



PINES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pines Press, October 2022

12751 Kimberley Ln, 77024 713-467-2234

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS...



WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

World Communion Worship Service and Potluck:

Join us on **October 2nd** in the Family Life Center for worship with Mosaic Church as we celebrate World Communion and hold a potluck lunch after Worship. Members are encouraged to contribute to the "worldwide" theme with food offerings in categories of entrees, vegetables, and salads. Contact Violet O'Brien with questions!

Advent Devotional – Believe it or not Advent is around the corner, which means we will soon be producing our own Advent Devotional guide. This year's theme is Love and we need your story and your reflection on a verse of scripture to make this devotional come to life. If you'd like to write a brief devotional to be included in this year's guide please let Pastor Andy know and he will help guide you to a scripture, if needed, and let you know the needed length and deadline for submission.

GIVE BLOOD

.ORG

**Pines Presbyterian
Church**

Sunday, October 16
8:30 am - 1:00 pm
Inside Fellowship Hall

Donors will receive FREE HERO
socks for Childhood Cancer
Awareness Month!

Scan Below To Sign Up



Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

Know when
your blood
has been
delivered

Text COMMIT to 959-227 to
receive reminders and updates.

FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN



It's time for us to hold another Feed My Starving Children MobilePack

on January 20th and 21st!

As we prepare for our big day we need a team of volunteers to help organize this amazing event. If you'd like to be on the organizing team or to learn more about how you can help, please contact Pastor Andy or Cindy Houlihan. Remember, we need YOU to make this another huge success for our community and the hungry around the world.

**Sign ups will begin soon,
so be on the look out in the
Fellowship Hallway!**

Pines Family News & Current Events

**The church office is open Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
The office is closed on Fridays. If you need assistance on Friday, please call Cindy at 832-489-5989 anytime between 9 and 4.**



The church office is looking for volunteers to answer phones Monday through Thursday. We have volunteers for some days currently, but we also want to create a list of substitutes. No experience necessary. We will train you. Bring a book or something to work on while sitting at the front desk. If you can help, please give Cindy a call to get on the list. By the way, one of our long ago male members (Jack Long) used to answer the phones on occasion...just to give you guys out there something to think about!

**PLEASE help us conserve energy by remembering to turn off lights and AC when you leave the building. If you turn it on, please turn it off. Thank you SO MUCH!
Your Property Committee**



Wondering how to order flowers for the Sanctuary or Narthex?

—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 to sign up. Or you can also sign up at the front desk on the flower calendar while at church.

Do you get our weekly prayer list? If not, please call Cindy in the church office at 713-467-2234 to get on the list. If you would prefer to send an email for prayer, you may send it to prayer@pinespc.org. Cindy can also help you sign up to receive our newsletter or our weekly publication "This Week at Pines". So give us a call, we would love to get you connected to what is happening at Pines!

Church Seeking Nursery Workers: \$12-15 per hour based on age and experience. Contact kristin@pinespc.org for more information. Do you love playing with babies and young children? Pines is looking for people ages 13 and up who are willing to be trained and cleared for childcare in the nursery. Most hours are on Sunday mornings, but special events are also available.

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.



**Please mark your calendars with the NEWSLETTER DUE DATE:
October 21 (for the November 2022 issue)**



PINES PRESCHOOL: It's back-to-school time in the Preschool! We just kicked off our 53rd year on August 30 as we welcomed 114 students ranging in age from 18 months to 6 years old. We ask that you join us in praying for a safe year filled with lots of learning, laughter and play. Thank you all for your continued support of our sweet school.

Pastor's Page

Grace and Peace in Christ's name,

Although summer is over, the temperatures outside remain high and so does my excitement for what is happening here at Pines this fall. We have so many activities and great studies just waiting for you to join in. We are also planning wonderful opportunities for the new year. Among the many things that are being planned for the new year we will be doing an all church study and the return of our community wide mission project, Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) will take place on January 20th and 21st. We are inviting members of our community to join with us as we do our part to help feed children around the world.

Scripture reminds us in Matthew 25:35, "...for I [Jesus] was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." Our partnership with FMSC, and our engagement with the community will help us fulfill this scripture and our mission to Look Upward, Grow Inward and Serve Outward. Through God, FMSC strives to eliminate malnutrition and starvation in children throughout the world by helping to instill compassion in a generation that hears and responds to the cries of those in need until all are fed. As a Christian non-profit organization, Feed My Starving Children is called to feed God's starving children hungry in body and spirit.

"Hunger is the world's biggest solvable problem." – *World Food Programme*. FMSC believes that food is the foundation for all other progress. To a starving child, hope can only truly begin once a reliable source of nutritious food has been established. FMSC produces a special MannaPack™ meal formula developed by food scientists to specifically stop malnutrition. This is where we will need your help. On Friday, 1/20 and Saturday, 1/21 we will need volunteers to help produce 100,000 MannaPacks. We can do it, but it's going to take you, your friends, neighbors and co-workers to make it happen.

FMSC exists because of volunteers just like you, age 5 to 95, who generously give their time and energy to feed starving children in desperate need around the world. YOU are an essential part of the FMSC Mobile MannaPack. FMSC doesn't use machines to package the meals because they realize the personal, impactful experience created by packing the meals by hand. It transforms an experience from just "something good to do" into something deeply personal. FMSC volunteers experience a fun, one-of-a-kind team building experience with co-workers, family, friends and strangers alike. This experience often turns into a desire to do more and reach farther, until all are fed.

This event can also use your financial assistance. I pray you will strongly consider donating your time, but I also pray you'll think about making a donation to help make this pack successful. Twenty-five cents feeds a child one meal, \$80 feeds a child for a year, \$365 feeds a family for a year and \$1,800 fills one pallet of the 11 needed for our MobilePack. To make a financial contribution you may write a check to the church marked FMSC. Another tangible way of donating is to pick up one of the FMSC donations cans in the Narthex and place it on your dinner table at home, and every time you eat a meal you put at least \$.25 in the can. We will have a special day in January when you can return your can to church.

I pray you'll consider being involved at some level in this amazing project to feed hungry children. For more information on FMSC click this link www.fmsc.org and to learn about a MobilePack click here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ech5XOryipM&feature=youtu.be>. You may also contact me for more information and to see how you can help.

God is doing amazing things here at Pines! I pray you will consider being part of this Kingdom building event as we do our part welcoming others in, while feeding God's children.

Blessings,

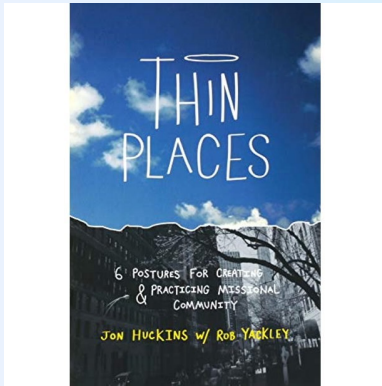


Family Ministry Calendar for October

PINES YOUTH RETREAT

Saturday, October 22 (depart 8:30am) -Sunday, October 23 (return around lunch time!)

Cost: \$35 for meals; RSVP by October 9th



Boliver Island Beach; Small group time to learn about God and one another; Quiet time to rest and reflect with God; Service Project; Good food; Friends; Beach Play and Games!

Come take a retreat!

Parent's Night Out, Friday October 14th: 5:30pm-8:30pm Fellowship Hall and Nursery available! FREE BUT MUST RSVP by Oct 9th; (Spaces available based on volunteers) kristin@pinespc.org Dinner, Games and a Movie time.

PLEASE HELP!

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

Sunday evening program! Adults (ages 19-99) to come help- no prep needed- just be present and have some fun yourself as well! Please arrive 5:45pm to youth rooms and stay until the youth are picked up by 8pm.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44A4AB2BA0F9C07-pines>



Dinner for youth on Sundays: (10-14 people- paper products and drinks provided)
www.TakeThemAMeal.com/XAPG7147

Calendar Highlights:

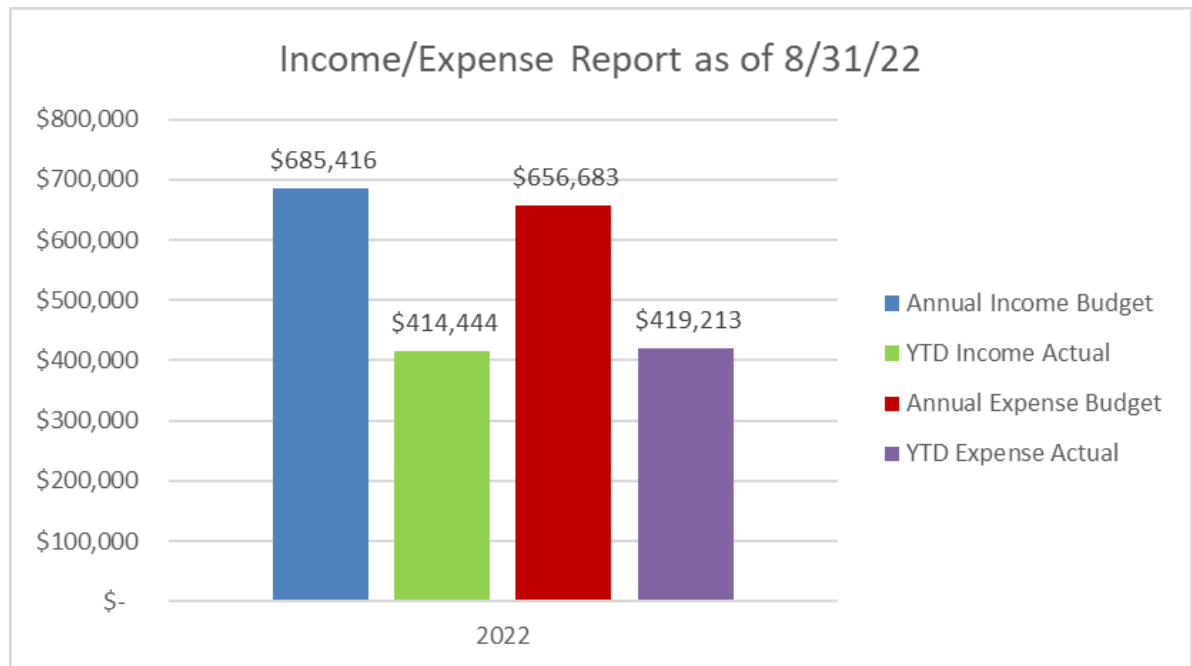
2,9,16,23,30 October: Sunday mornings- small groups for all ages 9:15-10:15am

2,9,16 October: Sunday evenings- Pines Youth Group in youth rooms 6-7:45pm
(NO youth group Oct 23 or 30)

14 October: Parent's Night Out 5:30-8:30pm Fellowship Hall and Nursery

22-23 October: Pines Youth Retreat to Boliver

Stewardship



STEWARDSHIP NOTES

1. Pledge income in August is on target for the 8 months. Non-pledge income is still trailing well below forecast.
2. Overall, committee expenses remain slightly below budget expectations. Mission expenditures are accrued on a 1/12th basis each month; Property and most other committee expenses were below or close to forecast.
3. Total Income was \$414,444; total expenses were \$419,213; leaving a Net Loss of \$4,769 for the year as of 8/31/22.

Session

Here are some highlights from the September Session meeting:

- Session examined and welcomed Janice Spradlin as the newest member of Pines.
- Beth and Jim Patterson reported on their inspirational plans for the 2022 Stewardship Campaign, "The Heart of Stewardship is Love."
- Session approved Pines hosting the November 19 meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant; in addition, Session approved holding a worship service and serving Communion in the Pines' Sanctuary at that Presbytery meeting.
- Session elected Leslie Friedrich and Connie Sipp to represent Pines as voting "ruling elder commissioners" at the Presbytery meeting.
- Session approved Patsy Jackson as a new member of the Christian Education Committee.
- The Missions Committee reported that they are defining specific roles required for the Sherwood Food Pantry ministry, and actively recruiting volunteers for those roles.
- The Preschool Committee reported that Angela Bullock and Kristin Beale are forming a Preschool parent support group called "The Coop" Wednesday mornings at 9:15, with small group discussions and a DVD series addressing parenting questions and concerns.

Craig Walker
Clerk



Christ caring for people through people

Helping Others to Walk

The attached photo shows my three year old grandson, Wilson, helping his four month old sister to move about since she cannot walk at this time in her life. As Avery gets older, I that Wilson will continue to help Avery learn to walk but will assist her in different ways -- perhaps by holding both of her hands while walking in front of her and then by holding one arm while walking alongside of her. When she falls, I suspect he will help her get up and provide verbal encouragement for her to keep

trying to walk and learn this important new skill.

As I thought about the photo, I felt it symbolized in several ways what a Stephen Minister attempts to do to serve a person in need of support, the care receiver. Potential care receivers are people who are confronting complex and painful issue(s) which are so overwhelming that they feel a need for someone to come alongside them to provide the support needed to continue life's journey in a meaningful way. They often need the unconditional love of a new friend who will listen in a non-judgmental manner to better understand the issues they are facing. The Stephen Minister may not share his/her unconditional love with a bearhug as Wilson is doing, but the unconditional love will be there and is a key element in the healing process.



As the relationship and trust between the Stephen Minister and the care receiver grows, the support provided will also evolve just as it will between Wilson and Avery. The support may evolve beyond listening into providing encouragement or sharing experiences or sharing thoughts and suggestions. These would be caring efforts because the curing or healing is done through the work of the Holy Spirit. The Stephen Minister's role is to supplement or complement the work of the Holy Spirit which is why prayer is such an important part of the relationship.

If you are facing complex challenges and feel that a person who has been trained in caring for others could help you move forward in your life, please contact Rev. Bill Willis (318-548-4414) and he will discuss the Stephen Minister program with you to help you decide whether such a relationship would be beneficial. Sometime next year I hope to show those who are interested a photo of Avery and Wilson walking together to symbolize what can happen when a Stephen Minister and care receiver work together toward a common goal. Thanks be to God for the gifts of fellowship and community.

Phil Wetz



The Heart of Stewardship is Love.

This fall our Congregation will contemplate together the challenge of being good stewards of all that God has given us. A steward is one who responsibly takes care of something that has been given to them. In our Christian tradition, it is a spiritual practice grounded in our response to God's love for us. We will be focusing on these themes and scriptures in the coming weeks:

God is love and is the source of everything that we are and everything that we have.

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 24: 1-5

Using our God-given gifts, we make God's love tangible to each other, our community, and beyond.

1 Peter 4:10

Love frees us from fear and enables us to trust that we can give our 'first fruits' in God's service.

Prov. 3:5-9; Matt 6:25-26

We will consider how we can use our time, our skills and talents, and our financial resources to be a reflection of God's love at Pines, in our broader community, and beyond. On November 13, Dedication Sunday, we will culminate our reflections by committing our financial gifts to support Pines' ministry, working to love and serve others as Jesus did. **Along with our time and talent, those monetary commitments are the fuel that powers Pines' ministries "Upward, Inward, and Outward" – being God's hands and feet in the world.** In committing those gifts, we will remember that stewardship is an important expression of our love for God throughout the year, not just during the fall campaign.

We are committed to humbly and prayerfully being open to God's guidance, inspiration and challenge in this process with you. We invite you to join us. **The heart of stewardship is love.**

Beth and Jim Patterson

Sherwood Christmas

WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:



Take an angel from the Christmas Tree
(Fellowship Hallway) and start shopping!



Make a cash, check, or credit card donation.
[drop off at church or visit: pinespc.org]
Please note "Sherwood Christmas" .

Return contributions or donations
by **Sunday, November 13th.**

questions: KARI WORK **more info: PINESpC.org**

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER AGAPE

Mission @PINES⁺

Calling all Taco-makers and prayer warriors! Come join our Taco and a Prayer Team for school year 2022-23, 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.



and a prayer!

WANTED!

You and Your PickUp Truck

- Once a Month for Two Hours
- Help Pick Up Food from Kroger and Deliver to Pines

Your efforts will help open up communications with 50 Sherwood families and provide nutritious food to carry them through the month.

For more information
Contact **Cindy Coles**

CindyLColes@comcast.net

CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS TRAVEL SERVICES LIMITED

THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL & JOHN

***Land tour & Cruise through Greece & Turkey
12 Days: October 13-24, 2023***

Visiting:

Ephesus • Patmos • Corinth • Athens • Santorini
Mykonos • Crete • Rhodes • Olympia • Delphi

Hosted By:

Pastor Andy Gans

***Join us for an informational meeting on Sunday October 9 at 12:30
(Second Sunday Lunch) at Niko Nicko's***

- 5 day 4 night Aegean Sea Cruise
- 1st class hotels
- All tours, transfers and transportation according to the Itinerary
- All tips, taxes, airfare included
- Experienced tour manager

