

## Church Staff

The Reverend Andy Gans  
 Pastor  
 Kristin Beall  
 Director of Family Ministries  
 Micah Meyers  
 Communications Coordinator  
 Cindy Houlihan  
 Office Manager  
 Alexis Graham  
 Accounting Manager  
 Patrick Peña  
 Custodian/Maintenance  
 Chelsea Castillo  
 Receptionist

## Preschool

Connie Pike  
 Director, Preschool  
 Karen Cooper  
 Administrative Assistant

## Session

### Class of 2022

Elizabeth Deraps  
 Linda Johnson  
 Mike Lade  
 Karen MacAllister  
 Violet O'Brien  
 Bob Miller

### Class of 2023

Linda Aldred  
 Shirley Bollich  
 Phil Buelow  
 Emily Gairo  
 John Work

### Class of 2024

Bob Barr  
 Leslie Friedrich  
 Judy Shamp  
 Connie Sipp  
 Phil Wetz

# OPPORTUNITIES

*To Grow*

# UPWARD, INWARD AND OUTWARD

**Newsletter:** Input must be in the office by January 21st at 9 a.m.

**Next Week's Bulletin:** Input must be in the office by Wednesday at 9 a.m.

**Calendar Items:** Input must be in the office by Thursday at 9 a.m.

**This Week at Pines email:** Input must be in the office by Monday to micah@pinespc.org

**Today's Duty Elder(s):** Phil Wetz and Bob Barr

**Welcome, Guests!** If you have questions about our church, or would like to discuss church membership, please speak with pastor Andy.

**In need of someone to talk to?** If you want to know more about getting a Stephen Minister, please contact Bill Willis or call the church office: 713.467.2234.

**Flowers:** Don't forget to honor with flowers. The cost is \$75.00 for the Sanctuary and \$50.00 for the Narthex. We will continue to offer the option to give to a benevolence or order a real arrangement. Please call Melissa Gravett or Linda Aldred at the church office: 713.467.2234.

**The 2021 Christmas Joy Special Offering:** In addition to our regular offering tonight we will be collecting The Christmas Joy Offering in specially marked envelopes located in the pew back pockets. The Christmas Joy Offering provides equal support to retired church workers and their families who have special needs, as well as students needing assistance who are attending one of the eight ethnically diverse schools in covenant with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Please place the special marked envelope, or your check marked "Joy Offering" in the memo line, in the offering plate during worship.

**The end of the year is a great time to reflect on and share your blessings. Year end giving** must be received or postmarked by December 31 in order to be included on your 2021 donation statement from Pines. The church office will close at noon on December 31.

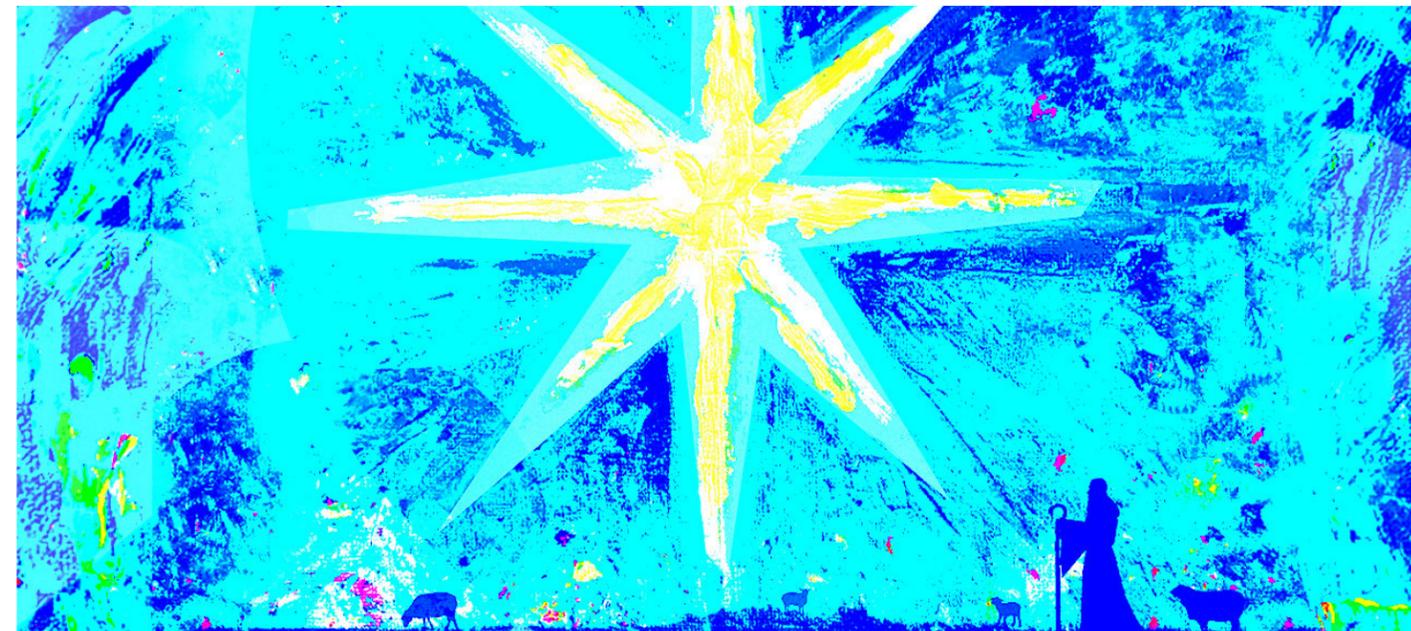
**Poinsettias:** A special thank you to all who gave to our poinsettia tree in honor or in memory of someone. Your gift is greatly appreciated and has been enjoyed for several weeks. If you did purchase a poinsettia, you may pick it up following tonight's 7:00p.m. service.

**Communion** will be celebrated tonight by using the pre-packaged Communion Elements you picked up in the Narthex/lobby. If you wish to partake you will be directed at a specific time to open the end with the wafer and partake. You will then be directed when to open the juice end and partake. Following worship, we ask that you place your used cup into the waste baskets located in the hallway.

**Lighting of the Candles:** The pastor or an usher will light the candle of the first worshiper in each pew. That person in turn will light the candle of the next person and so on until all the candles in the pew are lit. For safety's sake, please tip only the unlit candles and please supervise young children.

**There will not be Sunday School** this Sunday, Dec. 26th or next Sunday, Jan. 2nd.

**The church office will be closed** Monday, Dec. 27th, Tuesday, Dec. 28th, and Monday, Jan. 3rd.



## CHRISTMAS AT PINES PRESBYTERIAN

### Growing Inward

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Gathering for Worship**

**Introit**

"I Hear the Bells"  
"Angels' Carol"

5:00 p.m. Children  
7:00 p.m. Faith Partee-Taylor

**\*Call to Worship**

One Voice: With eyes wide open  
and our ears on edge,

**All Voices: we look for shepherds  
and listen for the songs of angels.**

One Voice: In the light of winter's moon,  
with the North Star lighting the way,

**All Voices: we gather outside the door of a mystery,  
wondering if we dare go enter.**

One Voice: With folks and friends we love,  
with strangers we have just met,

**All Voices: we gather, becoming the holy family  
for this time and in this place.**

One Voice: Rejoicing and singing,

**All Voices: Christ is born! Hallelujah**

**\*Hymn**

**"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"**

See Screen

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

5:00 p.m. Johanneman family  
7:00 p.m. Allen family

**Unison Prayer**

**All: We rejoice in God's steadfast presence in our lives,  
and in God's unique presence in the life of Jesus of Nazareth—  
born of Mary, growing through childhood into an adult ministry,  
in all his life manifesting the peace, love, and justice of God;  
his voice undimmed by the centuries  
his call and his promise as clear to us  
as it was to his disciples so long ago.  
Come to us, Lord Jesus,  
Be born in us this night, in our hearts, our minds, our lives.  
May the light of your life be kindled in us,  
And lead us to the shining truth,  
of God with us, God for us, God in us. Amen.**

# TODAY

December 24, 2021

# IN WORSHIP

**Welcome to Pines**

Pines is a joyful Christian community that welcomes all. Our Mission is to make disciples who know, love, and trust in Jesus Christ. We live into our Mission by Looking Upward, Growing Inward, and Serving Outward.

**Helpful devices:**

Auditory assistance receivers are available with the Ushers.

**Sound:** Dan Schafer

**Liturgist:**

5:00 p.m. Kristen Davis-Owen  
7:00 p.m. Margaret Schafer

\*All who are able may stand

*A Stephen Ministry*



*Congregation*

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2-7 5:00p.m. Bethel Strawser  
7:00p.m. Paige Wright

**Prayer of Confession**

When the shadows of sin and sorrow surround us,  
shine on us with the light of your comfort  
and your grace.

When the despair of the world overwhelms us,  
lift us with your promise of hope.

When we forget the good news of your presence,  
cry out with your message of love,  
that we might hear and remember anew.

Christ is born.

Christ is with us.

We are not alone.

In your beloved name, we pray these things.

**Silent Confession**

Confessional Response "O Little Town of Bethlehem v.4" See Screen

**Assurance of Grace**

One Voice: As we receive God's grace and mercy, we are reminded of angels  
and shepherds and the words of comfort and joy:  
"Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of  
great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of  
David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

All Voices: In Christ, we have received grace upon grace.

One Voice: In Christ, salvation is available to all.

All Voices: Praise to God, for in Christ we are forgiven!

Hymn "Angles We Have Heard on High" See Screen

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-7 5:00 p.m. Scott Davis-Owen  
7:00 p.m. Kristin Beall

Hymn "What Child is This" See Screen

Scripture Reading Luke 2: 8-20 5:00 p.m. Sandra Johanneman  
7:00 p.m. Ashley Gans

Special Music "Christmas Hallelujah" 5:00 p.m. Catey & Ashley Gans  
"Jesu Bambino" 7:00 p.m. Faith Partee-Taylor

Sermon "Did You Hear That?" Rev. Andy Gans

\*Hymn "The First Noel" See Screen

**Saying What We Believe**

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn of all creation;  
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,  
things visible and invisible.

All things have been created through him and for him.  
He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.  
He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning,  
the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come  
to have first place in everything.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,  
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,  
whether on earth or in heaven,  
by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

**Pray for the People of Pines**

Norma Bender Darlene Wendt  
Jean Breitenwischer Barbara Youngflesh  
Barbara Caffall Larry Greenlee  
Virginia Smith Barbara Greenlee  
Carolyn Craig Linda Carlson  
Bob Symon Melissa Sandstrom  
Liz Buelow Bob Barr  
Karen MacAllister Nancy Watler

**Pray for Friends in Mission**

Joy Kreider  
Ken and Judy McDyer

**Pray for Pines Members  
in the Military**

Olivia Williams (Army)  
Noah Youngflesh (Air Force)

**A congregation of the**



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\*Gloria Patri See Screen

Offering & Offertory "Joseph's Lullaby" 5:00 p.m. Allie Guerra  
"O Holy Night" 7:00 p.m. Bethel Strawser

**Offertory Prayer**

\*Doxology See Screen

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer of Great Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer**

**Lighting of the Candles**

\*Hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night" See Screen

**\*Charge & Benediction**

\*Benediction Response "Joy to The World v. 1 & 4" See Screen

**Postlude**

**Calendar for the Week of December 26, 2021**

Sunday	a.m.	10:45	Worship Service - Sanctuary
Monday	p.m.	4:00 7:30	<b>Church Office Closed</b> This Week at Pines articles due ALANON Group - Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	a.m.	7:00	<b>Church Office Closed</b> Men's Bible Study - Zoom
	p.m.	1:00 2:30	Pines Needles Knitting Group - Prayer Room Weekly Prayer Team - Prayer Room
Wednesday	a.m.	9:00	Bulletin Articles Due
	p.m.	5:45 7:00 7:00 8:00	Pines Pealers (Bell Practice) - C12 Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Incarnation practice - Sanctuary Westside AA - Fellowship Hall
Thursday	p.m.	6:00 8:00	SCS - Fellowship Hall AA - C3
Friday	a.m.	5:00	BSF - Fellowship Hall
Saturday	p.m.	6:00	The Solution AA - C3
Sunday	a.m.	9:00 10:00 10:15 10:45 p.m.	Nursery open Choir rehearsal - Choir Room Coffee - Fellowship Hall Worship Service - Sanctuary Incarnation Worship Service - Fellowship Hall

**SERMON NOTES**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name. Thy  
kingdom come, thy will be done, on  
earth as it is in heaven. Give us this  
day our daily bread; and forgive us  
our debts, as we forgive our  
debtors; and lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory, forever.  
Amen.



Instagram.com/pineshouston

Get the latest announcements and  
reminders right before events  
happen. Find us here:  
<https://twitter.com/HoustonPines>.

Find us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/PinesPresbyterian  
Church-1425251917704955/](http://www.facebook.com/PinesPresbyterianChurch-1425251917704955/)

The newsletter is available  
in the Narthex for those unable to  
access it online.

Our Service today is being live streamed  
via the world wide web and recorded to  
be posted to our website.