



PINES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pines Press, August 2021

Looking Upward, Growing Inward, and Serving



Fresh Start **Fiesta!**

Find Your Place at Pines...

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

9:15 | Continental Breakfast, Fellowship & Christian Ed. Previews

10:45 | Worship

12:00 | Lunch, VBS Highlights & Mission Trips Presentations

[in the Fellowship Hall after worship]

Bring Your Friends!

visit us: PinesPC.org

PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pines Family News & Current Events



Please keep the family of Georgette Person in your prayers. Georgette passed away on July 26th while in the hospital. Georgette was 91 years old and had been a member at Pines for 36 years.



Presbyterian Women

Our three active Presbyterian Women Circles are all beginning in September and we'd love to welcome new members! We hold monthly meetings, September through May, to study God's Word, pray together, laugh together, and share as we grow in faith. **Clara Gay Circle** meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:30AM in Room C-3

Miriam Circle meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in Room C-3

Potpourri Circle meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM in various homes.

God did it again! The Benefit Rummage Sale raised \$2562.50 for Feed My Starving Children.

That is more than twice our previous record. That amount will fund over 10,500 meals for children in 63 countries. Or, put another way, 29 children will eat for a year because of what God did. Many thanks to the myriad of donors and volunteers, for all the staff support and the space to do this. The remaining items are going to our mission partner, MAM.



Wondering how to order flowers for the Sanctuary?—cost for Narthex flowers is \$50 and the Sanctuary is \$75. We offer the option to give to a benevolence or order a live arrangement. Please email: Melissa Gravett at mgravett0123@gmail.com or Linda Aldred at lindaaldred1@aol.com. You may also call the church office to get a message to either one of these ladies.

Please mark your calendars with the NEWSLETTER DUE DATES:

August 20 (for the September issue)

September 24 (for the October issue)

Pastor's Page

Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus,

It is so good to be back! I am so thankful to be back with my family of faith, I missed you all so much! I am excited about our fresh start as together we move forward together in faith. I want to thank all those who kept Pines moving forward. I especially want to thank the Session for their wise, and faithful leadership during this time. I also want to thank the Reverend Barbara Retzloff and the Reverend Bill Willis for their amazing care and compassionate leadership of this Pines congregation. God knew Barbara and Bill were the perfect people to step in and nurture this family.

As we move forward into our fresh start, and the path that God has before us, I would love for us to live into the knowledge that God's spirit lives inside each one of us. This is the spirit that calls us forward and should radically impact how we live and how we serve. A couple of Sunday's ago we talked about the miracle of the Loaves and Fishes and how Jesus challenged the disciple Philip with the question on what to do with the growing crowd. Philip answered basically saying, "there's no way we can feed all these people!" If Philip had allowed God to live inside of him, I bet he would have answered that question in a radically differently way. I believe Philip wouldn't have answered, "No we can't!" but would have answered with, "What will it take to make it happen?!" If we believe God lives in us, what is it we're supposed to say, "What will it take to make it happen?"

Over the past several months there has been a search committee prayerfully seeking the person whom God is calling to be our Director of Family Ministries. When God reveals this person to us and they accept the call, we are going to need to say, "What will it take to help this person be successful?" This person is going to rely on each one of us to help them make our children's and youth ministries strong and lead us into our new beginning. This person is going to need us to volunteer to cut construction paper, work in the nursery, teach a Sunday school class, help with VBS, go on a mission trip and they are going to need us to financially support the program. I am confident our program can grow, but it is going to take a village, not of one, but of many. So, when this person joins our family of faith, I look forward to hearing a cacophony of voices saying, "What will it take, I'm ready to help?"

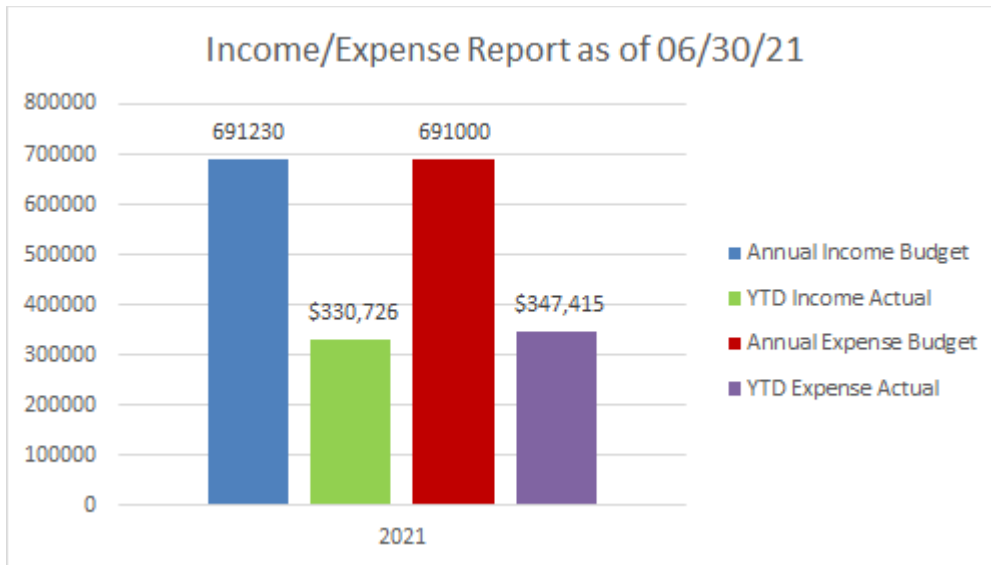
Thanks to God, we've all been radically recreated in Christ to joyfully respond to God's amazing grace with hope and excitement! Could it be scary to be radically recreated, could it push us beyond what we're used to? Absolutely! But think of the boundless opportunities we will have as we invite and welcome Christ to live within us and guide us. What will it take?

Your brother in Christ,



Andy

Stewardship



STEWARDSHIP NOTES:

1. Pledge Income through June 30, 2021 is running slightly (2%) below forecast. Non-pledge income is slightly more (5%) below forecast. Overall, total income is 2% below forecast through June 30, 2021.
2. Expenses have been impacted in June, and also July, by the need to replace the air conditioning unit in the gym. This need was anticipated and the property reserve funds set aside in prior years for this repair will be used to supplement the budget for this cost.
3. Net Income as of June 30, 2021 is negative. (-16,689) It is still expected, however, that income will catch up to the budget and we can end the year in a net positive position.
4. Pledge status statements will be mailed to all members in early August. If you have questions about your financial giving to Pines, please contact our Accounting Manager, Alexis Graham, at alexis@pinespc.org.

Session Meeting Notes

There is no Session Meeting in July

The youth continue to work on painting their annual ceiling tiles to commemorate the end of each school year. Stop by the High School room one day and take a look at their artwork! If you would be willing to lead the youth one Sunday in a bible study or just have a discussion on a bible topic as they paint, please call the office to let us know you are interested.

Also, please keep the Search Committee in your prayers as they continue the search for the person God will bring to Pines to lead the children and youth. The Search Committee has been working diligently to listen for who God is calling for this position.

Children at Pines

What's New with the Children?

We all love hearing about the adventures of Super Heroes...Superman, Spider-Man, Batman, Wonder Woman, just to name a few!

Each Sunday in summer Sunday School, we are learning about Super Heroes in the Bible who fully rely on God for their strength. Did you know that Gideon led three hundred men to defeat the Midianites using trumpets, jars, and torches? Well, we made trumpets and torches too, from paper of course!

And then who could forget the story of Samson who was known for the strength that came with his long uncut hair. Guess what? The children made headbands with long paper hair, too. We did jumping jacks and tried to lift weights, but we were never a match for Samson's strength!

We learn that each of us has a purpose, a God-given gift to do super-great, incredible things. All kids can learn how to be a hero for God!



Join us for Family-Style Sunday School in W-12 as we continue
“Learning to Love like God”

The Music Department

Greetings from the Music Department!

Let's take a look at "Though I May Speak," which is an English folk melody. Hal Hopson wrote this text to the familiar tune in 1972.

The thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians is known as the love chapter in the Bible. It is read at many weddings, telling us just what love is.

"If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.
1 Corinthians 13:1-3.

Hopson focuses on verse 1 in the first stanza of the song:

"Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain as sounding brass and hopeless gain."

Verse 2 stresses to give freely with love.

"Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Verse 3 is an actual prayer for the Holy Spirit to come in and control our hearts, our minds, our love.

"Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

Let us all be mindful of the words we speak and the love we share.

Keep a song in your heart!
Tim Holder

Mosaic and Pines InCarNation



Join us for
InCarNation
Sunday's at 5 PM
on our Fellowship Hall!

**With the hot weather upon us,
In-Car-Nation has moved indoors!**

The service will be held at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us for a lively hour of praise and worship!

Missions

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.

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 **visit PinesPC.org for more details.**

Pines Missions Committee

July and August Agape Offering

Back to School Drive

The 2021/2022 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 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. MAM's back to school needs are year-round.

THE MISSION OF YAHWEH ***Mission School Blessing***

Mission School Blessing is a year-round need. Weekly the MOY receives children that need school clothing and supplies to attend school while living at the mission. The MOY uses funds from the blessing to purchase needed clothing, shoes, and supplies.

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](#)



MAM is in need of volunteers to work in their resale shop. If you have a few extra hours to spare, please give them a call to see where you can help out. It is such a fun place to volunteer and a great place to shop while you are there!

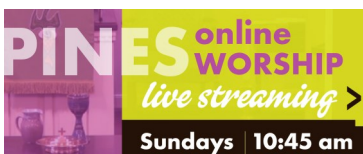
Saturday, 07/10 Pines hosted RaiseUP Families Summer Camp Send off Dinner. 10 children will be going to Camp Allen. Dinner provided by Pines and a \$25 Walmart gift card to shop for a swimsuit. All other sleep away camp supplies provided by other generous supporters of RaiseUP Family. Kari Work coordinated with the Memorial Community to have 10 custom designed pillowcases make for each camper.



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Staying Connected: --- You can now find upcoming opportunities to connect by visiting our website: pinespc.org. Join in on the next scheduled meeting, class or event by signing up for your free Zoom account: zoom.us/signup. View our archived videos anytime and also join in "live"!



Live Worship Services: --- Pines Worship Services on Sundays are live streaming! 10:45 am worship services can be viewed by visiting our website: pinespc.org You can also catch us on Facebook for the same live streaming worship services.



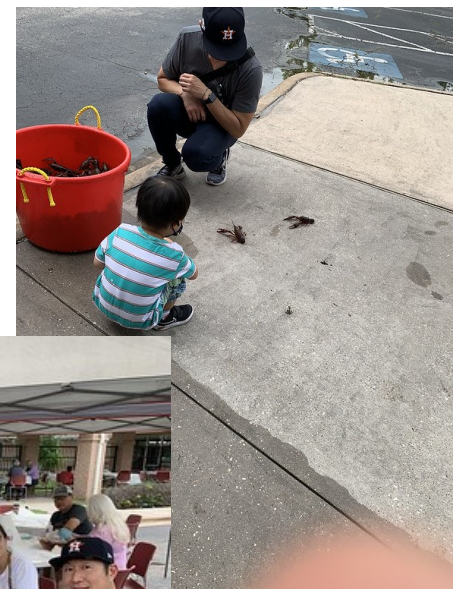
Online Giving: ---As always, we thank you for your generous sharing of treasures in the spirit and practice of stewardship. Please visit our website for online giving: pinespc.org

On behalf of Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center, Carly and I say Thank You for the wonderful partnership of hosting a successful Blood Drive at Pine Presbyterian Church!

You had 13 Successful Donors and collected 16 total products which can Save and Sustained up to **48 lives!**
Your Church Did GREAT!



WE are looking at having another blood drive possibly sometime in October. Mark your calendars so that you will be ready to participate and help SAVE LIVES!



All had a great time at the crawfish boil put on by Mosaic Church in the Pines parking lot. Be sure not to miss the next event. The best Crawfish you have EVER tasted! Thanks to all that worked so hard to make this so successful.



John 8:12 Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

There is a Light

There is a light
In the world, a healing spirit,
More powerful than any darkness
We may encounter.

We sometimes lose sight of this force
When there is so much suffering,
too much pain.

Then suddenly the spirit will emerge
Through the lives of ordinary people
Who care and answer in extraordinary ways.
Author unknown

Stephen ministers are called to be light bearers, prepared to share in the lives of those who need a friend during a challenging season of life. If you are in need of such a friend please call Bill Willis at 318 548 4414.



SPACE CENTER HOUSTON
**ASTRONAUT
DAYS**

AUG. 5-8



REMINDER: Please, if you move to a new address, change your phone number or your email address, please call or email the church office so that we can update our files. Also, if you feel you are not receiving communications from the church, **please** contact the church office at 713-467-2234! You may also email Cindy or Genny at cindy@pinespc.org or genny@pinespc.org Thank you.



Pines Life Camp is this SUMMER!

August 2-5, from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM

Online registration is available!

LIFE CAMP Decorating Day –Saturday, July 31st from 9am to noon. Help transform the preschool area into a family camp! Volunteers needed to decorate for LIFE CAMP.
For additional information contact Kari Work.