

The Spire Lite

September 2021



"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." - Romans 12:2

Worship

Sunday, September 12, 2021, we will celebrate communion in the sanctuary. Worship will continue to be at 10 am. We hope that you will join us in person, though worship will continue to be broadcast at www.uplandbaptist.org.

Sunday Social

Following worship on September 12, we will have a Sunday Social outside the church on the bricks. We will enjoy water ice and spend a few moments catching up after worshipping together. We look forward to seeing you.

Bible Study

Are you interested in learning more about the Bible? Would you like to learn with a group of people? Do you sometimes feel like other people know more than you do?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then Bible Study is for you. During our hour long Bible Studies, we will read and discuss scripture, learning together. No previous knowledge is needed!

Join us on Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 22 at 10 am in the Chapel to grow in your faith.

Small Group

We are thrilled to announce that Small Groups will begin again this fall. Small Groups are small gatherings of people who come together to discuss life lived with God. They are informal, friendly gatherings. The group spends time in prayer as well as in discussion around a common theme.

This fall we will be reading [Let Me Tell You A Story: Life Lessons From Unexpected Places And Unlikely People](#) by Tony Campolo. Each chapter focuses on a theme. Some of the themes are God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, How to Live the Christian Life, Work and Ourselves. Each chapter is a series of engaging stories around the topic. During our time together we will discuss the stories and what they say to us about living life with God. Copies of the book will be available at church.

Small Groups will meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month, beginning in October. The first meeting is October 5. One group meets at the church at noon, bring a sack lunch. The second group meets at 7:00 pm at the Shaw's house.

Sign up on the sheet in church or let Pastor Brenda know you are interested!

Laugh Alert



The Joyful Noise Bell Choir is meeting again. We are looking forward to playing together. We hope that everyone is able to return to the group, but there is room for new members if you are interested in joining Joyful Noise. Let John Shaw know that you are planning on playing in the Joyful Noise Bell Choir.

The first practice is Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 8:30 am.

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and small American flags were mounted on either side of it.

The seven year-old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside him and said quietly, "Good morning, Alex."

"Good morning, Pastor," replied the young man, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor Phillips, what is this?" Alex asked.

"Well, son, it's a memorial to all the men and women who have died in the service."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque.

Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally managed to ask, "Which one, the 9:00 or 10:30 service?"

Birthdays and Anniversaries for September and October

September Birthdays

- 3 Doris Moody
- 11 Louise Sauk
- 13 Betty Singley
- 15 Monica Manerchia
Diane Lord Ogram
Rosemary Richardson
Marsha Scott
- 18 Dave Miskowic
- 20 Bill Lord Sr.

September Anniversaries

- 7 Akky and Hans Geveke
- 14 Charlene and Dan Miller
- 21 Stephen and Kimberlee Kalichak

October Birthdays

- 1 Karin Lord
- 2 Parker Ferguson
- 7 Joanne Long
- 9 Florence Osborne
- 23 Sharon Jackson

October Anniversaries

- 10 John & Jane Kofroth

Church Website

We are excited to announce our revamped website is live. Go to www.uplandbaptist.org to keep up to date on what's happening.

We say a special thank you to John Kofroth and Dave Geveke for their work on the website.



Prayer Meeting

We believe in the importance of prayer. It is our desire to be intentional about praying for and with each other. We will join together on Zoom the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. Join us on September 1st and October 6th by going to www.uplandbaptist.org and clicking the prayer meeting link.



On Sunday October 3, 2021, at noon, we will be holding a Blessing of the Animals service. You are encouraged to bring your furry friends. All animals are welcome to join us for the service, though we ask for carriers or leashes to be used.



Food Bank

The Food Bank continues to serve the community by providing food to our neighbors. Each Tuesday volunteers gather to pack bags, bring in donations and prepare to serve the community. On Wednesday mornings from 9 – 10 am, the Food Bank is open to welcome our neighbors. Anyone who lives in Upland and is in need of food assistance is welcome to come on Wednesday mornings.

Devotional Thought...

Consider the Lilies.... Matthew 6: 25-34 (NIV)

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can anyone of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? Why do you worry about clothes? See the flowers of the field and how they grow. They do not labor or spin. And yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all of his splendor was dressed as one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not that much more clothe you, oh ye of little faith? So do not worry, saying, what shall we eat?, what shall we drink?, or what shall we wear? For the pagans run after these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all of these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”



Many years ago after my mother died, my father and I purchased a lily in her memory to adorn the church sanctuary at Easter. After it was home with us for awhile and the weather was favorable, I planted it outside. It faithfully appeared and blossomed for several springs until one season the gentleman who mowed the lawn inadvertently included it while weed whacking the weeds. I thought it was gone forever, but the next spring a few leaves appeared and the spring following that, a few more leaves.

This season not only did the plant return, but it brought forth two beautiful flowers! I was very excited, but even more ecstatic when, while admiring this plant, I was reminded of the passage above. God is omniscient (all knowing), omnipresent (all places), and omnipotent (all powerful). In Philippians 4:19 the Apostle Paul assures the Christians in Philippi that “... God will supply all your needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus.” God truly has His eye on the sparrow, and the lilies, and His beloved children. There is nothing that we will encounter today (or tomorrow) that our God can't handle!

Prayer: Lord, help us to focus on and trust in you alone for all our needs, Amen (Prov 3:5-6)

-Normajean Colby

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