

The Spire Lite

May 2021



God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.

Psalm 46:1-3

Thank You First Responders

Through your generous Christmas Card donations, we were able to provide a thank you meal to the Upland Fire Company and Upland Police Department.



On Wednesday, April 14, the Upland Police Department was delivered lunch of hoagies, potato salad, chips, desserts, and beverages.

On Thursday, April 8, we took dinner to the Upland Fire Company for their monthly meeting. Hoagies, chips, ziti, meatballs, potato salad, desserts, and beverages were served.



Thank you for your generous donations that made these thank you meals possible.

Mother's Day is May 9



On Mother's Day, everyone in worship will be invited to text (610-453-8317) and share the names of the women they would like to celebrate. The names will be read as part of the worship service.

Invite a Friend to Worship

This is a great time to invite someone to worship with us. So many of us are worshipping virtually, which is an easy way to get to know the church.

Step 1: Pray for the person you want to invite.

Step 2: Invite them, personally, with clear directions on how to access the virtual service or directions to the church.

Step 3: Follow up and see how their experience was and answer any questions they may have.

As always, worship will be in person (325 Main Street, Upland, PA) and virtually (www.uplandbaptist.org) Sundays at 10 am.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for May and June

May Birthdays

- 1 Matthew Shaw
- 4 Noah Geveke
- 5 David Geveke
- Darlene Pysher
- 7 Peggy Albany
- 15 Akky Geveke
- 17 Thomas Geveke
- 22 Sandy Kushner
- 26 Jackie Wright
- 27 Hans Geveke
- 28 Stephen Kalichak, Jr.
- 29 John Gallagher

May Anniversaries

- 4 Brian and Courtney Klimek
- 10 Joan and Dennis Decker

June Birthdays

- 7 Adam Robert Moore
- 8 Henry Strunk

June Anniversaries

- 11 John and Rev. Brenda Shaw
- 15 Doug and Marsha Scott
- 22 Darlene and David Pysher
- 30 Frank & Sue Kulp





Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies

Monday, May 31 is Memorial Day. We will begin with laying the wreaths in the Upland Baptist Cemetery at 8:45 am. The parade will begin at 9:00 am from the church parking lot.

The ceremony at the War Memorial will begin at approximately 10:00 am.

The Community Picnic will begin about 11:00 am. This will be a takeout meal. We will give out meals until they are gone. The picnic is co-sponsored by Upland Baptist Church and Resurrection Life Church. We do not know if volunteers are needed.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

Memorial Day Community Picnic on May 31st

We are excited to be participating in the Memorial Day Community Picnic again this year. There are some changes this year. We will be doing a takeout picnic lunch this year. This will enable people to take their lunches home or spread out to eat safely.

Children bags will contain a hotdog, chips, applesauce, dessert, and juice box.

Adult bags will contain 2 hotdogs, chips, macaroni salad, dessert and water.

Upland Baptist Church will be collecting donations of **juice boxes and individual applesauce cups**. These can be dropped off at the church. There will be 120 lunch bags for children.

We will also be asking for donations of **cookies or brownies** in individual sandwich bags donated closer to Memorial Day. If you are willing to donate a dessert, please let Pastor Brenda know so we have an idea of how many donations to expect.

What God wants us to do...



By Matthew Shaw

Devotional Thought...

Psalm 91:11-12

“For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

I used to love the fanciful notion of angels among us. Guardian angels. Loved ones, gone from this world, reaching down from heaven to guide us—keep track of our lives—protect us from harm.

But, I wonder why I ever thought we needed them? These are all things Jesus Himself promised to do for us.

Last January, God provided me with an angel. She didn't show up in a glowing, white robe or swoop in on gossamer wings. But rather, she appeared wearing a black bathing suit and a straw hat. Jill was an EMT from Canada vacationing—as we were—in Mexico.

When I slipped and fell near the pool, she didn't hesitate to leave her lounge chair to come and help me. She assessed the damage, determined my shoulder was broken, made me a sling from a pillowcase, and supervised fellow sunbathers in getting me up from the cement and on to a wheel chair. Her concern for us continued almost daily until we could finally come home.

Like most disasters, this one came without warning—no time to pray. But, God knew who I needed, and she appeared!

Psalm 91 is encouraging and hugely reassuring. But, it doesn't say bad things won't ever come to God's faithful people. It reassures us that He is present, always, in everything. He will give us what we need to find our way out of despair.

Maybe God wants us to be the angels over whom He “has command”. Maybe we are the ones He sends out to help “guide” others in “all their ways”—during happy times and perilous ones.

God's Holy Spirit lives in each of us. I think He probably longs for us to follow Him and become his angels.

But, He requires a lot, and it can be difficult:

Be kind. Act fairly and with humility. Be aware. Don't look away from other people's troubles. Don't give up on anyone. Treat everyone with respect. But mostly, He requires that we trust Him.

As ordinary, everyday angels, perhaps we can help make the light of Jesus' love shine brightly in our world.

Jane Kofroth

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