

The Spire Lite

February 2021



Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a



Ash Wednesday is February 17. This day begins the season of Lent, which leads us to Easter Sunday when we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. Traditionally, Ash Wednesday involves getting the sign of the cross on one's forehead to symbolize repentance.

This year we will have a drive-up service for Ash Wednesday. People will be invited to stay in their vehicles and receive either ashes or a card symbolizing ashes. Lenten devotional materials will also be available for pick-up.

We want to thank the Upland Fire Company for volunteering to bring lights and help with the evening.

Ash Wednesday, February 17 drive up to receive ashes, Upland Baptist Church Parking lot, 7 to 8 pm.

Valentine's Day Challenge

Will you accept the challenge to be an integral part of our caring community? This February, we want to remember our shut-ins, those who have not been in worship, those who are by themselves, those who are here every Sunday that you may not get a chance to talk to, and others in our congregation. Let them know you care by...

1. Praying for Them
2. Sending a card or writing a note
3. Calling them
4. Baking them a treat
5. Asking them how they are doing and then listening to what they say
6. Helping them – Do they need help with yard work? Do they need groceries?
7. Sending them a picture or poem

Remember every time we reach out to someone; we share the love of God!



Love one another
as I have Loved you
-John 15:12

Lenten Devotionals

There will be three options for Lent this year. You will be given all three. You can choose, one, mix and match or do all three.

Reflections on Prayer is a weekly scripture reading, reflection questions and meditative coloring experience.

Reading through the Gospels will take you through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John during Lent.

Praying through Lent will challenge you to prayer for a different person everyday during the season of Lent.

They will be available on Ash Wednesday drive through, in the back of the church or by contacting the church office.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for February and March

February Birthdays

11 Frank Kulp
13 Stephanie Pysher Yanuzzi
14 Megan DeVecchis
 Katelyn DeVecchis
16 Ray Leber
20 Joan Decker
21 Janet Peterson
24 Iris Messick
27 Sue Kulp

January Anniversaries

17 Dave and Kathy Geveke

Lenten Conversation

Every Wednesday, February 24 through March 31 at 7 pm there will be a zoom conversation to discuss our journey through Lent. We hope you will join us with your questions, any of your devotional experiences and to encourage one another on our Lenten journey. The zoom link will be found at www.uplandbaptist.org.

For God
SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS
ONLY
BEGOTTEN
SON SO
THAT WHOEVER
BELIEVES
IN HIM SHALL
HAVE EVERLASTING
Life
John 3:16

Discipleship Team Leader

The Ministry Council has approved Jane Kofroth as the Discipleship Team Leader.

March Birthdays

22 Rev. Brenda Shaw
25 Rachel Miskowic
30 Normajean Colby
 Katie Boyer

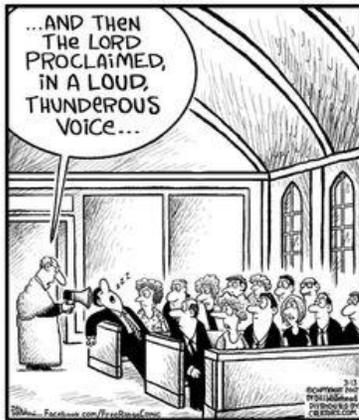
March Anniversaries

None

“Cakeless” Baby Shower

Brigid and Jim Levi and their son, Jamie are welcoming a baby boy in March! We are so excited for them.

We are having a “cakeless” baby shower. You are invited to drop off a card or gift to welcome the new baby at the church. We are planning on giving Brigid the cards and gifts on Sunday, March 7, 2021.



Worship and the 7 Last Words of Christ

This Lent we will explore the 7 Last Words of Christ during Sunday morning worship. Through these words of Jesus, we learn who he wants us to be as His People. Jesus' life, death and resurrection were filled with purpose and meaning.

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.

Ministry Council

The Ministry Council would like to express our thanks and gratitude to Pastor Brenda for keeping our Church up and running throughout the last year. Since March, we have only missed two Sundays of worship. It is only through her dedication that we have been able to minister to our members throughout the pandemic. Also, we would like to thank John, Stephen, and Matthew Shaw, Brigid Levi, and Sandy Kushner for their parts in bringing Sunday Worship to us when almost everything else was shut down. Finally, we would like to give a big thank you to the Food Bank for not missing a beat throughout the last year and continuing to serve the community.

Upland Borough Soup and Salad Dinner Take-Out

Chase away your winter chill - support the Upland Community Affairs Committee with their annual "Soup & Salad Dinner" fundraiser scheduled on Saturday, 2/13/2021. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the borough office (610) 874-7317.

Take out dinner includes: Choice of 2 pints: Homemade chili &/or chicken & dumplings served with salad, bread, dessert & beverage. **Cost is \$10 per meal and \$8 for senior citizens.**

Prayer Meeting

We will have zoom prayer meetings on Wednesday, February 3rd at 7 pm.

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

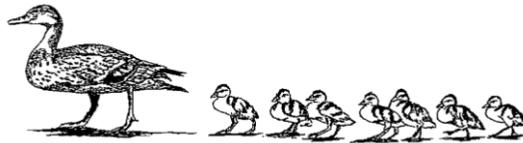
Devotional Thought...

He leads me by still waters. He restores my soul Psalm 23:2-3

During the early days of Covid 19 I was drawn to the river near my home for daily walks. I often read the morning devotional while I watched the river flow. I watched God's world there thrive. Sunsets were beautiful. Turtles came on land and laid their eggs. Four duck families arrived. The goslings were abundant. Then came Isaias, and the shore was clogged with debris, logs and trees. The park flooded. But the duck families came together in a group of 13 and headed to safer waters. The geese stayed on shore; the heron fished off the logs. As I watched the resilience of the water life, I had faith that God also had a plan for his human world; we just had to trust and wait. The beauty of the river and those thoughts brought comfort and peace. Find your place of peace and comfort in God's world and invite him in for a chat. Let him restore your soul.

But those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed Isaiah 40:31

Priscilla Mills



How to Get Into Heaven

A man dies and meets St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. Peter says to the man, "Here's how it works. You need to have one hundred points to get into heaven. You tell me about all the good things you've done. They are all worth a certain number of points. If your total is one hundred or more, you can come in."

"Well," says the man. "I was happily married to the same woman for 52 years. I never looked at another woman. I was attentive and loved her dearly."

"That's great," says St. Peter. "That'll be two points."

"Hmmm," says the man. "This is going to be harder than I thought. Well, I attended church regularly, volunteered my time and tithed faithfully."

"Wonderful," says St. Peter, "That's worth another point."

"One point!" says the man. "Okay, okay. I was involved with a prison ministry for twenty-five years. I went into the prison, at least monthly, and shared Jesus with them."

"Wow!" says St. Peter. "That's another two points!"

"Only two points!" says the man. "At this rate, it'll be only by the grace of God that'll I'll ever get into this place."

"Bingo!" says St. Peter. "That's one hundred points! Come on in."

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