

The Spire Lite

October 2020



'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: *'Love your neighbor as yourself.'* (from Mark 12:28-31)



Abundance of Blessing

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8

As we continue to be grateful for all that we have, we strive to share our abundance of blessing. If you would like to help a family enjoy Thanksgiving dinner, you are invited to donate \$10 for a turkey, or \$30 for a Thanksgiving meal. All donations will be used by the Upland Baptist Food Bank to provide meals for our community.

No matter how you donate, through the website, by mail, or by putting it in the offering plate, please make your donations out to Upland Baptist Church and mark your donation: *Abundance of Blessing* in the memo or note line.

We will be taking Abundance of Blessing

Church Office Hours

We continue to be flexible with our church office hours. Pastor Brenda will be back in the office on Tuesday and Fridays beginning October 13th. You are still encouraged to call her at 610-453-8317. She is also willing to set up a zoom visit or do an in person, socially distant visit if needed. Please feel free to call her.

Lori, our church secretary, will continue to work from 9am – 1pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you stop in the office, please be sure to wear a mask.

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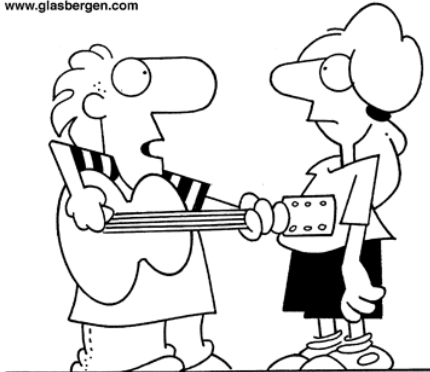
"No, I don't get lonely working from home. Not since I hired my assistant, Mr. Big Ears!"

Worship

It has been wonderful to see how we have adapted to worshipping during these days. We continue to hold worship every Sunday morning. You can choose to come in person at 10 am with social distancing protocols in place and we ask that everyone wear a mask for the service.

You can also join us virtually through 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.

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"Writing hymns is harder than I thought!
I can't think of anything that rhymes with
'Hallelujah' except 'glad I knew ya'
and 'we'll tattoo ya!'"

Clearances

We have notified those individuals who need to update their clearances by email. You can update your own clearances by going to the News Flash tab on the church website, www.uplandbaptist.org. Or you can contact John Kofroth and he will assist you in renewing your clearances.

If the church does your clearances, then we will mail you a copy for your records. If you do your own clearances, please make sure the church gets a copy to keep on file.

Facebook

Join the Upland Baptist Church Facebook group. We will be sharing what we are grateful for during the upcoming months on the Facebook page. We continue to share a daily devotional as well. The Upland Baptist Church Facebook page is a great way to keep connected and share prayers requests in a private format. Only members of the group will see what is

Birthdays and Anniversaries for October and November

October Birthdays

- 1 Karin Lord
- 2 Parker Ferguson
Peggy Rhoads
- 7 Aaliyah Harman
- 9 Florence Osbourne
- 23 Sharon Jackson

October Anniversaries

- 10 Jane and John Kofroth
- 12 Florence and Herb Osbourne
- 23 Sharon and Jim Jackson

November Birthdays

- 13 Dawn Rafalski
- 19 Doug Scott
- 22 Brian Klimek
- 23 Sara Mason
- 27 Helen Rhoads

November Anniversaries

None

Church Pals

We have 28 people in our congregation connected as *Church Pals*. I am excited that so many people are participating in this initiative to keep us connected.

Church Pals are simply a way for us to be in touch with someone we might not normally talk to outside of church. Since we aren't able to greet one another during worship or have fellowship events in person, we need to find other ways to be in touch.

If you aren't yet connected as a *Church Pal*, please let Pastor Brenda know and she will connect you to someone in the congregation. It is a great way to be a blessing to someone else.



Prayer Meeting

Our next prayer meeting will be Wednesday, October 7th at 7 pm. We will continue to meet every other Tuesday. These prayer meetings are on zoom and are an informal gathering. They are a great way to catch up with each other.

To join using a computer, smart phone or tablet, please go to the **News Flash** tab on the church website. There you will find the link to take you directly to the meeting.

If you want to call in like a conference call:

+1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 997 1621 0300
Password: 926257



We have begun a sermon series on Psalm 23. Many of us can recite this psalm from memory. It brings us comfort as we hear its familiar words.

How does God bring us to still waters? What does it mean that we fear no evil? How can we live in the house of the Lord our whole lives long?

Hopefully, we will answer these questions and more as we explore Psalm 23 together.

Offerings

Offerings can be mailed to Upland Baptist Church 325 Main Street, Upland, PA 19015 or given electronically through PayPal at www.uplandbaptist.org.

Budget

While many things have changed with the pandemic, there are still essential tasks that must be completed. One of those tasks is preparing a Church budget for 2021. The Board of Directors will be meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, October 13, 2020, to prepare the budget for next year. The Board is very grateful for the congregation's faithfulness in fulfilling their pledges through your offerings, especially during the last 6 months. Unfortunately, we still need to take money each month from our investments to pay our bills, but the amount needed has decreased slightly this year.

Devotional Thought...

Scripture: Matthew 11:28-30

This scripture passage says that we need to turn our burdens over to God. Burdens are often something that we think about all the time and can cause us anxiety. Burdens can be anything from finances to family and everything in between. We all have them, and the message Jesus gives us is the same: *come to me and I will give you rest.*

I struggle with knowing how to ask Jesus for help. It feels easier to make a list of blessings and give thanks for the good things than it does to ask for help with my struggles. Yet, I believe that Jesus calls all of us to go to Him with our struggles as well as our joys. Jesus tells us in this passage that if we go to him, we will learn from him. Turning to Jesus in times of struggle doesn't always come naturally. It is a learned behavior. We have to practice asking Jesus for help and listening for his answer. When we place our trust in Jesus, recognizing that he is always faithful, then we can more easily turn to Him no matter what is happening.

Humans sometimes let us down. They tell us that we have to figure things out on our own. Jesus tells us to come to him and to keep coming, to always bring our burdens to him. He loves us, he is gentle and humble in heart and he wants to help us carry our burdens. When we trust him, we are able to let him help us carry our burdens.

Theresa Rowan (soon to be Gallagher)



A little girl finally got to attend a wedding for the first time. While in the church, the girl asked her mother: "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied to the girl: "because white is the color of happiness and it's the happiest day of her life today."

After a little bit, the girl looks up at her mother and says: "But, then why is the groom wearing black?"



In a continued effort to keep everyone safe, we have made the difficult decision NOT to host trunk-or-Treat this year. Hopefully, we will be back next year.

Upland Baptist Church

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