through November 22.

Cemetery Clean Up Day

We will be working in our church cemetery on **Saturday, November 14** beginning at 9 am. We want to be sure the grounds are well maintained, especially as people visit during the holiday season.



SOME OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE WANTED
CHURCH TO BE MORE EXCITING

Celebrate Veterans

November 11, 2020 is National Veterans Day established in 1954 to recognize and honor the service and sacrifices of the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces. Upland Baptist salutes the veterans in our church Family. Thank You for your service.

Dennis Decker US Army 101st Airborne
John Fraim US Army
Ray Leber US Navy

Parker Ferguson US Army
Aaron Johnston US Army

If you are a Veteran and we missed you on our list, please call the church office (610-874-7474) and let us know.

We challenge all the members and friends of our church to personally thank a veteran in November this year.

Worship

Worshipping continues to be at 10 am whether in person or virtual. If you join us in the sanctuary, please maintain social distance and wear a mask.

You can also join us virtually through our website at www.uplandbaptist.org. If you are worshipping with us from somewhere outside the sanctuary, please text Pastor Brenda, 610-453-8317. We want to know you are worshipping with us.



Prayer Meeting

We will have zoom prayer meetings on Tuesday, November 4 and 18, 7 pm.

To join using zoom go to www.uplandbaptist.org and click on the praying hands.

You may also join by calling:

+1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 997 1621 0300
Password: 926257

Gratitude on Facebook

During the month of November, join the gratitude conversation on the Upland Baptist Church Facebook page. Each day there will be a post asking a question. *What food are you most thankful for?* Each day will be a different question. Simply post your answer as a comment on the post.

Offerings

Offerings can be mailed to Upland Baptist Church 325 Main Street, Upland, PA 19015 or given electronically through PayPal at www.uplandbaptist.org. If you are donating through the website, please designate your gift.



Birthdays and Anniversaries for November and December

November Birthdays

13 Dawn Rafalski
19 Doug Scott
20 Kim Buffington
22 Brian Klimek
23 Sara Mason
27 Helen Rhoads

November Anniversaries

None

December Birthdays

4 Bobbi Jean Simcox
7 Deloris Hanley
16 Ben Geveke
Cheryl Rhoads
24 Amanda Harman
26 Kathleen Geveke
27 Courtney Klimek

December Anniversaries

18 Carol and Richard Arcscott

Christmas at Upland Baptist

Church Decorating

We will decorate the sanctuary on November 28 beginning at 9 am. All are welcome to deck the halls.

Poinsettias

This year we will be continuing our tradition of remembering and honoring loved ones by listing them in the Sunday, December 20th and Christmas Eve bulletins. Instead of getting live poinsettia plants, we will be mailing a handcrafted, wooden, poinsettia ornament for each donation of \$8.00. Orders should be submitted by December 13 either by mail or to uplandbaptist@verizon.net. Use the enclosed form to reserve your poinsettia ornaments and honor your loved ones.



Giving Tree

We are adopting 50 residents from Belvedere Nursing home for Christmas. The staff has provided gift suggestions for each resident. If you want to participate, please contact Pastor Brenda (610-453-8317 or brendaabshaw@gmail.com) to be given a resident and gift suggestion. Gifts should be dropped off at the church by Sunday, December 13th. If you your donated picked up, please let us know.

Special Offerings

Advent Offering can be given at any time. It will be used to offset the staff Christmas gifts.

Christmas Card Fund you are invited to send a Christmas Card and donation. The card will be hung on the Church Christmas Tree and the donation will be used to provide meals for the Upland Police Department and for the Upland Fire Company. Please mail your Christmas Card by December 13th to Upland Baptist Church c/o Linda Cook 325 Main Street, Upland, PA 19015.

Staff Christmas Gifts donations will be accepted throughout November and December.

All these gifts can be mailed to the church, donated through the website, or placed in an offering plate. Please designate your donation.

Christmas Eve Service

We are planning to have our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion service at 7 pm on Christmas Eve. There will be some changes to the service. We ask that everyone wear a mask and maintain social distancing while in the sanctuary. This means that we have approximately 35 pews open for family units. You may join us live through the website as well. As we draw closer, we will update the information for this service.

Advent Devotionals

This year we will be reading Heavenly Peace by Sarah Thomas Tracy. Through daily readings, we will work to find peace during this busy and unusual season. Copies of the devotional will be available at church, or you may call to request a copy be mailed to you. It is also available on Nook and Kindle.

Devotional Thought...

Psalm 100:4-5 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Every Thanksgiving, students are asked to write, draw, or list things for which they are thankful. When we were having VBS Night, we asked the children to name something they are grateful or thankful for as part of our prayer before eating. We heard many answers. Sometimes they had to stop and think and other times, their answers were given immediately. They were thankful for food, shelter, their families, their toys, school, sports, etc. If I asked you what you were thankful for, how would you answer? Would you have to stop and think or would your answers just flow from your lips?

Thankfulness should be a way of life for us, naturally flowing from our hearts and mouth. When we are thankful, our focus moves from our wants and desires and even our painful circumstances. Expressing our thankfulness helps us remember that we belong to God, and that we have been blessed with having God in our lives and with us always. It is easy to give praise and thanks to God when everything is going well in our lives, but that is often the time when we forgot to do so. Everything is going smoothly, so who thinks they need to stop and thank God? And, we find it difficult to give praise and thanks to God when things are difficult and we do not think that God cares. But that is when we need to do it the most to remind ourselves that God is always with us. God will not let us go through our trials and tribulations alone. He is always with us. Remember, it is during those times of trials and tribulations we need to pray, with thanksgiving, thanking God for being with us and for never leaving our side. God does not promise to change every situation, but promises to give us peace and never leave us. In times of trials and tribulations, David, Job, and Paul still praised God for his faithfulness and love. We need to do the same.

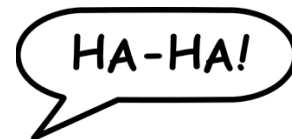
Linda Cook

Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?

Because Noah was always standing on the deck

Why didn't Noah ever go fishing?

He only had two worms.



Upland Baptist Church

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