

*Growing
Upward,
Inward,
and
Outward...*



**You are invited to a
Thankfulness Gathering**

On Sunday, November 5th from 12-1:30 PM in the Pines Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. There will be a harvest meal, mission projects, and opportunities to learn more about the missions Pines supports. All are welcome!

**Don't forget to set your clocks back
one hour on Saturday night!**

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Be sure to look over each page.
There are many opportunities to
get involved in the life of the
church!



will be held on Sunday, November 5th benefiting
Sherwood Christmas Store. Look for the Christmas
display in the Fellowship Hall for how you can help.

The AGAPE Communion Offering - The Greek word Agape is used in the New Testament to refer to a kind of love that is not necessarily a feeling but a motivation for action, a sacrificial love that voluntarily gives without expecting anything in return. We are called to Agape love through Christ's example, and we remember that example of sacrifice when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. In order to bring greater awareness of and participation in the Service and Outreach "outside our walls" ministry projects throughout the year, the **Agape Communion Offering** of small, tangible goods will coincide each month with the celebration of Holy Communion. Families are encouraged to participate together in selecting an item to donate and bring to the baskets in the narthex on the **first Sunday** of each month.

Welcome!

Welcome new Pines member Joan Buck Jenkinson!

Joan moved back to Houston 7 months ago after being in Indiana for the last 12 years. She is married to Pines member Tim Jenkinson. Joan is the sister of Barbara Retzloff.



Dear Pastors and Friends of Pines,

We are so appreciative of all the prayers, gifts and offerings of support from the Pines Community as we recover from the flooding of our home. We so appreciate all the generosity of our Pines friends!! XOXO, Kim and Terriann Trostle



My Dear Pines Family,

I have said so many times that "Pines loves well", and this time I was the blessed recipient. For all the prayers, cards, e-mails, meals, flowers, visitors who came to talk and walk with me, not to mention all of you who checked in with Steve every Sunday to see how I was doing, I am so thankful. Your love was felt and your prayers were powerful and God is good!
I love you all, Barbara

Plan to join your church family at the first Pines Thankfulness Gathering

on Sunday, November 5, from 12:00 – 1:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy homemade soups, bread stuffs, and desserts, then help fill Christmas boxes for seafarers.

The Congregational Fellowship Committee invites you to contribute any of the following items:

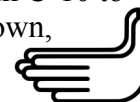
address book, fabric Band-Aids, baseball caps, 2018 calendar, comb, dental floss, deodorant, disposable razors, flashlights and batteries, Kleenex, lip balm, lotion, nail clippers, Gold Bond cream, Gold Bond lotion, hot chocolate, needle and thread, Q-Tips, shaving cream, soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, gum and hard candy, key chains, pocket-size notebooks, mechanical pencils, pens, playing cards, popcorn, socks, Sudoku, Texas souvenirs, t-shirts, USB flash drives, word puzzles. We hope to fill 20+ shoe boxes. All items can be left in Room N-21.



The annual **Pines Christmas Progressive Dinner** is scheduled for **Saturday, December 2**, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. Stay tuned for more information and details on a new twist to this popular holiday event!

PLEASE remember to be sure when using the freezer that the door is securely shut. We recently lost all items in the freezer because the door was left partially open. Thank you for being good stewards of your church property.

Pines Prayer Team...You're invited! Come, join us in the most important thing we can ever do: pray! Come and participate in the connectedness, the refreshment, the joy of watching God work in people's lives. The Pines Prayer Team meets every Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. (concurrent with the Men's Group) in Room C-10 to pray for the concerns of Pines' members. If you prefer to receive the list by email and pray on your own, contact genny@pinespc.org.



A Message From Our Pastor

Greetings family,

Thankfulness is usually the theme of November newsletter articles and that's a good thing. Thanksgiving is a great time for us to look back and remind ourselves how blessed we are and how thankful we should be.

Even in the toughest times we are blessed. We are blessed with a God who reminds us to never fear, a God who promises to walk beside us, carry us and never leave our side. We are also fortunate here at Pines that we are blessed with wonderful church family members! Often times I hear people say, "I don't know how'd I make it if it weren't for my church family."

We are blessed with a wonderful church family who cares for people. As I look out from the Chancel on Sunday mornings I see a vast array of members who find ways to reach out and be a blessing in the community. We have multiple members who don volunteer vests at the hospitals as they share a ministry of comfort and support through the P.O.P. ministry. There are several among us that take time each week to teach, tutor and mentor young school children at Sherwood Elementary. We have members who volunteer their time and bless the community at so many other places of hope.

I am also thankful for all of you and how you have blessed the ministry of this church by participating in and helping others through the Montrose Street Reach Ministry, the Stitch Ministry, Hurricane Harvey clean-up, morning prayer ministry, monthly Agape Offerings, volunteering at M.A.M, Mission of Yaweh, Westside Homeless Prevention, cooking meals for Center Ministries, Taco and A Prayer, Sherwood Christmas Store, assisting and setting up worship services, leading small group studies, providing meals for and visits with our at home members, and I am thankful for the blessing of this year's Stewardship campaign and your estimates of giving for the year.

There are so many of you who serve outward, and I'm sure I have missed many of the ways we serve. Our church is overflowing with people who allow themselves to be used by God to be a blessing in the community and the Kingdom. Today and always, this is what I am thankful for.

With great thankfulness,



"The Pines Sound Team wants YOU!" As a member of the team, you'll work closely with the Pastors and the Music Director to help ensure that our Sunday morning worship is meaningful for everyone in the congregation. If you're interested in learning how to operate the audio and video systems in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings, please contact Dan Schafer at das.georgia@comcast.net. Free training is provided!



WE WANT YOU!

Pines Youth Celebrates!

Pines youth ministries is undergoing some changes. We are happy to announce the creation of the Youth Ministries Team (YMT). The team is charged with the task of overseeing youth (middle and high school) activities at Pines. We are filling leadership positions to handle Confirmation, Education, Fun, Fund Raisers, Mission Trips, PYCC / Conclave, and Shepharding. For the first time at Pines, students will join the leadership team! Stay tuned for further updates. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to be an Impact Player with our youth contact John Work .



Youth Events



Youth Rally - PYCC (Presbyterian Youth Connection Council)

Sunday Nov 12th 11:00am to 2:00pm - Contact Ron for details.

Youth Bake Sale Fund Raiser

Sunday Dec 17th 11:00am to 2:00pm - Stay tuned for details.

Breakfast is Served!

Join us Sunday mornings for Middle School and High School
Sunday School classes from 9:30 - 10:30am.

Pines Kids



1 Thessalonians
5:18

"Give thanks in all
circumstances; for
this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus for you."

Children's Ministry at Pines

November Dates To Remember!


11/5—Thankfulness Gathering after worship
(lunch and a mission activity)

11/18— "Glisten" event at City Centre (Pines will
have some fun Christmas booths and activities!)

11/26—Family Advent Night, 5:30-7pm in the
Sanctuary, featuring "Operation Baby King"
Dinner and Christmas Tree Lighting included!



The Witness Corner...

- The following are shared in response to Psalm 133:1 -- "How wonderful it is, how pleasant, when brothers (and sisters) live in harmony (The Living Bible).
- *The joy inherent in once again doing "mission work" with some of the Pines "youth alumni" (e.g. Haley and Ethan Paulsen, James Davis, Brian and Leigh O'Connor) as well as many members of the current Pines youth group.*
- How this church is so good about praying for each other.
- How everyone looked after each other before, during and after the storm. Thanks be to God for these blessings!
- Hearing the laughter from the Preschool children throughout the day!
- For our Pines staff and how they love and take care of our congregation.
- From Sherwood Elementary: Dear Rev. Andy and Pines Family, We are so grateful for your oh so generous contributions to Sherwood. The Pines Community continues to amaze us! Your generosity truly helps to sustain the good things that go on around here — particularly your prayers for us. Thank you and may God continue to bless you all! Your SWE family 

SESSION MEETING NOTES

The Session met for its Stated (Regular) meeting on October 23, 2017. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- Pines currently has 504 active members, following the transfer of Rion and Susan Cascaden to First Presbyterian Church in Huntsville and the transfer to Pines of Joan Jenkinson from Christ Presbyterian Church, McCordsville, IN.
- Welcomed Barbara Retzloff back following her medical leave.
- Expressed thanks to the choir for their beautiful music during recent services.
- Approved Communion for the All Saints Day service at 6:30 p.m. on November 1. The Rev. Bill Willis will lead the service.
- The next Stated Session meeting will be November 27.

New Offering at Pines...

Where to Turn

Sooner or later difficult times can overwhelm us. In answer to requests from the congregation, Pines is offering a Grief Support Group to help. Whether it is loss of a loved one, or any other kind of major loss, such as loss of a job, loss of independence and mobility, loss of a beloved pet, or loss of one's home, we may find ourselves left feeling alone, vulnerable and stalled in grief. This program is designed not as a cure-all, but as a way to equip those in grief with coping skills.

Our Stephens Ministry is sponsoring this new ministry, with facilitators Ken Curry and Rev. Dr. Belinda Koenig. It is set to begin Sunday, November 5, at 1:00 p.m. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall prior to the meeting for the Thankfulness Gathering Luncheon. The sessions are not structured sequentially, so it is okay to miss a Sunday and then return.

Greetings from the Music Department!



In this season of reflection, I would like to share my thanks.....

I give thanks to Jesus Christ, my savior, for giving His life so that I may have eternal life.

I give thanks to my parents, J.C. and Eva Holder for raising me in a Christian home.

I give thanks to Zola McGuffee, my first and best piano teacher, who instilled the love of the piano technique and phrasing in me.

I give thanks to John Williams, my high school choir director, for showing me the wonder of voices blended.

I give thanks to the search committee of Pines for taking the time to listen to what I might have to contribute to the music program at Pines.

I give thanks for a wonderful staff at Pines that I get to work along side each week.

I give thanks for a new and exciting pastor who helps nourish me in my ministry.

I give thanks for the wonderful men and women who meet regularly to rehearse and present the gospel in music.

And finally, I give thanks for Pines Presbyterian Church, whose people have accepted me from day one as a friend and partner in ministry.

Blessings to all,
Tim



**WE NEED
YOU**
to make our new
family directory
complete

LAST CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR PHOTO IN THE DIRECTORY!

Thank you to the over 100 individuals/families who scheduled their photography appointment and got their picture taken for our new pictorial directory! If you missed it, you can schedule an appointment at another church by calling the LifeTouch helpline 1-866-756-0281 and they will be able to help you schedule an appointment so that your picture can still be included in our directory. Make sure to give them Pines' account #403683. **Please do this no later than November 17!** If you have any questions, please contact Julia James at jbwiens@gmail.com.



Once again, this year **Pines will be ordering Poinsettias** from the Brookwood Community to decorate our Sanctuary for the Christmas Season.

2017 Poinsettia Signups will begin on November 5th and run through December 3rd. Please stop by the hallway outside of the Fellowship Hall to sign up for a Poinsettia *or two*. The cost of each Poinsettia is \$10 and they may be taken home after the [11:00 PM Service on Christmas Eve, December 24th](#).



Looking for Communion set up people.

Do you want to serve the church one time a year? Do you want to work behind the scenes? Consider Communion set up on the first Sunday of the month. There are several openings in 2018. Couples or 2 single people can apply.

Please contact Sue Master - lou.n.sue@comcast.net.



STEPHEN MINISTRY – “*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*” - 1 Corinthians 13:13

Whether you are the patient or a family member, nothing can fully prepare you for a cancer diagnosis. Shock, disbelief, anxiety, despair, grief, fear, sadness, and a feeling of helplessness all hit like an oncoming train. Such was the case for Martha, me, and our boys when we received her diagnosis in mid - March of 2015. Hers was about as bad as it gets: Stage IV pancreatic cancer.

I was midway through Stephen Minister training and broke down when I shared the news with our class. Martha encouraged me to continue with the training. She was wise to do so. A Stephen Minister is someone who is there to listen and pray with you through difficult times and maintain confidentiality while doing so. It is a one-on-one relationship. I was blessed with a whole roomful of trained lay people who shared our journey.

The last thing anybody wants to be told is that everything's going to be alright or you'll get over it when you know you are facing a life-changing event. A Stephen Minister will not do so because they know you never do “get over it”, but you can move forward with God's grace and the loving support of others who are willing to share your journey.

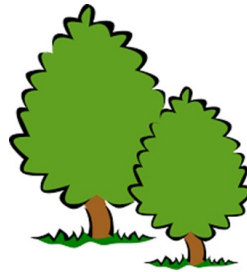
Martha lost her battle with cancer in six short months, yet she faced it with grace, humor, and love – love for her family and love for God. We were blessed to have a circle of Christian friends to lean on through some very difficult days. And I was blessed to have a wife who loved me so much that she encouraged me to find someone new to share my remaining days on earth after she had gone to be with the Lord. She told a few of our close friends, including Barbara, to see that I did. You can guess how that turned out, as I am now married to Barb's sister, Joan!

If you are going through a life changing event like mine, you do not have to face it alone. If you think a Stephen Minister relationship might be right for you, please contact Barbara Retzloff (713-467-2234). She doesn't have any more unmarried sisters, but she can describe the program in more detail and put you into a confidential relationship with a Stephen Minister.

In Christ, Tim Jenkinson

PRESCHOOL TREE DEDICATION

In memory of
Emmie Schneider
And in honor of
retired Director, Dorothy Hobbs
Please join us on the playground
at 9:15 am on Tuesday, November 14.



A thank you note from Central Presbyterian Church of Waxahachie... Dear Pastor Andy, thank you for all that you, your staff, and your lovely volunteers did for our mission group. My son and I along with all of our volunteers felt so loved and supported. I realize that supporting volunteers is a financial drain on your church, so please accept this modest donation to help offset your ongoing expenses. Please extend a sincere and personal thank you to Kari and her hot-dog grillin' husband how much we appreciated the wonderful food, care, and company they provided us. Each of you were the perfect “Martha's”. Thank you. Respectfully, Michelle

Encore Performance: **'The Buddy Holly Story'** performed by Cypress Woods Theatre Company. Two performances: Friday, November 10 and Saturday November 11 at 7pm. Cypress Woods High School auditorium, 13550 Woods Spillane Blvd, Cypress, TX 77429. Tickets are \$10/each, may be purchased at the door or online at https://www.showtix4u.com/boxoffice.php?submit=Search+for+Events&begin=1542968¤t_client=0200006912311581. This is a chance to see the Cypress Woods High School theatre in their warm up for Main Stage at the Texas Thespians competition (State for Theatre).

The cast is fantastic and our own Walter Rodenberger performs as The Big Bopper.



Sherwood Christmas Store is around the corner!

Volunteers and sponsors needed to fill the store with gifts for 120 children. Look for the Christmas display beginning Sunday, 10/29 or contact Kari Work for additional information.



Shopping = \$\$ for Pines

If you shop at Randalls, Kroger or Amazon,
YOU can help raise money for Pines Benevolences. Here's how:



1. Get a Kroger card & create an account at Kroger.com
2. Click on "Community" & "Enroll Now"
3. Enter Pines' number: **81486. Do this YEARLY!**



1. Get a Randalls card and/or take your card to a Randalls Courtesy Booth, fill out a form
2. Ask to link Pines to your card with **#2210**



1. Create an Amazon account online
2. Go to Smile.Amazon.com
3. Click on "Supporting" & put in Pines Presbyterian Church

Our next CityCentre Service Project is "Glisten", which is their pre-Christmas event to light up the community, November 18th noon to 5 PM. We need volunteers and here is the plan... please let us know where you can join in the fun and help out.

- * Santa will be there for the kids so we need volunteers to help shuffle kids in line & perhaps entertain them as they wait.
- * Corn Hole Game needs volunteers to manage players
- * Write cards to Texas children's patients: Probably need a couple folks to monitor writing tables.
- * Bowling on the green: just play with the kids and help set up the pins
- * Help monitor the Cadillac being filled with toys for Texas Children's
- * Hand out candy canes with the story attached (like at Rudolph Run last year)

Please contact Lesa Smith (lesa.j.smith@sbcglobal.net) if you can volunteer a little time that day.



Time for some fun! Pines Pealers, a multi-generational Handbell Choir, has stands open. All the training you want is provided. Various talent and experience levels are welcome. Rehearsals are Wednesday, 6:00-6:55 pm in room C-12 (compatible with Sanctuary Choir) during the school year. We play in worship monthly and have a lot of fun in the meantime. Call Bethel Strawser.