

# The Spire

September 2024



"In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

~John 16:33

## Friends & Family Weekend Is Almost Here!

Friends and Family weekend will be here in a few short weeks — are you excited, too?! This is an awesome opportunity to show our community how we Love God, Love Others, and we can't wait for you to join us!

Our goal for this weekend is to spread our commitment to community service, foster new relationships, and lead with love. We want to introduce ourselves as a welcoming presence to those who don't know us and remind old friends that we are here to help and serve.

Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> will be filled with activities including a Car Show in our parking lot and an Attic Treasure Flea Market in front of the church. Inside, we'll have an antique appraiser (time to dust off your heirlooms!) and refreshments.

If you're interested in purchasing a spot to sell your attic treasures, please register at <https://uplandbaptist.org/friends-and-family-weekend/>. Please also share this link with anyone you know who sells crafts or similar items. We encourage participation from across our community.

Join us for worship on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM after which will follow a picnic. In order to get an estimated head count, we're asking people to RSVP for the picnic. Please RSVP at <https://uplandbaptist.org/friends-and-family-weekend/>. The cost is \$5/person or \$20 for a family of 4 or more.

We'd love for you to bring a friend or four — the more, the merrier! Thank you for your support in spreading the word and sharing about our Church community with those in the greater community. We look forward to seeing you on September 14 & 15 for a weekend of fun and fellowship!

A decorative graphic consisting of a grid of colorful dots in shades of pink, teal, orange, and yellow, arranged in a pattern that tapers to the right.

UPLAND BAPTIST CHURCH'S  
FRIENDS & FAMILY  
WEEKEND

<b>SATURDAY 9/14</b> 9 AM–1 PM Coffee & Car Show Attic Treasures* 10 AM–Noon Appraiser \$5 tickets at the door A la carte lunch	<b>SUNDAY 9/15</b> 10 AM Worship service 11 AM Picnic* *RSVP online at <a href="http://www.uplandbaptist.org">www.uplandbaptist.org</a>
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## Return to Sanctuary

As is our tradition, we will return to the Sanctuary the Sunday after Labor Day. This year, that falls on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

We will also have communion during the September 8<sup>th</sup> worship service, rather than the first Sunday in September.



## Joyful Noise

The Joyful Noise Bell Choir will resume practices on Sunday, September 8, 2024 at 8:30 AM. We are looking forward to playing together.



## Sunday School

Our K-5 Sunday School will continue to meet weekly this fall. In September, our middle school students will meet Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.



## Get Your Spire by Email!

We're getting with the times here at Upland Baptist. After all the directory updates we did at the end of last year, we're stream-lining things further by offering the option to receive *The Spire* via email.

If you gave us your email address when you updated your contact information, keep an eye on your inbox for an email from the church. We will still mail newsletters to those without an email on file. We will also have copies available in the back of the sanctuary.

If you'd like to receive your *Spire* by email but have not given us your email address, please call the office (610) 874-7474.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries for September and October

### September Birthdays

- 15 Monica Manerchia
- Rosemary Richardson
- Marsha Scott
- 16 Colin Levi
- 18 Dave Miskowic
- 25 Brigid Levi



### October Birthdays

- 2 Parker Ferguson
- 6 Barbara Probert
- Andy Waltman
- 7 Joanne Long
- 9 Rebecca Minchak
- Everett McGonigle
- George McGonigle

### September Anniversaries

- 7 Akky & Hans Geveke
- 14 Charlene & Dan Miller
- 21 Barry & Judy Armstrong
- 26 Kevin & Makenzie McGonigle

### October Anniversaries

- 10 John & Jane Kofroth

## VBS Was a Success!

Thank you to all who volunteered, donated, and prayed for our VBS program — we couldn't have done it without your support!

We averaged around twenty children per day and saw thirty different children throughout the week. In addition to lesson and administrative materials, your donations allowed us to provide students with a cold treat and a goodie bag on their final day.

We are especially grateful to our Fire and Police volunteers and Normajean Colby for taking time during the week to teach the kids about their community helper jobs.

## Food Bank

The item of the month for September is

*Dish soap*

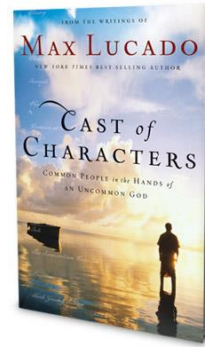
Please donate anytime during the month.



## Service Sunday

This month, we will have Service Sunday on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Please gather with us in the Chapel to make cards for veterans at the Delaware Valley Veterans Home. We appreciate your help in supporting and celebrating the veterans in our community.

## Join Us for Small Group



Small Groups begin again on October 1<sup>st</sup>. These groups are a great way to grow in your faith and connect with other people.

This fall, we will continue with *Cast of Characters* by Max Lucado, which gives a deeper look at the people of the Bible, portraying them in a very human way.

You do not need to have been in our previous Small Groups to enjoy *Cast of Characters*. This book lends itself to jumping in at any point and still getting something out of it!

Small Groups will meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month. One group meets at the church at noon. (Please 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!



On Sunday October 6, 2024 at noon, we will hold 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.

## Devotional Thought...

*"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" ~Colossians 3:12*

In my Widow's group, we choose a word for the year. This year I chose "mindful." I have practiced formal mindfulness for the last couple of years. This year, I wanted to focus on being mindful as I go about my everyday activities, to be more present and not always thinking ahead or about the past. When it came time to choose my Bible verse for the year, I chose Colossians 3:12 because I felt it expressed many of the things I wanted to be more mindful about in carrying out what God wanted me to do.

As I take my walks along the river, I think about being one of God's loved people and how lucky I am to live close to one of his natural beauties instead of counting steps. When I am at Planet Fitness, I'm starting to notice when someone seems to be all alone or there for the first time and needs a smile or quick introduction or invite to join my group of friends.

My brother has been struggling a lot this year, and while I can't fix his medical problems, I have started texting him an inspirational thought for the day to let him know I am always here for him. Sometimes, he even texts me one back. In my Widow's group, there is ample opportunity to be compassionate and really listen as new widows join a meeting or just pay attention to who may be struggling more this month and needs someone to talk to or a ride to the next meeting.

People have asked me why I drive an hour to church instead of watching the live stream. I come because of the community and connection I feel when I am interacting with others who are also part of God's chosen people. I come because I can experience and provide compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience as I participate in the activities that keep our church alive. We can always count on God's love but need never forget the many ways we can mindfully return that love to others as we go about our daily lives.

~Priscilla Mills



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