



Pines News

MARCH 2019

Looking Upward, Growing Inward, and Serving Outward...

Dust off your boots & Join Us!

BREAK OUT YOUR WESTERN ATTIRE!



EAT



PLAY

DANCE

an Intergenerational



BARBECUE



GATHERING *with all the fixin's will be served!*

12-2:30 PM ~ IN THE GYMNASIUM

March 3rd GO TEXAN DAY!

PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ASH

WEDNESDAY

Join your Pines family on
Wednesday March 6th
for our
Ash Wednesday service at 6:30.

Pines Family News

JUST A REMINDER...

Please remember, this is your church home. We all want to be good stewards of the many blessings God has provided in our building. When you borrow something from the church, please return it to where you found it. Also, when you bring something into the church, please remember to mark it with your name in case you leave it here. Finally, ANY item/service that you would like to donate to Pines should first be approved by the Property Committee. With these thoughts in mind, we can all enjoy our church home!



...to **the family of Pines member Floyd Foster.**

Floyd passed away on 2-2-2019. A service was held at Pines on 2-12-19. Please keep this family in your prayers.

...to **the family of Pines member Bob Graves.** Bob passed away on 2-11-2019. A service was held at Pines on 2-22-2019. Please keep this family in your prayers.

...to **Sharon Darden** (Presbytery office) and family in the passing of her only son. Please keep Sharon in your prayers.

....to **Andy & Kathy Dearman** and family in the loss of their one year old grandchild. Please keep them all in your prayers.

He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds. Psalms 147:3 RSV

Be joyful with those who are joyful. Be sad with those who are sad. Romans 12:15

Sign Up Now. . . It's *Dinner for Eight* Time!

Date for Eight is back this year with a new name—*Dinner for Eight*. To participate in Pines' popular potluck socials, sign up on Sunday either before or after the service at the special *Dinner for Eight* table located in the foyer as you enter the church. Sign up to be a dinner host or a dinner guest or both. Registration will continue over the next three Sundays for dinners to be held in hosts' homes during the months of **March and May**. For more information on the 2019 Dinner for Eight season, please email Sharon Dotson at sharondotson@gmail.com.

Please mark your calendars with the following

NEWSLETTER DUE DATES:

March 22 (April 2019 newsletter)

April 19 (May 2019)

May 24 (June 2019)

June 21 (July 2019)

Bible Quiz.... When Jacob is sleeping and dreaming of angels, what does he use for a pillow?



Answer: a rock (Genesis 28:10 NIV)

Pastor's Page

Grace & Peace to you,

As you know, you and I are in the midst of the Lenten season. Recently I was asked what the word “Lent” meant. I was stumped. I could give the answer of what it meant theologically. It is the forty days before Maundy Thursday when faithful Christians prepare themselves for Easter through prayer, repentance, penance, and self-denial or fasting. It is the time when we take a serious look at our personal faith.

I did some research on the actual meaning of the word “Lent.” It is derived from the Old English word *lencten*, meaning 'spring', the lengthening of days after winter is over. This was a period of spring fasting known in Old English as *Lencten-Fasten*, or in its abbreviated form, as *Lencten* or Lent. The ecclesiastical name for this once mandatory period of fasting is the *Quadragesimal Fast* (Latin), or the fast of the Forty Days, in imitation of the forty days of fasting performed by Jesus in the wilderness.

As we travel through these forty days, I have to ask, “How are you doing at reflecting on our personal faith... what are you doing to focus on God and the life and ministry of Jesus?” A couple of things I hope you have done and will do are: I hope you will make a commitment to attend service on Ash Wednesday; I hope you will make a commitment to attend worship and Sunday school throughout Lent; and I hope you will attend Holy Week services.

As the spring days stretch a little longer this Lenten season... try stretching your faith and commitment to Christ. You never know, you may learn to experience Easter every day.

Living into the hope of Easter,



Youth Happenings!

Get excited for our Summer Mission Trip!



We're happy to announce that this summer, we will be taking our Middle School and High School students to New Orleans to work with Son Servants! We will be going from Sunday, July 7th to Saturday, July 13th.

A deposit of \$50 to come on the trip is due no later than April 19th. The full price of the trip will be \$200 (including the deposit) and is due by June 1st. If you could use a scholarship, please call Jesse to let him know. We want everyone to join us on this trip!

If you have any questions about the trip, the deadlines, or anything else, feel free to contact Jesse at Jesse@pinespc.org or 713-467-2234 x121!



VBS Volunteers Needed:

- Prep Team
- Setup Team
- Station leaders
- Group leaders
- Greeters
- Floaters
- Registration Table Workers
- Actors
- Worship Team
- Tear Down Team

June 3-7, 2019
9:00 AM—12:00 PM

To volunteer, email Ashley Sullivan at Ashley@pinespc.org or call her at 713-467-2234 x-127.

Shopping = \$\$ for Pines

If you shop at Randall's, 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' organization number: **EY017** . **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

Pines Presbyterian Church has been issued a \$72.41 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation and \$148.96 from Randalls, as a result of YOUR activity between October 1 and December 31. **THANK YOU!**

SPLENDORS OF EASTERN EUROPE
Including The Passion Play Of Oberammergau
 11 Days: June 3 - 13, 2020
 Prague • Budapest • Vienna • Munich
 Hosted By
 Pastor Andy Gans

PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

\$4499 Per Person from Houston

(Air/land tour price is \$4049 plus \$450 government taxes/airline surcharges)

Visiting Prague, Budapest, Vienna, Munich, and Oberammergau

Price Includes: Roundtrip air from Houston, first class/select hotels, hotels & guesthouses in Oberammergau, first class (Category 1) admissions tickets for the Passion Play, most meals, comprehensive sightseeing with an English-speaking guide and more!!

For a brochure & more information, please contact: Pastor Andy Gans

Tel: (713) 467-2234 / Email: andy@pinespc.org

<http://pinespc.org/trip-to-eastern-europe/>

SPACE IS LIMITED - BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

*This is your last chance to experience the world-famous
 Passion Play of Oberammergau until 2030!!*

The Music Department

Greetings from the Music Department!

I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold; I'd rather be His than have riches untold;
I'd rather have Jesus than houses or lands. I'd rather be led by His nail pierced hand.
Than to be the king of a vast domain or be held in sin's dread sway.
I'd rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today.

The words to the poem "I'd Rather Have Jesus" were penned in 1922 by Rhea F. Miller. Bev Shea, George Beverly Shea's mother, left this poem on the piano hoping that her son would find it and change the course of his life.

The lyrics, I'd rather have Jesus, inspired George so much that he sat at the piano and started singing them in a tune that seemed to fit the words. His mother heard him singing and requested that he sing it in church. With that, George's direction in life changed. He thought about goals he had set, men's applause, and fame and riches. He had a popular music career at NBC, but will always be remembered as the soloist at the Billy Graham Crusades where this song and "How Great Thou Art" drew thousands to know Christ.

So, as we draw near to the Lenten and Easter seasons, let us focus on being led "by His nail pierced hand."
Blessings, my friends
Tim



"The Youth would like to thank the entire congregation for attending the SouperBowl of Caring luncheon.

Almost 200 cans of food was collected that will benefit Fair Haven Food Pantry. In addition to the food, over \$1,100 was raised that will benefit Sherwood Blessings in a Backpack. Our Youth will be active participants in mission projects benefiting Sherwood as we pay your contributions forward into our community. Also, a special thank you to our talented SouperBowl cooks:

Tracy Allison, Michelle Bua, Karen Davis, Melissa Gravett, Rosina Miller, Violet O'Brien, Melissa Sandstrom, Margaret Schafer and Diane Wright, who provided the wonderful homemade soups and deserts for our enjoyment. THANK YOU PINES!!!"

Session Meeting Notes

The Session of Pines Presbyterian Church met for a Special Meeting on February 18, 2019 and for its regular Stated Meeting on February 25, 2019. Here are some highlights:

- Approved the 2019 Budget as presented by the Stewardship Committee, reflecting additional pledges and gifts from the congregation.
- Elected members to the Columbarium and Visioning and Planning Committees, and a Clerk for 2019.
- Thanked outgoing Elders from the Class of 2019 for their service.
- Discussed feedback from the Congregational Luncheon and discussed ideas for continued communication to the congregation.
- Heard a report on very successful early registration for the Preschool.

Dan Schafer, Clerk of Session

THE MARCH AGAPE OFFERING

Our March Agape offering will benefit MAM's Home Care Cupboard. When a family turns to MAM for help with rent and utilities we know the grocery budget is already stretched thin and home care supplies are often neglected. Your donation of these items will ease the burden for struggling families:

Toilet paper – packs of 4, Paper towels – single or double roll packs, Multi-purpose cleaner, Kleenex, Dishwashing liquid, 40-load powdered laundry detergent, Garbage bags.

Memorial Area Ministries (MAM) Family Assistance programs help those in financial crisis with rent, utility and medical assistance, clothing, transportation and access to benefit enrollment. In addition to financial help, food and vital supplies are distributed to needy Spring Branch families. If you'd like more information about MAM's Home Care Cupboard feel free to contact MAM's Resource Development Office at development@maministries.org.

If you're able, please pick up an item or two the next time you're filling your grocery cart. If we all give a little it adds up to a lot. You may drop you donations in the Agape box located in the Fellowship hallway. We'll collect donations through the month of March.

Questions contact Kathy Ropshaw at kr@jhyi.com

2018 MISSIONS BUDGET REPORT

(TOTAL MISSIONS 2018 BUDGET = \$152,717)

Scheduled Benevolences

Other
Donations
&
Activities

Totals

	Scheduled Benevolences	Other Donations & Activities	Totals
Austin Theol. Seminary	2,000		2,000
Brookwood Community	3,000	500	3,500
CanCare	3,600		3,600
CENTER Ministries	4,000		4,000
CRM-Kreider	5,000		5,000
CRM-Rundles	7,000		7,000
Fairhaven Food Pantry	12,000		12,000
Faith in Practice	10,000		10,000
Feed My Starving Children	-	664	664
Freedom Place-Arrow Ministries	3,000	500	3,500
Heifer Intl.	-	500	500
Interface Samaritan Counseling	3,000		3,000
Interfaith Ministries	1,500		1,500
Memorial Assist. Ministries	6,000	1,147	7,147
Mission of Yahweh	12,000	2,486	14,486
New Covenant Presbytery - Genl. Benevolence	25,000		25,000
New Covenant Presbytery - per Capita	3,540		3,540
New Life in Education - Guatemala	2,500	500	3,000
Newspring	3,000		3,000
OMF Intl - McDyer	4,000		4,000
Prayers of the People	5,000		5,000
Pres. Childrens Home/Svs.	4,500	159	4,659
Seafarers	300		300
Sherwood Elementary	5,000	2,240	7,240
Sherwood Xmas Store	2,500		2,500
Street Reach	-	61	61
Taco and a Prayer	-	794	794
The Women's Home	5,500		5,500
Westside Homeless Ptrshp	8,000	2,226	10,226
TOTAL 2018 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES	140,940	11,777	152,717

KROGER

YOUR ORGANIZATION NUMBER HAS CHANGED.

NEW NUMBER IS EY017

Dear PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. Thank you for being such an important organization in our community.

We have recently upgraded our system, and as a result your Non-Profit Organization (NPO) has a new account number. We recommend communicating this new number to your members, and updating any marketing materials with this change. Please reference the new number when contacting us for assistance. The previous number will continue to be associated with your organization, however, it will not be visible to your members when enrolling.

We encourage you to ask your supporters to link their rewards card to your organization. Community Rewards is easy to use, The more your supporters shop with us, the more money your organization will earn! Thank you for being such an important organization in our community, Your Kroger Community Rewards Staff



Christ caring for people through people

**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Are you going through a rough patch in life, or have a friend who is experiencing one? Perhaps grieving over a loss or dealing with a broken relationship, health, aging or financial problem. There are trained Stephen Ministers that can come alongside and offer compassionate friendship and a listening ear, on a confidential basis, at such times. There are Stephen Ministry information cards in the pew racks. If you have a friend you believe would benefit, talk to him/her and give them one of the cards. If you think a Stephen Minister would be of help to you, call Barbara Retzliff at 713- 467- 2234.

Stewardship Notes

1. As of 2/18/19, total pledges received = \$736,482. This represents an increase of \$65,290 pledged since a letter was sent to the congregation on 2/1/2019. Many thanks to all who responded by increasing their pledge or adding their pledge to the total. God is good!
2. Income and expenses for January were: \$51,543 (Income) and \$75,222 (Expenses), resulting in a Net Deficit for the month of \$23,679. It is not uncommon for January income at Pines to be lower than normal due to end of previous year giving. Expenses were higher than usual for the Property committee as work was completed on the foundation repairs in the children's wing. February income is already significantly higher than January income.
3. A budget was adopted by the Session on Monday, 2/18, at a called meeting. Thanks to increased pledges and reserve committee funds, an Income budget of \$861,900 and an Expense budget of \$859,980 was adopted for 2019.

If you have questions, please contact Linda Johnson, Stewardship Moderator, Peggy Smith, Church Treasurer or Alexis Graham, Accounting Manager.

