

THE SPIRE

Love God! Love Others!



Upland Baptist Church, 1851

October 2016

Upland Baptist Church
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Blessed are...

Beginning on Sunday, October 2, 2016 we will begin a new sermon series on the Beatitudes. I admit that this series is already challenging me. This is the longest sermon from Jesus that we have recorded. Because this is Jesus' words, we need to take note and really listen to what he has to say. The challenge becomes in understanding the meaning behind them. I won't promise that I understand them completely, but I do promise to faithfully work at unpacking them for us. I am including the Beatitudes in several different translation and paraphrases for you to ponder. See you Sunday.

Pastor Brenda

Matthew 5:1-12 New International Version (NIV)

5 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

He said:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:1-12 The Message (MSG)

5 ¹⁻² When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at

a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

³“You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

⁴“You’re blessed when you feel you’ve lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

⁵“You’re blessed when you’re content with just who you are—no more, no less. That’s the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can’t be bought.

⁶“You’re blessed when you’ve worked up a good appetite for God. He’s food and drink in the best meal you’ll ever eat.

⁷“You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full,’ you find yourselves cared for.

⁸“You’re blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

⁹“You’re blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family.

¹⁰“You’re blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God’s kingdom.

¹¹⁻¹²“Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don’t like it, / do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

Max Lucado catches the idea beautifully in his book on the Beatitudes called ***The Applause of Heaven***.

God applauds the poor in spirit.

He cheers the mourners.

He favors the meek.

He smiles upon the hungry.

He honors the merciful.

He welcomes the pure in heart.

He claps for the peacemakers.

He rises to greet the persecuted.

WORSHIP ~ Sue Kulp

The Blessing of the Animals Service will be held on Sunday, October 2, 2016 at 3:00 pm.

We will meet outside of the chapel in the grass. Animals must be leashed or caged.

On December 19th, we will be celebrating a Night of Music at 6:30 pm. Pastor Brenda and I will be planning this event soon. Please let me know of any ideas you have or how you can help.

"Come Lord Jesus, you are our peace."

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Linda Cook

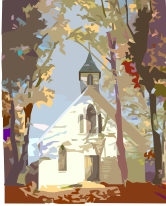


Legal Corporation Highlights

- Reviewed the finances and investments of the Church.
- Discussed Mission Giving
- Reviewed the repairs that have been completed around the Church during the summer.
- Discussed the repairs that still need to be completed. We will continue to try and find the right people to complete these repairs.
- Budget Meeting, Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00
- Pastor Brenda and Linda Cook will attend the ABCOPAD Biennial Conference from October 27 – 29 in Altoona

Ministry Council Highlights.

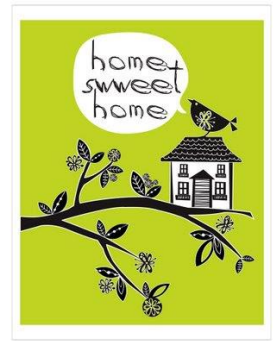
- Reviewed programs and events that occurred during the summer months – including the Activities for Children and Summer Lunch Program.
Each Team Leader discussed upcoming events.



PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY and HOUSE WARMING CELEBRATION!

Sunday, October 9th will be Pastor Appreciation Sunday and the celebration of the new Shaw family home! We will mark Pastor Brenda's 16th

Anniversary as the Pastor of Upland Baptist Church, and at the same time, we will congratulate the Shaw Family on their new home!



After the Worship Service we will get together for light refreshments and cake at the Shaw residence. You will be able to personally thank our Pastor for her caring, dedication, and ministry to the congregation of our Church, and you also get to visit their new home.

If you wish to bring a card, there will be baskets available as you walk into Church and also at the house.

As recognition of Pastor Brenda's 16 years and to celebrate the purchase of their new home, we will be giving Pastor Brenda a monetary gift to be put towards the purchase of living room furniture. If you would like to make a donation, please see Linda Cook, Joan Decker, or Diane Lord Ogram.



Refreshments will be served at
4409 Chandler Drive, Brookhaven, PA 19015

UNICEF

In 1950, a small group of kids in Philadelphia created Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF. They decorated milk cartons and collected \$17 on Halloween to help children left vulnerable by World War II.

Now celebrating its 66th anniversary, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF has raised more than \$170 million - funds that have made a critical difference in the lives of millions of children and families.

Every day, an estimated 25,000 children die from preventable causes – because they lack simple things like access to clean drinking water, basic childhood medical attention, sufficient nutrition, or immunizations that can protect them against deadly diseases. One in four children in the world are undernourished.

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF raises funds to help save children's lives in over 190 countries and territories through immunization, education, health care, nutrition, clean water, and sanitation. UNICEF has always put children first, helping to save more children's lives than any other humanitarian organization. UNICEF cares about making the world better for kids. That's why, when you

donate to the U. S. Fund for UNICEF, they make sure that 91.2 cents of every dollar spent goes directly to help children.

What Your Donation Can Buy

- \$1 gives a child 40 days of clean, safe water.
- \$5 feeds a malnourished child for 5 days.
- \$10 vaccinates 280 children.
- \$100 protects 100 kids from malaria.

What Can You Do To Help?

Contribute by putting your donation in the box at the back and front of the church and/or putting your extra change in the box a child in your neighborhood might be carrying. When you support UNICEF, you help children throughout the world lead better lives.



RECOGNITION

- **Katie Boyer-Mason** and **Tom Geveke** continue to play with the *Joyful Noise* Bell Choir.
- **Katie Boyer-Mason** started 11th grade. Katie really enjoys working with many different dogs and caring for them.
- **Sammy DeVecchis** is a sophomore in college and has added a minor in Environmental Studies to his Communication Studies major. Sammy was inducted into The National Society of Leadership and Success
- **Katelyn DeVecchis** is being inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society this month. It recognizes high academic achievement, leadership skills, and scholarship.
- **Megan DeVecchis** completed an internship over the summer with the Communications Department at Penn Delco School District and was inducted into Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society.
- **Tom Geveke** led the Sun Valley High School Cross Country team to one of their best finishes in years at the 27th Bulldog Invitational.
- **Sara Mason** started 6th grade. Sara tried ice skating for the first time, and did very well!
- **Rachel Miskowic** has a part-time job at Pizza Hut in Aston.
- **Stephanie Pysher** is student teaching 3rd graders at Parkside Elementary School.
- **Matthew Shaw** is loving kindergarten at Mother of Providence Regional Catholic School. He is making lots of friends. He loves doing homework and reading his take home books. He is having a great time playing soccer and has joined Cub Scouts as well.
- **Stephen Shaw** is enjoying 4th grade at Coeburn Elementary School. He is making new friends, learning the trumpet and really enjoys being able to ride his bike to school. He continues to play soccer and is now in Webelos in Cub Scouts.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Plan Ahead . . .

- October 2 Blessing of the Animals
- October 9 Pastor Appreciation Sunday
- October 10 **No** VBS Night
- October 16 Bells Play during Worship
- October 23 Free Will Offering and Bake Sale for ABCOPAD

- October 31 Trunk or Treat
- November 13 **No** VBS Night
- November 20 Pledge Sunday
- November 20 Bells Play during Worship

MINISTRY ~ Dawn Rafalski

Ministry to Members Men's News

The next Riverside Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, November 19th at 8:15 a.m. at Springfield Baptist Church, 184 N. Norwinden Drive, Springfield, PA

DISCIPLESHIP ~ Jane Kofroth

VBS

On September 12, the Monday night VBS kids rejoined us for dinner after the summer hiatus. Dinner at 6:00, followed by a Bible lesson and activity from 6:30 to 7:00. It was great to get together with some of our "regulars" and welcome several new faces.

If you would like to volunteer to help, there's a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. We hope you will also continue to lift this program up in your prayers. There will be no VBS on Monday, October 10.

Sunday School

Our Sunday School class for children meets during worship service. All the children are invited to go to the classroom downstairs right after Children's Talk. We are very grateful to each of our volunteer teachers. There is a sign-up sheet for volunteer teachers for the months of October, November and December.

Bible Study

Bible Study group meets on Thursday, September 15 at 10 AM. We will continue with our study of 1 Samuel. Come and join the group.

Small Groups

Small Groups are starting a new book titled "*Crazy Stories...Sane God*" by John Alan Turner. These stories, taken straight for the Scriptures, really *are* crazy! They're full of peculiar details that make you wonder why God included them in His Word!

Mr. Turner's sharp insight into the lives of these characters and the lessons their crazy stories tell us about our God makes for a really fascinating "read"!

I know I am looking forward to some pretty fascinating discussions, too!

Join a group. These are the dates:

Tuesdays: October 4 and 18; November 1 and 15; December 6. 2017:

February 7 and 21; April 4 and 18; May 2 and 16.

One group meets at 12:00 noon. Bring your lunch. We'll supply dessert. **The other group meets are 7:00 P.M.** Dessert will be served.

Facebook *Private* Group Devotional

Each morning a devotional reading and scripture reference from "Our Daily Journey" is posted on our Upland Baptist Facebook group page. Along with the reading there is a "food for thought" question that asks us to share how the lesson and scripture might apply to us and what's happening in our lives. This is a very good opportunity for us to share our thoughts---to listen and learn from each other.

This is not a public page. Only members can see it. We have 19 members. Approximately 12 view the devotional each day, but only 4 or 5 regularly post their thoughts. Keep in mind---no right or wrong answers. The questions are never meant to be a test or a platform.

You need to be on Facebook and just ask Pastor Brenda or John Kofroth to be part of the group.

Thank you John for getting up early and posting the devotional each day.

COMMUNICATIONS ~ John Kofroth

Just a reminder, if you volunteer in any of the church's programs for children, you need to secure these 2 clearances:

The Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance

The Pennsylvania Access to Criminal History Check

If you have been a PA resident for at least 10 years, you can sign a form that exempts you from the FBI fingerprint check. Either Angela or I can provide the form.

There are on-line training and tests required for Mandatory Reporting training. Links for the clearance checks and the training can be found in an article on the Upland Baptist church website News Flash page.

OUTREACH ~ Joan Decker

Main Street Elementary – As part of our ongoing outreach at the school, volunteers from Upland Baptist Church will be going on Monday mornings to read to the students in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

Trunk-or-Treat ~ We will be giving out treats on Halloween night, Monday, October 31st from 6:00-7:00pm. Join us in the parking lot with your candy and chairs as we give out treats to the neighborhood children.

Home and International Missionary Birthdays for October

Home and International Missionary Birthdays for October:

Mrs. Patricia Long 10/8
1374 Los Coches St.
Chula Vista, CA 91910

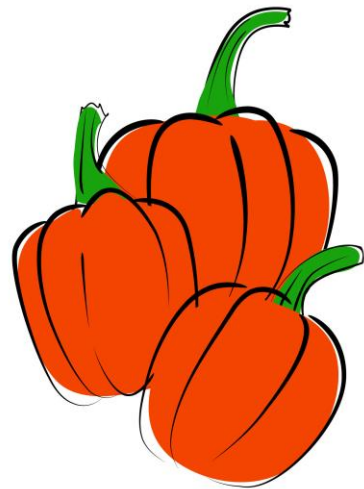
Email: patti.long@internationalministries.org

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Karin Lord
- 2 Parker Ferguson
Peggy Rhoads
- 7 Aaliyah Harman
- 9 Rebecca Minchak
Florence Osborne
- 16 Casey (Albrand) Murphy

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Pat & Tony Irace
- 10 John & Jane Kofroth
- 12 Florence & Herbert Osborne



SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 23RD



PROCEEDS FROM THE BAKE SALE
(as well as a Free Will Offering)
WILL BENEFIT THE ABCOPAD
REGIONAL PASTORS

(Rev. Dr. Frank T. Frischkorn, Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Johnson,
Rec. Eric Kraihanzel, Rev. Mark Mahserjian-Smith and
Rev. Kevin Walden)