



The Spire

October 2025

"When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land He has given you."

~Deuteronomy 8:10

Pastor Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, October 12th will be Pastor Appreciation Sunday. We will mark Pastor Brenda's **25th Anniversary** as Pastor of the Upland Baptist Church. During the Worship Service, we will recognize Pastor Brenda and have a luncheon afterwards in the Chapel. Please use the sign-up sheet in the back of the Church if you plan to be at the luncheon and include the number attending with you. A free-will offering will be collected at the luncheon to help defray the cost. Also, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Church for items needed for dessert (cookies and brownies) and beverages. Cake will be provided.



If you are interested in contributing to a 25th Anniversary Gift for Pastor Brenda, please give your donation to Linda Cook or Joan Decker. Contributions can also be mailed to Upland Baptist Church c/o Linda Cook, 325 Main Street, Upland, PA 19015.

Join us as we thank Pastor Brenda for her 25 years of dedication, caring, and ministry to the congregation of our Church. If you would like to bring a card, there will be baskets available in the front and back of the church. If you cannot attend worship, you can mail a card to Pastor Brenda Shaw, Upland Baptist Church, 325 Mail Street, Upland, PA 19015.



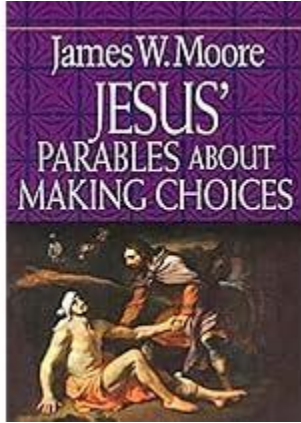
On **Sunday, October 5th, at noon**, we will hold a Blessing of the Animals service. All animals are welcome to join us for the service, though we ask for carriers or leashes to be used.

Food Bank

The items needed for October are
Turkey gravy & Corn bread mix
Please donate any time during the month.



Small Groups Begin



Small Groups begin again on **October 7th**. These groups are a great way to grow in your faith and connect with other people.

This fall, we will begin *Jesus' Parables about Making Choices* by James W. Moore, which invites us to find ourselves and God's truth for us in key passages of Scripture.

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!

Craft Night



Join us in the Chapel for our first crafting night on **October 14th from 7:00-8:30 PM.** We'll meet once a month to foster community through creativity. Bring your current creations in progress or come to learn a new skill. A snack will be provided.

Nursery Coverage Needed

Nursery coverage is needed from 8:30-11:00 AM on Sundays when the bells play **(October 12th & November 23rd)**. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary or see Priscilla Mills for more details.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for October and November

October Birthdays

- 2 Parker Ferguson
- 6 Barbara Probert
Andy Waltman
- 7 Joanne Long
- 9 Rebecca Minchak
- 13 Jackie Long

October Anniversaries

- 10 John & Jane Kofroth



November Birthdays

- 13 Dawn Rafalski
- 19 Doug Scott
- 20 Kim Buffington
- 22 Brian Klimek
- 23 Sara Mason



Halloween Care Packages

We will be collecting items for Halloween boxes to be sent to Austen Bull and Stephen Shaw until October 19th. Please look for the box in the back of the church.



Upland Baptist Annual Trunk-or-Treat



Upland Baptist will host its annual Trunk-or-Treat event on October 31st from 6:00-7:00 PM in the church parking lot. Please do not start giving out candy until 6:00.

Please bring at least 200 treats for the children in our community. The event is outside, so be sure dress for the weather as well as bring a chair.

Cards for Vets

On Sunday November 2nd after church, we will be writing cards to send to the Veterans at the Delaware Valley Veterans Home. Mark your calendars to participate in this recognition of veterans in our area. If you cannot attend but want to write a few cards, they must be returned before November 2nd, please see Priscilla Mills.



Think about how many times in the Bible Jesus shares a meal with a group. Sitting around a table with others is an intentional way to create community. Food nourishes our bodies the way the Word of God nourishes our spirits.

As a faith community, let's take an opportunity to do both! We invite you to share your favorite recipes over the next several weeks, which we'll compile into a church cookbook.

Think about why these recipes are important to you. What memories do they conjure? How have they aided in nourishing you or your community?

Please submit as many recipes as you'd like via the Google Form at this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScD8ERI5rFR_82GPqX_bsWeevbNZtGsl3m8ZZeeAqQbsiq8w/viewform or by filling out a bulletin insert before worship on Sundays.



Devotional Thought...

Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request. ~ 1 Chronicles 4:10

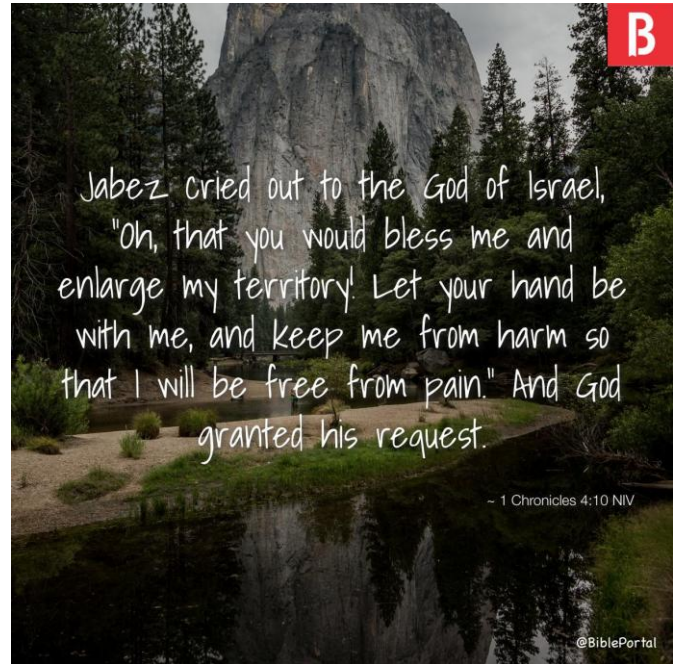
The prayer of Jabez is found concealed among the Hebrew genealogy listings that comprise almost half of First Chronicles. Why this placement? Little information is given about who Jabez was or his exact lineage. He was of the House of Judah, but he was not a King. His mother named him Jabez (pain) after a suspected rough childbirth.

What can be interpreted from Jabez through this seemingly simple prayer is that is he a humble servant of God. He cries out for the Lord's blessing so that he may help others (enlarge territory). He asks the Lord to be with him to keep him from harm (to himself and others) and free from pain (mental or physical). He asks God for peace. And God grants his request!

God answers prayers. Prayers need to be prayed. God knows what we need, but we must still make our requests known. Requests, though, must be of a sincere and righteous nature. Prayer allows us to talk to God and as Christians, we talk to God through Jesus. What a privilege! The miracle is that God can hear from all of us at the same time, and He is willing and able to respond.

"Ask and it will be given to you." ~Matthew 7:7a

~Dave Rietz



Love God ❤️ Love Others

Upland Baptist Church

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