

# The Spire Lite

December 2022



Thanks be to God for his  
indefinable gift!

2 Corinthians 9:15

## Night of Music

We are excited to be having our Night of Music once again. On **Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**, we will gather for a celebration of Christmas music. We will sing familiar carols, listen to the bell choir and enjoy special music. We are hoping to have a special guest stop by. We look forward to sharing this magical night with you, your family and friends.

Please invite your friends to join us. It will be a casual evening.



## Christmas Day Worship

Christmas Day is a Sunday and we will be having worship at 10 am. We will celebrate Jesus' birth with carols, scripture and a cake!

## Christmas Eve Service

We read in Luke 2:15...*When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."*

The shepherds left everything and went to worship. This Christmas Eve we invite you to leave everything, including the Eagles game, and come to worship.

We will be having our traditional candlelight communion worship service on **Christmas Eve at 7 pm**. We look forward to sharing worship with you.



(See Luke 2:1-16) 12-23-2013  
YOU KNOW GUYS, RUMOR HAS IT THE BABY SHIVERS IN THE COLD ... MAYBE INSTEAD OF GOLD AND PERFUME HE WOULD ENJOY A BLANKET?

## Food Bank

We are in need of 44 boxes of au gratin or scalloped potatoes and 15 boxes of brownie mix to complete our Christmas dinner bags. All donations are appreciated.

## Special Offerings

**Advent Offering** can be given at any time. It will be used to offset the staff Christmas gifts.

**Christmas Card Fund.** You are invited to send a Christmas Card and donation. The card will be hung on the Church Christmas tree and the donation will be used to provide a meal for the Upland Police Department, the Upland Fire Company and the Upland Athletic Club. Your Christmas greeting will be in the Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and Christmas Eve bulletins. Please mail your Christmas Card and donation by December 13<sup>th</sup> to Upland Baptist Church c/o Linda Cook 325 Main Street, Upland, PA 19015 or leave them in the "mailbox" in the back of the church.

**Staff Christmas Gifts** donations will be accepted throughout November and December. They can be given to Linda Cook. These donations are over and above your Advent offering.

*All these gifts can be mailed to the church, donated through the website, or placed in an offering plate. Please designate your donation in the memo or note section.*

## Annual Meeting

The Upland Baptist Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22, 2023. This meeting will be held immediately following worship.

Those who are attending worship will remain in the sanctuary for the meeting. Those who are worshipping with us virtually will be able to be a part of the meeting through our live streaming.

We will stop the broadcast when worship is completed, and then start a new broadcast for the meeting. You will have to click on live broadcast again to enter the meeting. People who are participating virtually will be able to text Pastor Brenda with questions and even cast their vote.

## Notice for Annual Meeting

At the January 22, 2023 Annual Meeting, a motion will be put forth to suspend the term limits for the positions of Chairperson, Ministry to Members Team Leader, and Worship Team Leader.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries for December and January

### December Birthdays

- 7 Deloris Hanley
- 16 Ben Geveke  
Cheryl Rhoads
- 26 Kathy Geveke
- 27 Courtney Klimek



### January Birthdays

- 2 Jane Kofroth
- 6 Casey Klimek
- 17 Stephen Kalichak, Sr.

### December Anniversaries

- 18 Carol and Richard Arscott

### January Anniversaries

- 28 Doris and John Frain

## Volunteers Needed

- The Church nursery is open and in need of volunteers. Please consider sharing a Sunday with our littlest friends.
- Would you consider preparing communion one month? All elements will be provided.

Please sign-up on the sheets in the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please speak to Priscilla Mills.



## Looking Ahead

- Church Undecorating Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>
- Annual Reports Due Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>

## Church Decorators

Thank you to our church decorating elves: Joan, Betty, Denise, Dawn, Sue, Frank, Linda, Brenda, John, Stephen, Matthew, Rosie, Jean, Tom, Ben and Dave. The Church looks beautifully dressed for Christmas.

## Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be in church for Christmas Eve. If you ordered poinsettias, you can take them home after worship on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning.

## Giving Tree

We are grateful to everyone who participated in the Giving Tree this year. The gifts will be delivered to Fair Acres Nursing Home by December 9, 2022. Please make sure your gift is returned to the church by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or problems, please call Sue Kulp.

## Have You Noticed...

- The Upland Athletic Club has begun repairing the church soffit.
- The Upland Athletic Club has painted most of the fence in front of the Chapel and Church.
- The Church workday crew cleared around the driveway.
- Mark Kirby and Rich Brown have removed some of the overgrown shrubs.
- We have a new railing going into the cemetery.

## Pledges

We are grateful for the pledges that have been made.

As of November 22, 2022

pledges for \$77,734.00

If you would like to submit a pledge, there is still time. Please email it to [drafalski@verizon.net](mailto:drafalski@verizon.net) or mail it to the church.

## Devotional Thought...

Psalm 147:3 – “He heals the broken in heart, and binds up their wounds.”

The concerns of the past few years have brought much grief to our world. The global pandemic killed nearly 15 million people. People lost jobs. Companies have closed down. Important supplies have ceased being made. Other supply needs have slowed down. Prices have increased drastically which have created food insecurities and worrisome households. Mental health struggles have been on the rise. We have lost friends, family members, and co-workers to various illnesses. Many people seem agitated and lonely. The plight of our world has been full of insurmountable sadness.

During these times of such trials and tribulations, we must turn to God. Pray to Him often to relieve your pain of today and your worries of tomorrow. He is waiting. He is ready. He is concerned for each of us. God does not want us to be unhappy and He definitely does not want us to worry. As scripture tells us, He heals broken hearts and binds up our wounds. Have a discussion with God and lay your feelings and hurts on the line. Ask Him for grace and mercy. Ask Him for help. Do not turn inward and expect yourself to heal. Healing only happens when God is involved. Get God involved! He is waiting!

Sue Kulp



## Christmas Funnies

### Church Policies

The Board of Directors has been hard at work updating our church policies. Church weddings, funerals, renting church facilities, severance policy, and volunteer background checks have been updated. They are available in the church office for anyone who is interested in reading them.

What kind of motorbike does Santa ride? A Holly Davidson!

**What do snowmen wear on their heads? Ice caps!**

What goes “Oh, Oh, Oh”? Santa walking backwards!

**Why was the snowman looking through the carrots? He was picking his nose!**

What is the best Christmas present in the world? A broken drum, you just can't beat it!

### Upland Baptist Church

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