



PINES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pines Press, July 2022

12751 Kimberley Ln, 77024 713-467-2234

BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE

MEMORIAL ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES (MAM)

Back to School Clothing Drive

SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



THE MISSION OF YAHWEH

Mission Backpack Blessing



JULY/AUGUST AGAPE

Please consider donating to "Pines Back to School Drive" that benefits **3** of our benevolence organizations Back to School Programs.

Donations can be placed in the offering plate or sent directly to the church office.
Include notation "Back to School" with your donation.

>> visit PinesPC.org for more details

Pines Family News & Current Events

The church office is open Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The office is closed on Fridays to help the staff offset the rising cost of fuel. If you need assistance on Friday, please call 832-489-5989.



The church office is looking for volunteers to answer phones when our regular volunteers are unavailable (Monday through Thursday). We have volunteers for each day currently, except Tuesdays, but we also want to create a list of substitutes. **We will need someone to answer phones on Tuesdays.** No experience necessary. We will train you. Bring a book or something to work on while sitting at the front desk. If you can help, please give Cindy a call to get on the list. By the way, one of our long ago members (Jack Long) used to answer the phones on occasion...just to give you guys out there a heads up!



Please pray for Carol Schneider and family with the passing of Carol's husband Don. Don had been a Pines member since 2010. Our hearts are with you.

Church Seeking Nursery Workers: \$12-15 an hour based on age and experience. Contact kristin@pinespc.org for more information.

Do you love playing with babies and young children? Pines is looking for people ages 13 and up who are willing to be trained and cleared for childcare in the nursery. Most hours are Sunday mornings but special events vary.

PLEASE help us conserve energy by remembering to turn off lights and AC when you leave the building. If you turn it on, please turn it off. Thank you SO MUCH! Your Property Committee

The church will be waxing the floors in the Preschool the week of July 18 through July 23. **PLEASE** observe posted notices not to enter the area. Entry to the gym can be made through the gym foyer doors. Thank you for your patience as we take care of the building!



Pines is in partnership with Randalls and Kroger through the Good Neighbor Program. For every dollar you spend at these locations, a small portion goes to Pines and is placed into our Missions budget. If you have not already registered your card with Randalls or Kroger, please do. There is no cost to you, you still get your discount, and Pines benefits too!

This quarter, Randalls wrote a check to Pines for \$99.28 and Kroger wrote a check for \$66.23. Thanks for shopping and registering your card for Pines!!

**Please mark your calendars with the NEWSLETTER DUE DATE:
July 22 (for the August 2022 issue)**

Every good journey has multiple stories that help build memories of the adventures. Our journey to Eastern Europe and Oberammergau was no different. Our journey began at Bush Airport at 9:30a.m. Wednesday morning, June 1st and didn't end until 6:30p.m. Houston time Thursday. After boarding our connecting flight in Dallas to London, we had a 2 ½ hour severe weather delay. Once the weather passed, we thought we'd be off to London. Nope! No one closed the door to the plane during the storm, so the front of the plane flooded. Yes! I said flooded. We waited another 2 hours for maintenance to remove the water. Once the water was removed, we sat another 45 minutes for ground crew to come and push the plane back. We missed our connecting flight to Prague and the next available flight was 10 hours later. Some folks took advantage of the extended layover to leave the airport and enjoy some of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. We finally arrived at our hotel in Prague at 12:30a.m. Friday morning (Czech time). The group handled all of the adjustments extremely well and were just excited to be in Prague to begin our journey.

Our first day of sight seeing took us around this beautiful city as we learned its rich history and its tumultuous connections to the Protestant and Catholic churches. We were all impressed with the St. Vitus Cathedral. (photo) This cathedral took over 500 years to build and as you can see it is magnificent. Our group also enjoyed our walk to the different sections of the city.

On Saturday we left the beautiful city of Prague and headed to Budapest, Hungary. Along the way we made a stop in the capitol of Slovakia (formerly part of Czechoslovakia), Bratislava. This gorgeous city is nestled up against the beautiful Danube River, Europe's second longest river. The weather was amazing which had the streets busy and the restaurants filled. Following lunch, it was on to Budapest. This city is also along the Danube River and offers spectacular views at either day or night. Our Sunday morning was filled with a guided city tour around the city with several stops. Budapest is actually two cities in one, Buda on the west side of the river and Pest on the east side. Buda is hilly and more residential, and it contains the former palace and some amazing churches. Pest is the more commercial district of the city, and it contains the current Parliament building. This structure is impressive in either daylight or nighttime. Our evening ended with a riverboat ride along the Danube which afforded us stunning views of the city.

The next stop on our journey was Vienna, Austria. We had a wonderful time touring the city on foot and by bus. Vienna is known as the city of music because Mozart and Beethoven composed many of their great pieces in this amazing city. The first picture is of The Upper Belvedere Palace. The palace was for the Austrian general Prince Eugene of Savoy who commissioned the renowned Baroque architect Johann Lukas von Hildebrandt to build a summer residence. Our next stop was the heart of Vienna's city center and we visited two incredibly beautiful churches. St. Stephen's Cathedral is an incredibly large church originally built in 1147. The cathedral had a massive fire in April of 1945 during the Battle of Vienna. The church was reconstructed in 1952. We then went on to St. Peter's Church which is thought to be the oldest church in Vienna, supposedly established in 1137. We traveled throughout the city admiring the architecture and monuments. Our final tour of the day was Schönbrunn Palace, the 1,400 room former summer residence of the Habsburg monarchy. Franz Joseph, the longest-reigning emperor of Austria, was born at Schönbrunn and spent a great deal of his life there.

After leaving Vienna we made our way through the hillsides of Bavaria, and saw history come alive through the ancient churches, towns and palaces throughout southern Germany. Our group of 27 will remember this journey for many years to come! The 5 hour Passion Play was the pinnacle of our journey and it did not disappoint! Even though the play was all in German, the music, the acting and the message were extremely moving. We did have an English translation with which to read along. Our journey then took us out of the Bavarian hillsides to Munich, but before we got too far along, we made a stop at the world famous Neuschwanstein Castle. This is another of King Ludwig II castles but is probably more famous for being the inspiration for Disney's iconic Cinderella Castle. As we entered Munich we made a stop at the Nymphenburg Palace and Gardens. Even though these pictures don't convey the beauty of the area, I pray you will enjoy these photos of our experience and might consider joining us on our next adventure.

In Christ,



Andy

See pictures on page 8 and 9

Family Ministry Calendar for July

CHILDREN and YOUTH:

Continued Small Groups every Sunday 9:15am in the Senior High Room! Summer Sunday Series: Veggie Tales

July 2-8

YOUTH Mission Trip Team to Tulsa Oklahoma with Praying Pelican Missions

July 10 Sunday, 6:30pm

YOUTH Ice Cream Summer Check In

Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers 24433 Interstate 10 Frontage Road, Ste 100, Katy, TX 77494 Come for a time of food, short devotion and checking in with one another!

July 24 Sunday, 6:30pm

YOUTH Ice Cream Summer Check In

Ritter's Frozen Custard 3427 Fry Road, Katy, TX 77449

COMING SOON/ SAVE THE DATE:

AUGUST 7 Sunday 6:30pm

YOUTH Ice Cream Summer Check In

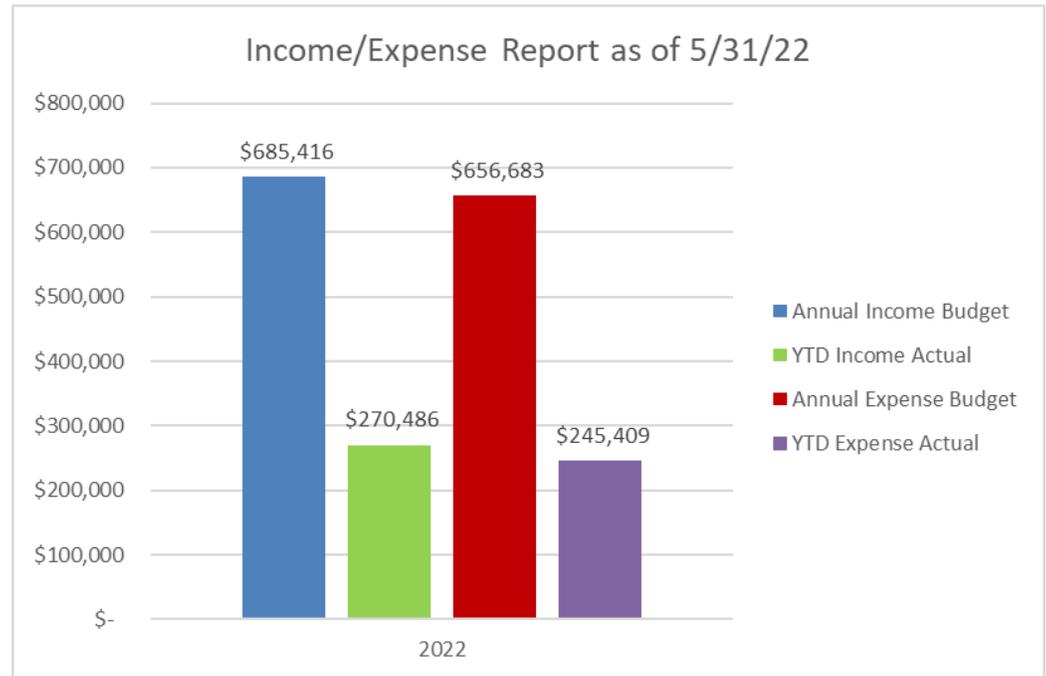
Tree House 14008 Memorial Drive, Suite B, Houston, TX 77079

AUGUST 14 Sunday 3-5pm

Sunday Sundae Summer Check In

EVERYONE! Games and build your own Sundae Fellowship Hall/ Playground. All ages welcome!

Stewardship



1. Pledge income in May is very slightly below forecast for the 5 months. Non-pledge income is catching up some but still below forecast.
2. Overall, committee expenses were below budget expectations. Mission expenditures are accrued on a 1/12th basis each month; Property and most other committee expenses were below or close to forecast. The Preschool paid their \$22,000 church building use fee in May, which is credited against Property expenses making them well under budget at this point in time. Worship committee has incurred several expenses for Easter services, communion supplies, etc.
3. Total Income was \$270,486; total expenses were \$245,409; leaving a Net Income of \$25,077 for the year as of 5/31/22. Maintaining a positive net income as we head into the summer when attendance is erratic is a good financial position for this time of the year.

Session

Here are some highlights from the June Session meeting:

- Session approved Larry Greenlee to preach on July 10 while Rev. Gans is on the Faith in Practice medical mission trip
- approved Pines to host the Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 22, 2023
- elected Shirley Bollich, Emily Gairo and Walt Penberthy as Ruling Elder Commissioners to the Presbytery of New Covenant's quarterly meeting in Bryan on July 16
- confirmed the location of the children and family worship area in the northeast corner of the Sanctuary
- approved the formation of a security taskforce with John Work, Emily Gairo, Walt Penberthy and members of the Congregation to be named, to examine necessary security measures during Worship and during the week
- approved the dismissal of the Committee of Counsel with the grateful thanks of Session following the conclusion of a remedial action against the Pines' Session
- heard a report from the Pines' Trustees concerning Pines' investments with the Texas Presbyterian Foundation, and the Trustees' decision to move assets invested in fixed income and money market funds into a balanced fund with the TPF. Remaining Pines' assets currently invested in a large cap TPF fund will be reviewed again in the third quarter for possible rebalancing.

Craig Walker
Clerk



Christ caring for people through people

**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

I've never been either knowledgeable or enthusiastic about rock music, but once in a while something from it pops up and rings my bell. Just so in today's Houston Chronicle (quotes and info from a Sports Section article there 6/17/22). And rock music? "*Life goes on long after the thrill of living is gone*" – from a 1982 song by John Mellencamp about teenage love. OK.

Leroy Burrell, once known as "the Fastest Man in the World", is one of the most renowned Track and Field coaches in the world, having spent over 34 years at the University of Houston as student-athlete, Olympian, alum, and since 1999 the head coach. He resigned yesterday to make a fresh start in a different place – to become head coach at Auburn University.

Burrell is famous, well respected, and highly successful. He probably has ready-to-hand all the necessary resources for living a very privileged and fulfilling life. Except. In a recent statement he said, "*Before August last year, my intention was to continue to lead the program, but that all changed when I lost my son, Cameron, on Aug. 9, 2021.*" Cameron Burrell, an NCAA champion and world-class sprinter himself, died from a self-inflicted gunshot. He was 26.

"I've been hurting lately," he <Leroy> wrote May 26 on Twitter. "I never really know when a place I've been or an experience I've had will take my mind to the fact that I've lost my son. I miss him dearly. I never thought that I'd feel this way but, '*Life goes on long after the thrill of living is gone.*'"

"Life goes on long after the thrill of living is gone." Where does *that* come from? Rock music. !?! OK. Whatever. The source all to the contrary notwithstanding, it is a profound expression of what Leroy Burrell's life is right now. Life *after*. Stephen Ministry knows a great deal about life *after*. Jesus knows *all* about life after. We wish Leroy Burrell comfort and courage and recovery in his new location. We hope he's offered a Stephen Minister.

Stephen Ministers are sometimes known as *The After People*. (See the graphic below!) And if the burdens of *your* life seem too heavy to carry alone – if the grief or anxiety needs to be expressed – if you need to find out what you *really* think by hearing yourself tell it out loud to a ready listener – *then why not try a Stephen Minister?* It's free and it's totally confidential. You can find out even more by contacting Bill Willis at bill.00.willis@gmail.com or by calling the church office for his phone number, or by asking anyone wearing a Stephen Ministry nametag. In his great love, may God bless you each and every one!

Bill Willis

Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?" One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

Stephen Ministers are there:

- ... *after* the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ... *after* the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... *after* the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."
- ... *after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ... *after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ... *after* the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ... *after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed. www.stephenministries.org

Pines Missions Committee July and August Agape Offering Back to School Drive

The 2022/2023 school year is quickly approaching. This time of year, Pines has a long history of stepping up to support Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM), Sherwood Elementary and the Mission of Yahweh. Your generous financial donations are used to purchase necessary clothes and supplies needed to start the new school year. The smiles you have helped place on the faces of these students and parents are heart-warming. Please help our neighbors by donating to “Pines Back to School Drive”. Donations can be placed in the offering plate or sent directly to the church office. Please indicate “Back to School” on your check.

Thank you, Pines. You are amazing!

MEMORIAL ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES (MAM)

Back to School Clothing Drive

MAM, working with local schools, provide parents of at-risk students with vouchers for back to school shopping. The parents along with their children can shop together from an approved list.

THE MISSION OF YAHWEH (MOY)

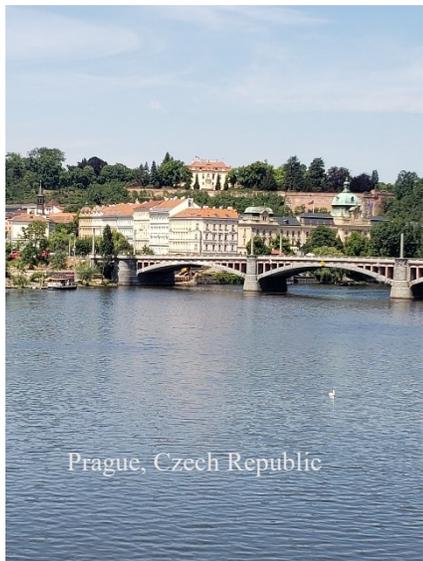
MOY has a year- round need. Weekly the MOY receives children that need school clothing, shoes, and supplies to attend local elementary while living at the mission. The MOY uses funds to purchase needed items.

SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

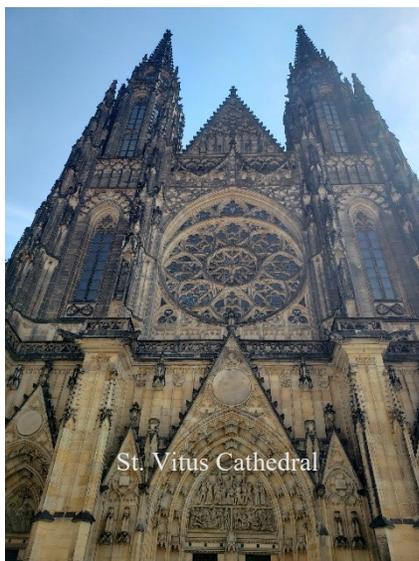
Pines members contribute to Sherwood Elementary in a variety of ways including mentoring, meals, reading events and a workday. Because many Sherwood families face personal financial struggles, donations from Pines, are especially important and truly appreciated.



For additional information contact: Kari Work at kwork@mgcinc.net



Prague, Czech Republic



St. Vitus Cathedral



St. Vitus Cathedral



Bratislava, Slovakia



Budapest, Hungary



Budapest, Hungary



Budapest, Hungary

Upper Belvedere Palace, Vienna, Austria



St. Stephen's Cathedral



St. Peter's Church



Schönbrunn Palace

Chapel in the Fields



Neuschwanstein Castle





Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at **Pines Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, July 19, 2022.**

A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)

An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries (a pair of blood vessels in the neck that deliver blood to your brain) for buildup of fatty plaque. This buildup, called atherosclerosis, is one of the leading causes of stroke.

Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening

An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs. It is important to screen for PAD because it increases the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, or stroke.

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm. AAA can lead to a ruptured aortic artery, which is a serious medical emergency.

Atrial Fibrillation

A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for Atrial Fibrillation. AFib can lead to blood clots, stroke, and heart failure, and other heart-related complications.

Osteoporosis Risk

An ultrasound is performed to measure the shin bone for abnormal bone mass density. This can help assess the risk of osteoporosis, a disease where bones become weak and brittle.

These 5 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441, text the word "circle" to 797979 or online at <https://llsa.social/HS> . Call Cindy in the church office with questions.



It is the desire of the Worship Committee to put the Memorial crystal ornaments (274+) back into the hands of the surviving family members so these treasures can continue to be a blessing to their loved ones and be forever enjoyed. The ornaments have been organized and sorted alphabetically and they are located in the Café by the reception area. Please feel free to stop by and pick up any ornaments connected to your family. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Aldred at lindaaldred1@aol.com.

Welcome to our newest
Stephen Ministers!

**Sharon Dotson, Ann Guerra,
Scott Greene, and Art Otermat**

“Each one should use whatever gift
he has received to serve others,
faithfully administering God’s grace
in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10



Summer Sunday School at

+ PINES!

Sunday School @ 9:15 | Worship @ 10:45

Foundations

Fellowship Hall

Continues “The Story”
Video and Discussion

Explorers

Room C-3

“The New Testament”
Then “Peter and Paul”
Video and Discussion



Nursery
Available
Birth - 5

Children and Youth

Ages 3-18

Senior High Room
“VeggieTales”
Led By Our Youth



Looking for something new to do with the family?

Things to do in Houston...

Museum/Attraction Free Days:

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum: Thursday 1 - 4 p.m.

Children's Museum of Houston: Thursday 5 - 8 p.m.

The Health Museum: Thursday 2 - 7 p.m.

Holocaust Museum Houston: Thursday 2 - 5 p.m.

Houston Museum of Natural Science: Thursday 2 - 5 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston: Thursday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Kemah Boardwalk is a 35-acre carnival-like atmosphere in Bay Area Houston that features a 36-foot carousel, a 65-foot Ferris wheel and rides like the Aviator and the Boardwalk Tower. Don't miss the arcade and Midway games. And for thrill seekers, there's the Boardwalk Beast, an adrenaline rush of a boat ride that takes passengers four miles into Galveston Bay at speeds up to 40 mph.

For most of us, watching the “March of the Penguins” movie is the closest we’ve ever been to a penguin, but you don’t have to travel to Antarctica to go into the chilly world of these tough and resourceful birds. **Moody Gardens’** 45-minute Penguin Encounters allows you to get up close to penguins from the Aquarium Pyramid. The good news is you only need to travel to nearby Galveston!

Tame a Beast

Gator Country is an alligator theme park perfect for families who love daring adventure and learning. Guests get the chance to see small baby alligators, as well as Big Tex and Big Al, who both weigh in at 1,000 pounds and almost 14 feet. Gator Country has over 500 alligators and four species of crocodiles along with caimans, alligator snapping turtles, snakes and other reptiles, which means there is always something new to see. Don't forget to take a photo with Big Beau, the 135-foot alligator welcoming you to the park.

