

THE SPIRE

Love God! Love Others!



Upland Baptist Church, 1851

September 2018

Upland Baptist Church
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Praying with the Pastor

1 John 5:14 And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

Ephesians 6:18 ~ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Jeremiah 29:12 ~ Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

James 5:13 ~ Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

Matthew 5:44 ~ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you

Matthew 26:41 ~ "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

1 John 1:9 ~ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

These are just a few of the scriptures calling us to pray. Over and over again in scripture we are instructed to pray, to pray when times are good, to pray when times are difficult, to pray with joy, to pray in sorrow, to pray for those we love, to pray for our enemies. We are called to pray.

When I am asked about what prayer is, I normally respond that prayer is a *conversation between us and God*. As with any conversation, there should be times of speaking and listening. Even though God knows the desires of our heart, he yearns for us to share them with him. God wants us to bring our hurts, our joys, our concerns, our questions to him. God wants to hear from us. He also wants us to listen to him. He wants us to be still and listen to his voice, to experience his presence, to be comfortable in his presence.

We are called to prayer. We are called to relationship with God. When we spend intentional time in prayer, our relationship with God grows and deepens. There is no one way to pray. Some pray on their knees, others pray as they walk, drive or shower. Others have a particular place they like to go to be close to God. The how is not as important as simply being intentional about being in God's presence and praying.

There are so many things we can pray about each day. We often begin with health concerns, those we know who have something physically wrong with them. That is not where

we want to stop. We also want to pray for our leaders both world leaders and local leaders, even the leaders of our church. We pray for those who are unhappy, filled with grief, struggling in a relationship. We pray for those who are homeless, hungry, abused, addicted and lost. We pray for our neighbors, our friends, our family and our enemies. There is so much we can pray for that sometimes it feels overwhelming.

Fortunately, God hears our hearts. He knows what we are concerned about, what we worry about and what we rejoice in. Still he wants to be in relationship with us. In order to do that, we must spend time with God, time in worship, time in study, time in prayer.

I often find it encouraging to pray with someone else. When we share the burdens of our hearts together and lift them to God, it reminds us that we are not alone. Praying together strengthens us.

So, I would like to invite you to join me in ***Praying with the Pastor on Wednesdays at 9:30am.*** We will meet in my office and spend 30 minutes in prayer together. This will be an informal time. So, come as you are as we enter God's presence and listen to his voice together.

I know that some of you can't make 9:30 am on a Wednesday morning. There will be slips of paper for prayer requests in the back of the sanctuary. You can give those to me on Sunday and we will pray with you, even though you aren't in the room. You can also email me (brendaabshaw@gmail.com) with requests.

A praying church is a growing church. When people pray, they are able to follow God more closely. We want to be people who are growing in our ability to *Love God! Love Others!* Please join me in prayer this fall, whether you can gather in my office or not. Let's join together in prayer.

Pastor Brenda

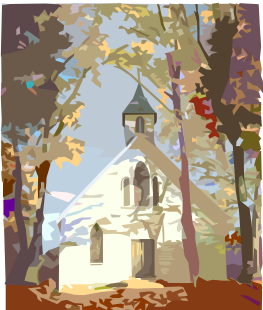
Let's
Pray!



YOUNG PEOPLE NEWS

- **Katie DeVecchis** is working at CHOP (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia) and has transferred to the Emergency Department.
- **Sammy DeVecchis** is in Costa Rica on a student trip/study abroad trip as a teaching assistant. His mother, **Norma Jean Colby**, is also in Costa Rica with the students.
- **Katie Boyer and Sara Mason** have enjoyed their summer at the beach. **Katie** has been working hard as a "handyman" around the house, doing upgrades, and **Sara** started 8th grade early.
- **Matthew Shaw** had a great summer. He went to Indiana to stay with his Grandma on his own for the first time! Matthew enjoyed Cub Scout Day Camp. He enjoyed swimming and reading. He is looking forward to starting 2nd grade at Coebourn Elementary School.
- **Stephen Shaw** earned the Scout Rank at Boy Scout Camp this summer. This is his first step on his journey to be an Eagle Scout. He also enjoyed spending some time at Grandma's without the rest of the family. Stephen is excited about starting 6th grade at Northley Middle School this fall.
- Good Luck to **Sammy DeVecchis, Anna Geveke, Tom Geveke, Kyle Lord, and Rachel Miskowic** as they begin and/or return to college this fall. Good luck to **Jesse Kulp** as he continues to work full time and take college courses. Good luck to **Ben Geveke** and **Noah Geveke** as they attend Graduate School this fall.
- Joyful Noise will miss **Tom Geveke** as he begins attending Penn State, Main Campus this fall! Thank you for being part of the Bell Choir.

VBS NIGHT



Monday Night VBS will resume for a new season on September 10th. Pray for this program as we start our new year in hopes that we will bring children into our Church from the community so they can learn about God's love for them. Ages for the program are 5 – 12.

We will continue to serve dinner to the children and then have a lesson, activity, and craft. Contact either Linda Cook or Brenda Shaw if you would like to volunteer or make a donation.

Monday Night VBS
6:00 – 7:00 pm

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Legal Corporation/Ministry Council Highlights

- The Board of Directors has continued to monitor the finances and investments of the Church throughout the summer.
- The Board of Directors has handled repairs needed around the church during the summer months and are working on those that still need to be completed.
- The Ministry Council has offered outreach programs to the children in the community throughout the summer that have been successful.
- The Summertime Sunday Socials offered a time to fellowship with members of the congregation after worship.
- The Ministry Council completed the calendar for July 2018 – August 2019.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Plan Ahead for the Upcoming Year

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| • October 7 | Blessing of the Animals |
| • October 14 | Pastor Appreciation and Bake Sale |
| • October 31 | Trunk or Treat |
| • November 18 | Giving Tree Begins |
| • November 25 | Fellowship Lunch and Activity |
| • December 1 | Church Decorating |
| • December 17 | Night of Music |

Save the Date!

Pastor Appreciation Sunday

October 14, 2018

Celebrate Pastor Brenda's

18th Year

at Upland Baptist Church!

MAIN STREET SCHOOL SUPPLIES



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

During the months of July and August, the congregation was asked to donate highlighters, composition books, boxes of 24 crayons, and pencils for Main Street Elementary. Monetary donations were also gratefully accepted. Because of your generosity through donations of money and supplies we have collected **1686 pencils, 126 crayon boxes, and 134 highlighters, 48 colored pencils, 4 spiral notebooks, 15 college ruled notebooks, and 255 composition books.**

Thank you very much for your continued generosity!

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM LEADER – Frank Kulp

We want to hear from you if you are watching the broadcast at home. Please email the church or give the office a call and let us know how you are doing.

WORSHIP – Priscilla Mills

It has been a long hot, wet and humid summer. We are looking forward to cooler weather and welcoming all of our vacationing members back to Worship.

Worship Services move to the Sanctuary for the fall starting Sunday, September 9th. Communion will be on the ninth of September instead of the first Sunday of September.

Sunday, September 16

Welcome Back Sunday Social after Worship

Sunday, September 23

Service at Belvedere Nursing Home at 2:30 pm

Nursery During Worship

Nursery is available on Sunday during church services for children up to age four. There is an ongoing need for volunteers to staff this service to our young families. Please sign up in the back of the church.

Opportunities to Serve during Worship

We continue to need ushers and greeters, Sunday Schoolteachers, and Nursery helpers weekly. Please sign up in the back of the church or be willing to fill in if asked.

Looking Ahead

October 7 - Blessing of The Animals at 3pm

MINISTRY TO MEMBERS – Dawn Rafalski

We will be moving back to the Sanctuary on September 9th for worship at 10:00 am. Hope to see you there.

There will be a Welcome Back Sunday Social on September 16th following worship.

It's been a hot summer and I can't believe it is almost over. We have managed to keep up with serving communion to the members of our congregation that are shut in and can't come out to worship. If you would like to help with this service please see Dawn Rafalski.

Men's News

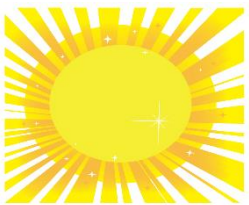
Three men from our congregation went to the Men's Retreat in July at Shippensburg University. They enjoyed an inspiring, spiritual weekend.

There will be no more men's breakfasts as Riverside Men is inactive at this time.

DISCIPLESHIP – Karen Johnston

Sunday School

There is an ongoing need for volunteers to teach Sunday School. Teachers are needed for June, July and August. Please give this some thought as your help is critical in teaching our children Gods plan for them. Please contact Karen Johnston if you are interested.



SUMMER ACTIVITIES AND FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

Our mornings started with an activity period from 11:00 to 11:45 before we served lunch from 11:45 to 12:15. We ran the program four days a week for six weeks. The children seemed to enjoy themselves, and we got to know some of the families in the neighborhood. We averaged about 12 - 15 children daily, and approximately 5 children hardly missed a day! The children earned "dollars" for memorizing Bible verses and for being on time. They had the opportunity to spend their dollars shopping at "our store" twice during the summer. They especially enjoyed their shopping time on the last day with many items on "sale." Thank you very much for generous donations to our store.

On Mondays, a Bible story was shared with the children that included their memory verse for the week and they made a craft that went with story; on Tuesdays, the children completed a craft; on Wednesdays, they played board games; and on Thursdays, a guest reader read a book to the children and shared with them about the topic and the children could check out books from our library. Guest

readers included Upland fire fighters, Kimberlee Kalichak and Paul Michalkiewicz; Upland police; a horticulturist from Linvilla, Heather Gallagher; Sue Kulp, sharing her principal responsibilities and; and retired teacher, Jan Vincins, who taught the children about the Lenni Lenape Native Americans.

Thank you to all the church volunteers who were there to lead activities and/or help – Pastor Brenda, Norma Jean Colby, Linda Cook, Joan Decker, Hans Geveke, Karen Johnston, Jane Kofroth, John Kofroth, Ray Leber, Priscilla Mills, Dawn Rafalski, and Betty Vandergrift.

OUTREACH – Joan Decker

Worship

Please join us on Sunday morning for Worship at 10:00 AM.

Food Bank

The Food Bank is always in need of help. For the month of September the Food Bank will be collecting ramen noodles and plastic bags. Please support the food bank in any way. Drop off donations at the church.

Upland Fire Department

The Upland Fire Company is having a Car Show on September 8, 2018. UBC is supporting this annual event by having a bake sale on the same day. Donations of cakes, cupcakes, brownies, pies, breads, etc. are appreciated! Please sign up on the sheet in the back & deliver your donation to the Upland Baptist Church prior to Saturday, September 8, 2018.

2nd ANNUAL

Upland Fire Company



50/50

D.J.

Soda / Water

Rain date Sept 22nd, 2018

**1st, 2nd & 3rd Prizes
and Judges Awards**

10am Registration Fee \$15

Upland Baptist Church parking lot

Contact Paul Michalkiewicz • 484-485-1297

Email ufcfund57@yahoo.com

**Pretzels
Hot Dogs**



**Walking Tacos
Beef/Chicken**

**We will be accepting a donation of non-perishable food
for the Upland Baptist Church food bank**

HOME AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

Mrs. Marie Ketly Pierre 9/1
Apartadp 21
La Romana Dominican Republic

Email: ketly.pierre@internationalministries.org

Mrs. Carole Sydnor 9/7
910 Mennonite Rd.
Royersford, PA 19468-3019

Email: carole.sydnor@internationalministries.org

Mr. Bruce Borquist 9/11
42 Hirpoi St/
Newtown, Wellington 6021
New Zealand

Email: bruce.borquist@internationalministries.org

Rev. Dwight Bolick 9/25
1321 Upland Dr., #3373
Houston, TX 77043-4718

Email: Dwight.bolick@internationalministries.org

September Birthdays

3 Doris Moody
11 Louise Sauk
13 Betty Singley
15 Diane Lord Ogram
18 Dave Miskowic
20 Bill Lord Sr.

September Anniversaries

7 Akky and Hans Geveke
14 Charlene and Dan Miller
21 Stephen and Kimberlee Kalichak