

The Spire

July/August 2025



"You, my brothers are called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love."

~Galatians 5:13

VBS is Almost Here!

We're just days away from Mission: Deep Sea VBS, and we are SO excited! Please keep spreading the word and encouraging your neighbors to register their children. Remind people we take walk-ins, and they do not have to commit to every evening — if they can only make a few, that's okay!

Please also continue to pray for everyone involved.

MISSION:
DEEP SEA

CALLING ALL DEEP S.E.A. AGENTS!

You have been selected to train for a high-priority mission. Join us this summer to discover how spending time with God and others, using our gifts, and sharing our story deepens our faith.

OPERATION DATE: JULY 7-JULY 10
LOCATION: UPLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
TIME: 6:00-8:15 PM
COST: FREE

Children ages 4 through incoming 5th grade are invited to register at www.uplandbaptist.org

325 Main Street
Upland, PA

(610) 874-7474
uplandbaptist@verizon.net

**UPLAND BAPTIST CHURCH'S
FRIENDS & FAMILY
WEEKEND**

SATURDAY 9/13 9 AM-1 PM Coffee & Car Show Attic Treasures Yard Sale*	SUNDAY 9/14 10 AM Worship service 11 AM Picnic*
A la carte lunch	*RSVP online at www.uplandbaptist.org

Attic Treasure Sign-ups

We've begun planning for our second annual Friends and Family Weekend! We're excited to bring people together again for a weekend full of fun events to build fellowship in the greater community.

One of our Saturday events is an Attic Treasures yard sale. To reserve your spot, please RSVP on our website: www.uplandbaptist.org and submit your payment to the provided link after completing the form.

One 10 X 10 spot costs \$10. Tables are not included; you must provide your own. Please call the Church office with any questions: (610) 874-7474.

Additionally, we need volunteers to serve on the committee for Friends & Family Weekend.

The Secret Place



Spend a little time every day this summer in the presence of God with *The Secret Place*. If you've never tried it, now might be a good time — we have extra copies due to a printer snafu!

The Secret Place is a quarterly devotional magazine, featuring a daily Scripture verse, reflection, and prayer. Copies of the summer issue are available in the Chapel, or you can call the office (610) 874-7474, and we'll find the best way to get you a copy.

Pastor Brenda's Vacation

Pastor Brenda and her family will be on vacation July 21 to August 3. During the month, we will have two different preachers. Please be sure to join us for worship as we welcome these individuals to our church.

July 27 — Rev. Dr. Michael Hall

August 3 — Rev. Dale Miller



Birthdays and Anniversaries for July, August, and September

July Birthdays

- 6 David Rietz
- 7 Judy Armstrong
Linda Cook
- 10 Karen Johnston
- 11 Steve Waltman
- 16 Betty Vandergrift
Christy Mason
- 30 Stephen Shaw
- 31 Charlene Miller

August Birthdays

- 1 John Kofroth
- 15 Doris Fraim
- 24 Barbara Phillips



July Anniversaries

- 16 Mark & Rebecca Minchak

September Birthdays

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

September Anniversaries

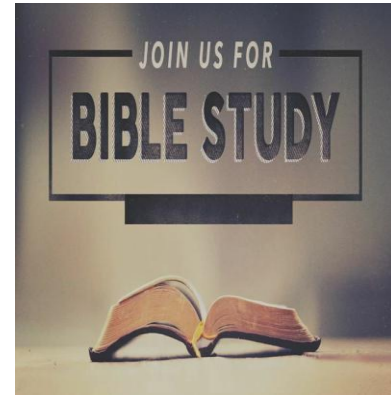
- 7 Akky & Hans Geveke
- 14 Charlene & Dan Miller
- 21 Barry & Judy Armstrong
- 26 Kevin & Makenzie McGonigle

Food Bank

This summer, we're asking for donations of
Jelly & Cereal

(We would prefer jelly in *plastic jars*, please.)

Please donate anytime during July & August.



Everyone has different life experiences that inform the way they interpret scripture. By studying scripture in a group, you can gain insight from the unique perspectives of others.

Consider joining us for Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 AM. Our next study starts on June 25th where we'll delve into the minor prophets.

Save the Date!



On **Sunday, October 12, 2025**, we will be celebrating Pastor Brenda's 25th Anniversary as Pastor of the Upland Baptist Church. Join us for a special worship service followed by lunch in the Chapel.



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 7th**.

We usually have communion on the second Sunday in September. However, we will have communion during the September 7th worship service.

Devotional Thought...

"Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord." ~Ephesians 5:19

One of the things I missed about worship during the covid lockdown was the music. I could just not hear the piano playing online, and I don't carry a tune well enough to sing without others singing with me. And then there was missing the added enhancements of the Joyful Noise Bell choir, the quartet ensemble, the Night of Music, the Prelude setting the mood for worship and the Postlude to guide us quietly home.

But what I could pay more attention to were the words of the hymns. I thought about all the different ways hymns contribute to our worship service. Have you noticed that many times the hymns we sing reinforce the message of the sermon? There are hymns speaking to the wonders that God provides; "For the Beauty of the Earth" comes to mind. Others allow us to praise God for Jesus like the Doxology. Christmas hymns tell the story of Jesus. "Be Thou My Vision" expresses what God means to us in our lives and hearts.

In the Bible, Paul and Silas shared hymns while in prison to keep their faith alive (Acts 16:25). Miriam played a tambourine and sang as the Israelites were delivered out of Egypt (Exodus 15:20-21). Deborah sang of God's power in Judges 5. David played for King Saul to soothe his troubled mind.

Music, whether we are singing or listening, helps us experience the presence of Jesus. The words speak of beauty, gratitude, peace, comfort, and the power of God in our lives. Try listening to the melody and message of your favorite hymn to bring Jesus closer.

~Priscilla Mills



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