



# PINES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 2019

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



## SHERWOOD WORK DAY AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Join Us!**

**Saturday, August 10, 9:00-12:00**

**Sherwood Elementary School**

**700 Sherwood Forest Street**

It's that time again, time to show our favorite elementary school some LOVE before school starts! No experience necessary, come as you are, we'll put you to work!

**Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall Hallway**

Or call the church office 713-467-2234

# Pines Family News

Our Sympathy and Prayers go out to:

to the *family of Waddie Peyton Weems* who passed on June 28th, and  
to the *family of Elvi Sappington* who passed on July 16, 2019.

**See something around the building that needs a little attention?** Please fill out a Blue Form found on the counter behind the receptionist's desk and place it in the Property inbox (forms can also be found on top of the black file cabinet in the office supply room), or send an email to the Property Committee. Please help us to keep our building looking it's best!

**Looking for a way to serve the church?** Shirley Bollich could use some help setting up, serving and cleaning up with memorial service receptions. Please give Shirley a call if you feel led to help in this way. This is a wonderful ministry to the families that have lost a loved one. Thank you for considering serving in this way!



**This is it!! Mark your calendars and save the date!!!**

**Tablescapes** is coming to an end ~ We are currently in the planning stages for our 10th and final **Tablescapes** which will be presented by the Pines Presbyterian Women on **Saturday, October 5, 2019**. If you are interested in being a hostess or would like to find out more information for this final year, please contact: Linda Aldred at 281-734-2043, Connie Sipp at 713-515-3404 or Cindy Houlihan at 713-467-2234.

Creative, Imaginative Hostesses are needed and welcomed!! Hostess selections will be based on a first come first served basis and we are filling up very fast so please call soon!

**While you're away this summer on vacation, you can keep your giving to Pines consistent by utilizing our online giving option.** Visit our website at [www.pinespc.org](http://www.pinespc.org), click on the Donate button and you'll find a secure place to make credit card or ACH payments. You can also set Pines as a recipient in your bank's secure online bill payment center and your bank will generate a check and mail it for you.

**Bible Quiz....**

Whose example does Paul say Christians should follow in Chapter 5 of Ephesians?



Answer: Look up the answer in Chapter 5 of Ephesians.

**Please mark your calendars with the following  
NEWSLETTER DUE DATES:  
August 23 (September 2019)  
September 20 (October 2019)**

# Pastor's Page

## Greetings in Christ's name,

Over the past several months I was blessed to gather with small groups of Pines family members in homes, and here at church, to learn about each other and hear why each of us has made Pines our family of faith. Each session was scheduled to last an hour and a half, but usually lasted longer due to the wonderful conversations and the connections that were being made. As Presbyterians, we believe a connectional church is a healthy church. A connectional church is healthy because its people seek to be in relationship with each other... and others outside its walls.

My biggest learning from my small group experience was that most people returned, and eventually joined Pines, because of its family feel and its members desire to be in relationship with you. Many folks talked about how they would attend once or just drive past the larger churches searching for a place where almost everyone knew your name, a church with someone like a Harry Loose.

I shared my learnings with the Vision and Planning Committee, and we talked about what that meant for the future of Pines and its identity. We looked into scripture and were guided by Jesus' response to the lawyer in Luke 10:27. After much discussion we felt we were describing what many of us felt was a neighborhood/neighborly church. The committee thought it would be wise to ask you, the Pines family, what you thought a neighborhood/neighborly church looked like and if you felt Pines is or should be a neighborhood/neighborly church. During two worship services in late July, we asked you those very questions on a very brief questionnaire. Your responses were appreciated, and the results to those questions are on page 7 of this newsletter.

As follow up to the survey, and the Vision and Planning's meeting, a Session retreat was planned for late July to see if we want our vision for 2020 to be a neighborhood/neighborly church. During our time together we brainstormed how we can live into being a neighborhood/neighborly church by going out and inviting in. Two big ideas were solidified as ways to reach out and be that neighborhood church. "Back to Church Sunday" in September and offering an Alpha Bible Study beginning in January. Both programs are opportunities for us to reach out to those around us and welcome them into our family. Many other ideas were talked about and sent to specific committees for discussion on how to be implemented.

I continue to be excited about where we are going as a family of faith. You are an amazing group of faithful people who continue to love beyond our walls. I know God is at work at Pines!

In His Service,



# Youth Happenings!

## Fall Sunday School Starts September 16th!

Do you have a passion for the Bible and a desire to teach? The Youth Ministry (grades 6-12) would love to have you as a Sunday School teacher for the upcoming school year! If you are interested, or have questions about the program, please contact Jesse at [jesse@pinespc.org](mailto:jesse@pinespc.org), or call the church office!



## Children's Ministry



**Teachers Needed**

**2019-2020 Children's Sunday School Teachers Needed!**

All lesson materials are prepped for you ahead of time. All you have to do is come ready to teach and love on our kids!

If you're interested, email Ashley Sullivan at [Ashley@pinespc.org](mailto:Ashley@pinespc.org).

**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' 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

## Staff Spotlight



**Meet Cindy Houlihan**, our Office Manager. I say meet, but many of you have long standing relationships with Cindy. Members and visitors to Pines have been met with Cindy's bright smile, contagious laughter and her listening ear for over 20 years. Cindy's job is vast. Her original responsibility was to manage the office and be support to the pastors. Her job grew as our physical plant grew over the years to include the never-ending task of facilities management. As part of Cindy's desire to become better at what she does, she has worked on and received the highest certification through the PC(USA's) Administrative Personnel Association.

If you ever get a chance to sit down with Cindy, she'll tell you she feels every task she does is an opportunity for ministry and helps Pines live into its mission. Some of what Cindy does on a daily basis is to organize events or stays for outside groups, call for volunteers, call contractors for maintenance throughout the campus, get quotes/bids to keep prices in line, place orders for committees, publish the newsletter, proof various articles, coordinate weddings and memorial services and doing the bulletins for both, program the locking and unlocking of our doors, and serve as the church's human resource coordinator.

As you can see Cindy's job is vast. This list is only a sampling of what she does, but in each task, she finds her purpose and strength through Christ. Cindy knows without any doubt that this is where Christ has called her to be in service to his Kingdom. Cindy continually says how thankful she is for the loving hearts of each Pines family member, and how blessed she is to be part of this amazing family of faith.



# The Music Department

## Greetings from the Music Department!

### Opportunities for Ministry in Music

Like to sing? Ring a bell? Play an instrument? Help with fellowship and friendship at a Retirement community? There are many opportunities for ministry in the Music Department at Pines!

**The Chancel Choir** ministers every Sunday at the 10:45 a.m. service. There is the Christmas Cantata, the Good Friday music, the Easter Celebration, and Follies! We rehearse every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. All voices are welcome to join, no audition is necessary, but commitment to the group is!

**The Pines Pealers** rehearse every Wednesday night at 5:45 p.m. and minister once a month in the 10:45 a.m. service. No experience is necessary, as our director Bethel Strawser can teach you the fundamentals.

**The Pines Orchestra** rehearses on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and at 8:30 a.m. the second Sunday of the month and play in the 10:45 a.m. service. If you play an instrument, we would love to have you!

**The Men's Chorale** rehearses the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m. This group ministers once a month in the 10:45 a.m. service. All men who like to sing are welcome to join.

**Hymnsings** occur at the Buckingham, Parkway Place, and Tarrytowne Estates once a month. Volunteers are appreciated with help in distribution and collection of songbooks, singing, and visiting with the residents. This is a very important part of the outreach ministry of the Music Department.

So....pray and consider joining a musical group at Pines! We would love to have you!! Contact Tim Holder at [tim@pinespc.org](mailto:tim@pinespc.org).

Blessings!  
Tim



## Communion Setup Helpers Needed!

Would you like to help us  
prepare for worship?

This is a small but  
vital way to serve the ministry  
of Pines. Please contact

Sue Master at

[lou.n.sue@comcast.net](mailto:lou.n.sue@comcast.net)

if you're interested  
and would like to  
learn more!

## Pines Neighborhood Survey Responses

1. What words comes to mind when you hear the term "neighborhood church?"	#
Open to all / Welcoming / Friendly / Family / Inviting / Loving	32
Community (Local) Outreach / Support (Families, Individuals, other churches, etc.)	27
Local / People Live Close to Church	21
Community Center	5
Not a Mega-Church	6
Close knit / Intimate	4
No response	3
Appeals to everyone, near and far	2
Assessable	2
Homes not businesses	2
Boring	1
Boutique Church	1
Good sermon / Spiritual	2
Know my name	1
Neighborhood does not know we are here	1
People have the same values	1
Sharing Our Concerns	2
Small town church	1
Worshiping with good quality people	1
No boundaries (City, State, Country, Worldly)	1

2. What is the most important aspect of being a neighborhood church?	#
Outreach / Supportive / Service to neighbors needs and activities	38
Inclusive / Welcoming / Inviting / Friendly	34
Spiritual	6
Go to Church with neighbors / Close By	6
No response	3
Visible	3
Evangelism	1
Everyone knows everyone	1
Excitement	1
Good Preaching and Pastoral Support	1
Multigenerational	1
Not a mega church	1
Songs People Can Sing to	1
Safety	1

3. Would you describe Pines as a neighborhood church?	#
Yes	62
No	6
Sometimes	5
No response	5
Little Involvement	1
Could Be	1
Yes, need more outreach	1

4. How important is it that Pines be a support system for our neighborhood?	#
Yes! We should do that!	62
Probably a good thing	17
Not our role	1
OK, but not very important.	1

FEED MY  
STARVING  
CHILDREN



SAVE THE DATE:

OCTOBER 11-12



PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Feed My Starving Children – We're doing it again!** Save the date for this year's MobilePack© on **October 11th & 12th**. You don't want to miss out on this exciting mission project! Sign ups for packing shifts will be posted in September. Make sure you invite your friends, family, co-workers, teammates and neighbors to this amazing mission to feed the hungry children of the world.

GENEROUS  
GIVING  
AWARENESS  
SERVICES  
HELPING  
VOLUNTEER  
COMMUNITY  
CONTRIBUTION  
ADULT  
ASSISTED  
RESCUE  
SUPPORT  
HOPE  
PERSON  
ASSISTANCE  
MORAL  
CARE  
AID  
RESPECT  
TOGETHERNESS  
MISSION  
TIME  
DONATIONS  
TEAMWORK



# Christian Ed for Adults



~ summer ~

Every Sunday morning: **JUNE 2 to SEPT. 8**

Classes meet from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

## THAT THE **WORLD MAY KNOW**

Join us for this popular video series by Ray VanderLaan. Each lesson is filmed in the Holy Land and offers wonderful insight into the stories of the Bible. This summer we will look at three brand new DVD's in this series.

**Leaders:** Susan & Mark Babineck, Joan & Tim Jenkinson, Dustin Sullivan | **Room:** C-3

## **FRIENDS, BIBLE, BAGELS & COFFEE**

We are a group of young adults... in college and out of college...who gather each week to explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Our discussions are open and honest as we look at the Christian faith. This summer, we will explore the Bible using the DVD series, "**That the World May Know**". **All are welcome** for bagels, coffee, and a safe place to be and grow.

**Facilitators:** Linda & Phil Johnson, Cheryl Gans | **Room:** C-7

## **HOME GROWN | CHRISTIAN PARENTING**

Home Grown is a class in which we'll be building and strengthening friendships while discussing the joys and challenges of parenting and sharing practical wisdom as we discuss the book, "**Home Grown: A Handbook for Christian Parenting**". Are you beginning your parenting journey? We can offer support! Have you been in the trenches and made it out successfully? **We'd love to learn from you! Please join us!**

**Leaders:** Katie & Cameron Moran, Suzy & Chris Wolfe | **Room:** C-8

PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE

### MEMORIAL ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES (MAM)

Back to School Clothing Drive

### SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



### THE MISSION OF YAHWEH

Mission Backpack Blessing



## AUGUST AGAPE



Please consider donating to "Pines Back to School Drive" that benefits  
**3** of our benevolence organizations Back to School Programs.

Donations can be placed in the offering plate or sent directly to the church office.  
Include notation "Back to School" with your donation.

>> visit **PinesPC.org** for more details.

### TAAP

#### (Taco and A Prayer)

Would you like to serve our community but not able to attend our breakfast taco deliveries each month?

Taco & A Prayer has a job opening!

We need a volunteer to be responsible for putting out the banner the Sunday before delivery day.

We also need a person who's job each month is to figure out what we want to share with the community as far as Pines events. That person would also create the flyer to go in the bags and would work with other committees to get info to announce. This sounds like 2 jobs but the same person could do both if they choose.

Please contact Lesa Smith at [lesa.j.smith@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lesa.j.smith@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to join our TAAP team this way.





# Congregational Suggestions for Elder Class of 2023

**Submissions accepted:  
July 7 – August 11, 2019**

**Please Prayerfully  
consider if you, or  
someone you know may  
be being called to Serve  
with Pines next Elder Class**

Suggestions can also be submitted by  
email to Melissa Sandstrom (moderator  
CNC): [prodgeol@yahoo.com](mailto:prodgeol@yahoo.com)

**Pines Members:**

The Congregational Nominating  
Committee (CNC) is seeking  
suggestions for members to serve  
as the Elder Class of 2023.

*Suggestion Forms detailing  
requirements are located on the  
Harvest Table in the Narthex next  
to the gold CNC Box.*

*Please fill one (or more) out and  
return your form to this box between  
now and August 11, 2019.*

It will be most helpful if you confirm  
that whomever you suggest would  
be willing to be considered.

*Suggestions can also be submitted by  
email to Melissa Sandstrom  
(moderator CNC): [prodgeol@yahoo.com](mailto:prodgeol@yahoo.com)*

**Thank You**

**Your CNC**

**Beth Patterson, Ron Langston,  
Mark Babineck, Karen Davis,  
Melissa Sandstrom**

**The following is part of a letter of gratitude written to Chaplain Phil Wetz (POP Ministry)...**

Phil says "Every Chaplain may read this as though it were written to you!"

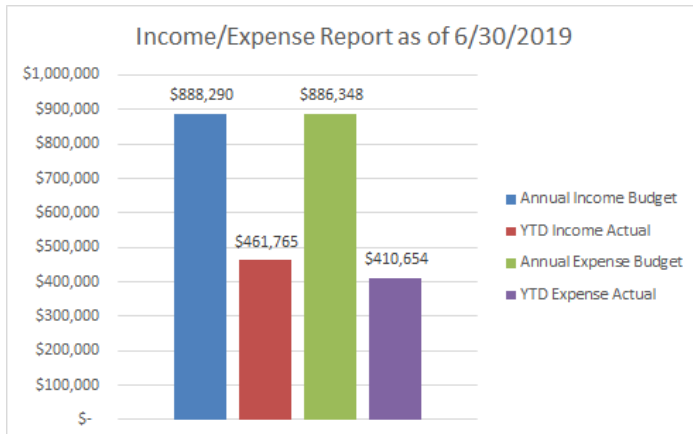
*"Thank you again for visiting me when I was so sick at Methodist. I still think back on your visits, even after all of this time. I'm convinced that your patience with me and your guidance for me was critical to my recovery. I'm referring not only to my physical recovery but to my psychological recovery, too. Having you at my bedside and being able to converse and pray with me meant the world to me at a such a delicate and scary time in my life."*

Thank you Phil for all that you do for all of God's people.

## Stewardship

### Mid-Year Financial Review through 6/30/19

- Expenses overall are slightly below budget at this point in the year.
- Major activities funded during the first half of the year include: Congregational Meeting and Lunch, Women's retreat, Go Texan Day, New signage and brand materials, Session Retreat, Web site improvements, ROAR VBS for 100+ children, Camp Pines summer program, parents Date night in April, Easter activities, Shepherding group activities, PDA shelter set up, Follies performance and dinner, and multiple hands on mission projects (Street Reach, Party with a Purpose, Summer Camp in early June, TAAP)



- Building maintenance has included A/C repair, landscaping, Butterfly installation, 2 Eagle Scout projects, painting large white outdoor cross, renegotiation of our phone, internet and electricity contracts, resulting in cost savings.
- Looking forward to remainder of summer and Back to school will include: Youth summer mission trip, T-shirt day with lunch, another parents Date Night, Back to Church in September, additional building maintenance like repairs around stained glass window, preparing floors for school, updates in back men's and women's restrooms and adult classrooms.

Your Stewardship Committee

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

### A Sense of a Goose

Next fall, when you see geese heading south for the winter, flying along in "V" formation, you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily, because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone—and quickly gets back in to formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front.

If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those people who are headed the same way we are.

When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs, whether with people or with geese flying south.

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

What messages do we give when we honk from behind?

Finally—and this is important---when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunshot, and falls out of formation, two other geese fall out with the goose and follow it down to lend help and protection. They stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies; and only then do they launch out on their own, or with another formation to catch up with their group.

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.

Author unknown

One way we have of standing together is through Stephen Ministry caring relationships. If a Stephen minister would be helpful please call Barbara Retzlöff at 713-467-2234.