



The Spire Lite

October 2023

"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

~Isaiah 40:8

Pastor Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, October 22nd will be Pastor Appreciation Sunday. We will mark Pastor Brenda's 23rd Anniversary as Pastor of the Upland Baptist Church. During the Worship Service, we will recognize Pastor Brenda and have a social time afterwards in the Chapel. Join us as we thank Pastor Brenda for her dedication, caring, and ministry to the congregation of our Church. If you would like to bring a card, there will be baskets available in the front and back of the church. If you cannot attend worship, you can mail a card to Pastor Brenda Shaw, Upland Baptist Church, 325 Mail Street, Upland, PA 19015. Also, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Church for items needed for the social.



Small Groups Begin

Small Group begins October 3rd. We are excited with the number of people who have signed up, and there are still spots in either group. Please consider joining us.

This fall, we will be reading Hebrews 1-7. The first seven chapters of the Book of Hebrews explore topics like the identity and work of Jesus, security in our salvation, and the call to persevere as followers of Christ.

Small Groups meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month. One group meets at the church at noon. (Please bring a bag lunch.) The second group meets at 7:00 PM at the Shaw's house.



On Sunday, October 8th, at noon, we will hold a Blessing of the Animals service. All animals are welcome to join us for the service, though we ask for carriers or leashes to be used.

A Successful Delivery

Four hundred "Welcome Back to School Swag Bags" were distributed to Main Street Elementary on September 13th. The adults in the office were most appreciative and the principal greeted Frank and Sue on their arrival. Thank you to all those individuals who helped to put the bags together.



Service Sunday

Our next Service Sunday is scheduled for October 29th. We hope that you will join us as we worship through service on Sunday morning.



Recently, the Church joined the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Adopt-a-Highway program. We are committed to cleaning up Main St. and 6th St. at least twice a year.

Our outdoor service project this month will be picking up trash along those two main streets in Upland. Please bring your gloves and trash picker-uppers. For those who wish to remain indoors, we'll be crafting some turkeys for Fair Acres.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for October and November

October Birthdays

2 Parker Ferguson
7 Joanne Long
9 Everett McGonigle
George McGonigle

October Anniversaries

10 John & Jane Kofroth

November Birthdays

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





Upland Baptist Annual Trunk-or-Treat

Upland Baptist will host it's annual Trunk-or-Treat event on October 31st from 6:00-7:00 PM in the church parking lot. Please do not start giving out candy until 6:00.

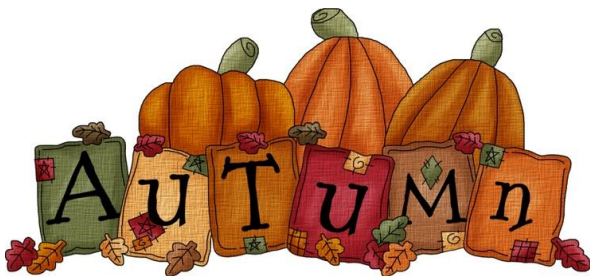
Please bring treats for the children in our community. The event is outside, so be sure dress for the weather as well as bring a chair.

Food Bank

The items needed for October are

Gravy and Corn Bread Mix

Please donate any time during the month.



Christmas Poinsettia Orders

It's time to start thinking about your Christmas Poinsettia orders. In the coming weeks, please look for an order form in your bulletin inserts.

Pricing is as follows:

- Small Red (6" size, 4 to 6 blooms, \$7.50)
- Large Red (7" size, 10 to 14 blooms, \$14.00)

The order deadline is **Sunday, November 19, 2023**. To order, place the form and payment in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office. Payment must be received at time of order. Please make all checks payable to Upland Baptist Church.



Devotional Thought...

"He is the one you should praise. He's your God. With your own eyes you saw the great and wonderful miracles he did for you." ~Deuteronomy 10:21

Last summer, my father, Hans Geveke, was in the hospital for weeks due to a collapsed lung. At the Crozer Hospital ER, a vacuum tube was inserted through his back, and his lung was expanded. Because of a prior lung disease, his lung tissue was like a Kleenex. Therefore, surgeons were reluctant to operate because of fear that the tissue would tear and make things worse. He remained in the hospital for several weeks in severe pain due to the tube in his back. Then, a different surgeon at Crozer said he could operate using a robot. After the surgery, my father's lung still collapsed. More weeks passed with no progress, and he was moved to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, considered the best in the region. There, surgeons inferred that he should never have been operated on because of the poor condition of his lung tissue. And they said he might always need the tube through his back. It looked hopeless, and I lost faith in the wisdom of the surgeon at Crozer who performed the robotic surgery. Then, a few weeks later, miraculously, his lung started improving! The surgeon removed the tube, and my father's lung has not collapsed since!

God has performed countless miracles in the past, like healing my father. We should strive to remember them. This miracle-working God is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

~David Geveke



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