



# PINES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pines Press, April 2023

12751 Kimberley Ln, 77024 713-467-2234

# EASTER

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**APRIL 6**

**6:30 PM**  
Foot Washing Service - 5:30PM

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**APRIL 7**

**6:30 PM**

**ALL WORSHIP  
LIVE STREAMED  
& IN-PERSON**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**APRIL 9**

**6:30 AM** Kimberley Ln Parking Lot

**& 10:45 AM**  
Breakfast | 7:30-10:30AM | Fellowship Hall



**PINESPC.ORG**

*Celebrate Easter Morning  
with Your Pines Family!*

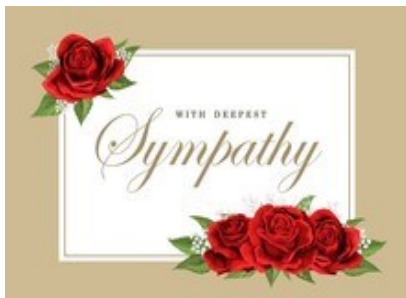
Join us for a Light Breakfast  
7:30 - 10:30AM Fellowship Hall



Together @PINES+

# Pines Family News & Current Events

The church office is open Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. The office is closed on Fridays. If you need assistance on Friday, please call Cindy at 832-489-5989.



Please hold the family of Janet Calhoun in your prayers. Janet passed on March 6th, 2023. She was 93 years old. Janet joined Pines with her husband Jack in January 1965. Janet was involved in many areas of the Pines life and will be missed by many.

Please hold Sue Master and family in your prayers with the loss of her husband Lou. Lou was so faithful to Pines in so many ways over the 44 years he was a member. His sweet smile and gentle manner will be missed.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! April 1st will be a BIG day!**

We will have the Youth Car Wash, AND the Property Work Day on this date. So bring the family, get your car washed and help out at the church.

**THEN**, when you are done at noon, head on over to the back parking lot for a delicious fundraiser lunch of **crawfish cooked and served by Mosaic Church until 3 pm.** We look forward to seeing you on this day!



**Your help is needed** for next year's Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack. We are looking for a few people who can help us research for grants to help pay for our Mobile Pack. This task will NOT include writing the grant, just looking on the internet for suitable grant opportunities. You will be trained on how and what to look for. If you are interested in researching grant opportunities please contact Tony Samper or Pastor Andy.



**Have you purchased your Easter lilies yet?**

If not, please sign up in the Fellowship Hallway or call Linda Aldred by Monday April 3!

Please mark your calendars with the  
**NEWSLETTER DUE DATE:**  
April 21 (for the May 2023 issue)

**Second  
Sunday  
Lunch**

...Please join us for lunch in May right after Worship. April's lunch was cancelled since it falls on Easter.

**Do you have any** orchestra or band instruments taking up space in your closet? Want to find a safe place to keep them where they will be used and appreciated? Call Laurie or the church office and they will help you with that.



# Pastor's Page

## He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

These are some of the most beautiful words to hear as a Christian. They remind us of a promise fulfilled by our Living God. Easter is such a wonderful time of year; it is a time of celebration, renewal, and rebirth. We celebrate the gift of a new and exciting life that allows us to be free from our old self and renews us to be the person God created us to be.

I hope with the passing of Lent, and the celebration of Easter, you have found yourself yearning to draw closer to our God of grace and mercy. Soon we will be entering the season after Easter which is another wonderful time of year. The season following Easter brings with it a freshness, new beginnings, and new life. You can sense people's excitement as the days get longer and warmer, we sense the coming of summer, and the earth begins to bear more and more beautiful colors as flowers begin to grow and bloom.

A couple of Easters ago I remember walking into the Sanctuary and just enjoying its beauty. I enjoyed the lilies in the Sanctuary and the fresh new plants and flowers around our campus that had just been planted on a recent property clean-up day. I thought how fresh and welcoming they made this house of God appear. I was amazed how new plants and flowers made such a difference in the way I felt about entering our worship space. Our Easter faith needs to be like these flowers. These flowers are like Evangelism 101.

A flower's beautiful colors draw people, and animals, to them to enjoy the color and nectar they provide. We may then go and tell others about how beautiful these flowers are, and they will come and see. Those people may come and bring others, and awed by their beauty they may wish to plant some of their own. Do you see how this can be seen as basic Christian evangelism?

Maybe Evangelism is too uncomfortable of a word for some, how about Welcome and Outreach? To be true Easter people, and not let the Good News of Easter pass away with the season, you and I need to be like the beautiful flower. We need to bloom and be bold. We need to be a church whose people are blooming and bursting with the beautiful fragrance of Christ. The fragrance that can't be missed in our community, the fragrance that goes beyond the buds of our church building and floats out into the community enlivening peoples souls and drawing them to the beautiful flowers from which the fragrance of Christ came.

This Easter season may we become the garden of sweet, bold-smelling flowers God created us to be, drawing others into the beautiful garden of God to enjoy the scent and continue to grow God's amazing botanical garden. By doing so we will be creating the most beautiful evangelical garden ever seen.

Come and Grow,



# *Family Ministry Calendar for April*

## PLEASE HELP!

To keep growing and supporting our small but growing youth group we need help!

### April Family Ministries

- 1 Saturday Car Wash 9am-1pm
- 2 Pines Youth Group 6-7:45pm Youth Rooms
- 9 Easter morning services and egg hunts
- 16 Pines Youth Group 6-7:45pm Gym
- 23 Pines Youth Group 6-7:45pm Gym
- 29 Pines Youth LOCK IN Saturday 6pm through Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> worship service! (no youth that evening)

**May 5th PARENTS NIGHT OUT** rsvp by April 30! 5:30-8:30pm Fiesta for the Kids on Cinco de Mayo! Free but MUST RSVP

**All Sundays:** Small group—Sunday School 9:15-10:15 for children, 9:30-10:30am for youth

**DO YOU HAVE A STUDENT GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE?**  
Please contact Kristin to give her their information.



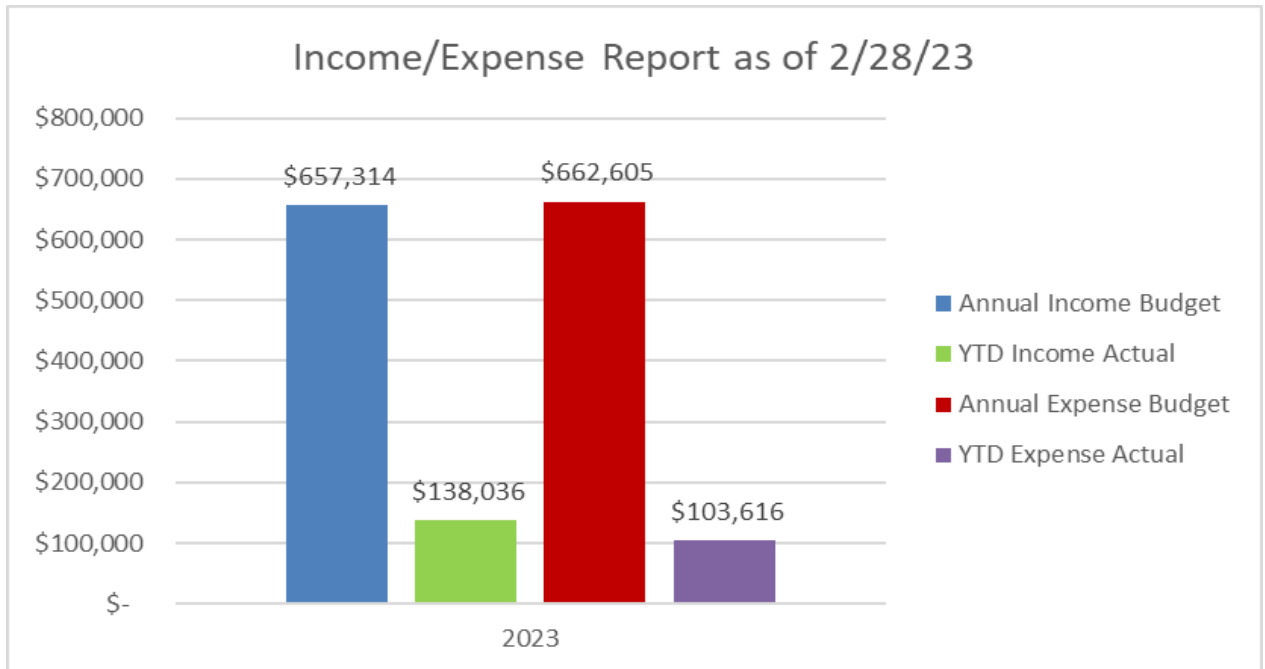
PINES YOUTH  
**Fundraiser CAR WASH**

**SATURDAY ~ APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>**  
**9am - 1pm - Kimberley Parking Lot**  
PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH [visit: PINESpc.org](http://PINESpc.org)

# Stewardship

## STEWARDSHIP NOTES:

1. Pledge income for 2 months is slightly ahead of budget. Non-pledge income received through February is 1/3 of the year's budget due to unexpected early gifts.
2. Overall expenses were underbudget for two months and lower than the first two months of 2022.
3. Total Income was \$138,036; total expenses were \$103,616; leaving a Net Income of \$34,420 for February, a great start for the year.



## Session **The Session met for its regular stated meeting on March 27. Here are some highlights:**

- Session approved for the Explorer's Sunday School curriculum the Frontline documentary "From Jesus to the Christ, The First Christians, Parts I and II."
- Session approved the Worship Committee's motion to increase fees charged for a wedding held at Pines, to \$1,775 for members and to \$2,225 for non-members.
- The Property Committee reported that the Daughters of the American Revolution have donated funds that will allow Pines to purchase a new icemaker. Pines' old icemaker has been out of commission for many months. Leslie Friedrich brought Pines' need to the DAR's attention.
- An "Opportunity Sunday" will be held before and after Worship on May 7, where all Pines' committees will showcase the work that each committee performs, and invite new members to join.
- At the Session/Staff retreat in early March, Session identified a priority need to increase outreach within the community surrounding Pines. The Missions Committee is developing plans for events Thursday evenings to invite the community into Pines which will pique the community's interest in what Pines has to offer.
- In light of recent events at church facilities nation wide, Session approved hiring an armed uniformed off-duty police officer to be present on the Pines' campus during Easter Worship service.

Craig Walker, clerk



## The Ingredients to Facilitate Healing

While making my lay chaplain visits at Methodist Hospital, I noticed this blessing for the nurses on the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor of Walter Tower. As I read it, I realized that the needs nurses have in order to facilitate physical healing are very similar to those which Stephen Ministers have to facilitate emotional healing. Of course, our loving Lord is the ultimate healer. However, as you read the blessing below, try to identify the gifts that nurses and Stephen Ministers both need to promote healing as they seek to be the hands and feet of our Lord.

### **A BLESSING FOR WALTER 9**

When there is no end of patients who enter our floor  
 When a room opens and fills again  
 With one kind of broken heart or another  
**May God give you generosity of unending kindness, an inexhaustible patience,  
 And peace that lies deep in your soul.**

May your hands be healing  
**Your voice, soothing  
 Your touch, gentle and true.  
 Your eyes show compassion and love.**

For there are those days, when the labs are slow  
 And the demands are high  
 And the families are worried sick.  
 They have So. Many. Questions.  
 And you have So. Little. Time.  
**May you be given that moment and given those words  
 That would give comfort and rest to their hearts.**

**God has given you gifts for a time such as this  
 And you're working right where you are called.  
 May God bless you and keep you.**

**May you delight as you feel God's pleasure  
 As you play your part in this miracle of healing.**

If you feel a confidential relationship with a trained Stephen Minister could help you deal with difficult emotional issues, please contact Ann Guerra or Phil Wetz.



**Pines will be hosting the Presbytery Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering on April 22 (Earth Day) from 9:30 – 2:00.** The speakers will be Jean Zophy & Phyllis Koenig from Webster Earth Care Team, Master Gardner Debra Caldwell and The Spa Girls speaking on "Spiritual, Practical & Amusing ways to live a Godly life." Barbara Retzloff will lead the worship service in the afternoon. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided. Registration fee is **\$18.00 until April 14.** First time attendees can register for \$15.00. After April 14 the fee increases to \$20.00. Contact Connie Sipp for more information.

**On April 2<sup>nd</sup>,** the Explorers adult Sunday school class will begin a 6-week study of six of Jesus' parables facilitated by Pines members Sandra Johanneman and Dave Coles. The course is DVD-based (no homework) and will explain how Jesus' audiences would have understood the parables back in the day, but will also help us understand how those parables still challenge us TODAY. The course features Amy-Jill Levine, professor of New Testament and professor of Jewish studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School, Graduate Department of Religion.

- #1: Lost sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son (Luke 15)
- #2: Good Samaritan (Luke 10)
- #3: Pearl of Great Price (Matthew 13)
- #4: The Mustard Seed (Mark 4)
- #5: The Laborers in the Vineyard (Matthew 20)
- #6: The Widow and the Judge (Luke 18)



# Missions

## April Agape - The Mission of Yahweh

Help us Fill the House of Hope with Clothing for Residents at The Mission of Yahweh

**NEEDED: New Boy's and Girl's Shirts and Shorts Sizes 2T - 14**

**Suggested Stores:** Target | Walmart | JCPenney | Macy's | T.J.Maxx

Visit us at [pinespc.org](http://pinespc.org)

**New Clothing is a REAL Treat and an Ego Booster!**

**DROP OFF DONATIONS IN THE MISSIONS BIN NEAR FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**OR PLACE A CHECK IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR BRING IT TO THE OFFICE (NOTE: "MOY AGAPE" IN THE SUBJECT LINE)**

**Hello friends of MAM!** Exciting job training news!

MAM is thrilled to announce that their TRIO training program is just around the corner, and they're on the hunt for 9 exceptional candidates to join them. MAM is partnering with TRIO Electric to offer electrician's assistant training at our 1625 Blalock campus. The course runs from April 3 to May 5. Registration closes March 31.

If you know someone looking for a new job, or a career change to open up better earning opportunities, this training can get you on the path to becoming a licensed electrician in Texas. This is an excellent chance to learn the basics of the trade.

Please share with your personal and professional networks. The course is offered at **no cost**.

For more information, please contact Employment Service: Alex Saadi at [aalsaadi@mamhouston.org](mailto:aalsaadi@mamhouston.org) or call 713-929-9821.

## C.E.N.T.E.R MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2023

PUTTING CHRIST IN THE CENTER OF YOUNG LIVES



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM AT CENTERMINHOUSTON

### TOP NEWS

- OUR FOOD PROGRAM CONTINUES TO BE A BLESSING TO OVER 200 KIDS, TWICE A WEEK. BEING ABLE TO GIVE HOT MEALS TO OUR COMMUNITY IS A HUGE BLESSING. WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO IT WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT!
- **"VOLUNTEERS NEEDED"** IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH YOUR TIME AND HELPING HANDS, PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER JOINING OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEER TEAM! WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE FOOD AND ASSIST TEACHERS DURING BIBLE STUDY TIMES. CHECK OUT THE QR CODE DOWN BELOW FOR MORE INFO.
- WE WERE ABLE TO END LAST SEMESTER WITH OUR STUDENTS IN A BIG WAY. BOTH CLASSES RECEIVED CHRISTMAS PARTIES WITH TREATS, GAMES, AND A LESSON OF THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS. BECAUSE WE HAVE SUCH GENEROUS SUPPORTERS, EVERY ELEMENTARY STUDENT WENT HOME WITH A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT.

### ELEMENTARY BIBLE STUDY TUESDAY'S 4:30PM- 6PM

THIS SEMESTER BEGAN WITH A CONTINUATION OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY, AND LED THE STUDENTS INTO JESUS' BOYHOOD YEARS TO THE TIME OF HIS BAPTISM. THE KIDS HAVE LEARNED WHAT IT TRULY MEANS FOR JESUS TO TAKE AWAY OUR SINS, AND HOW WE CAN, IN RETURN FOR THIS FREE GIFT, SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS JUST LIKE THE DISCIPLES DID.



### MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY'S 4:30PM- 6:30PM

WE ARE CURRENTLY FINISHING UP A BOOK STUDY OVER SOME OF THE PARABLES CALLED, **STORIES JESUS TOLD**, BY DANIEL FUSCO. WE HAVE ENJOYED GOING DEEPER INTO THESE PARABLES, AND LEARNING HOW THEY APPLY TO OUR LIVES TODAY. EACH STUDENT RECEIVED A FREE WORKBOOK, AND HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO COMPLETING DAILY DEVOTIONALS EACH WEEK. WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THEIR HARD WORK, DEDICATION, AND GROWTH BY GIVING THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES A BANQUET ON APRIL 12TH AT 6PM. \*\*\* IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING AT THIS EVENT, PLEASE EMAIL, [CENTERMINISTRIESHOUSTON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CENTERMINISTRIESHOUSTON@GMAIL.COM)



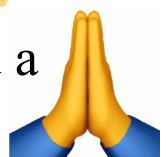
INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING WITH US? NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS? SCAN QR CODE, TO SIGN UP!

**Calling all Taco Makers and Prayer Warriors!** Come join our Taco and a Prayer Team for school year 2023-24, and see first-hand what a fun, rewarding, and precious ministry this is. We have the privilege to give fresh breakfast tacos to folks who might have missed breakfast, or who might not have any other food for the day, or are just hungry for a taco and maybe a prayer. Our cheerful team members bring smiles and warm food to our neighbors in the name of Jesus Christ. We are rewarded with smiles, occasional cash donations, tears of gratitude, and sometimes even songs (from a school bus driver)! Join us!

For more information contact the church office or Margaret Schafer.



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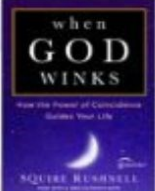
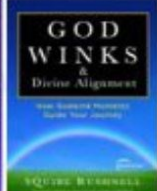
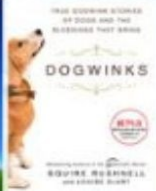
**YOU'RE INVITED!**

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
 "The Godwink Guy"  
**Squire Rushnell**  
 Best Selling Author  
 Exec. Producer

*Miracles of The Mission*  
**Fundraising Luncheon**  
**TUESDAY May 16, 2023**  
 The Junior League of Houston

Contact Kari Work for  
 more information.

  
 The Mission of Yahweh  
 Serving Homeless Women and Children Since 1981

[www.MissionofYahweh.org](http://www.MissionofYahweh.org)

## Is Discipleship Enough?

By Dave Coles

A disciple is a student or follower of a particular person. But being a disciple (discipleship) is the second phase in a three-phase process that begins with believing. The Bible says Peter and John were teaching the people about the Good News of Jesus and "... many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand" (Acts 4:4).

As those believers started digging deeper into their newfound belief in Jesus, they transitioned from being believers into being disciples. There would be those who wanted to dig deeper into the Good News. Others might want to know more about Jesus' miracles. Some may have been intrigued by the way Jesus and other disciples challenged the religious power structure of the day. But there would also be many who became disciples because they had an unmet spiritual longing.

Many people today try to satisfy their spiritual longing through self-help books, attending personal development seminars, or engaging in mental and physical spiritual practices. But Christians know that spiritual longing can only be satisfied by a close and personal relationship with Jesus. After all, Jesus came that we may have life and have it abundantly (Jn 10:10).

Our discipleship journey might include worship and adult Sunday school. We might join a Bible study, participate in religious retreats, or be active in a home-based small group. Before we know it, we will have:

Found a place where we can associate with some nice people,  
 Found a place where we can enjoy meaningful and uplifting worship services,  
 Found a place where we can dig deeper into our faith,  
 Found a place where we can get our kids baptized,  
 Found a place that can help us teach the faith to our kids,  
 Found a place where our kids can get married when the time comes,  
 Found a place that will help meet our emotional and spiritual needs through the various stages of our life, and  
 Found a place where someone will preach our memorial service when that time comes.

Sadly, though, some disciples never get beyond that "found a place..." stage. When they get stuck in that stage, they miss the opportunity to spread their spiritual wings and transition from being disciples into being *apostles*.

"One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles: ...."  
 (Luke 6:12-13)

The word apostle comes from the Greek word for being "sent out." For many months, The Twelve had been following Jesus and had been discipled (taught) by him. They may not have known it at the time, but they were being prepared to drive out impure spirits... (MT 10:1); heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, and drive out demons (MT 10:8).

Before you push back saying, "Whoa, I'm not up to doing that kind of kingdom work," remember that the original apostles were ordinary people just like you and me. And just as he did with those original apostles, Jesus has been preparing you and me to leave the comfort of the "found a place" church building and go into the world and make disciples. We started as believers, become disciples, and now we are being called to be apostles. Are you ready to be an apostle?