



PINES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pines Press, September 2022

12751 Kimberley Ln, 77024 713-467-2234

Jump Into Fall!

Sunday School @ 9:15

Worship @ 10:45

Foundations

Fellowship Hall

“Parables of Jesus”

by Matt Williams

Video

and Discussion

Youth

Senior High Room

“The Story”

Continuing our Study
from Last Year

Explorers

Room C-3

“The Old Testament”

by Amy-Jill Levine

Vanderbilt Divinity School

Video

and Discussion

Children

W-13 & W-14

Worship Studies

Nursery Available

Birth - 5

Learning @ PINES+

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 each day 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 members (Jack Long) used to answer the phones on occasion...just to give you guys out there something to think about!



Welcome to new baby girl **Natalie Frances Johnson!** Natalie is the daughter of Patrick and Shelly Johnson and granddaughter of Phil and Linda Johnson. Natalie was born on August 18th in Memphis Tennessee.



We offer prayer to the Stinner families in **the passing of Pines member Edith Stinner.** Edith was a dearly loved member of Pines and had been a member since 1962. She passed away peacefully on August 17th surrounded by her family. No one that knew Edith could say her name without a smile on their face. She was a lively personality that will be missed! A memorial service will be held at Pines on September 2 at 1:00 p.m.

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.

Congratulations to **Katherine Allison and Eric Hanson!** Katherine and Eric were married at Pines on August 20.



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



Dear Pines Family, over the past few months, I have had a few health issues and most recently my sister left this earth to meet our Lord and Saviour. The support given so freely by you lifted my spirits beyond words. Pines is foundational to all who enter her doors and meet her people. Then as disease enters the body or the Lord takes the soul to our eternal home, we on earth are supported by Pines regardless of our physical location. The prayers are felt just as I felt your uplifting prayers over these past few months. Your cards and prayers are greatly appreciated and I thank you! In Christ, sending love and prayers for your generosity,
Ann Lewis

Please mark your calendars with the NEWSLETTER DUE DATE: September 23 (for the October 2022 issue)

Pastor's Page

Greetings in the name of our Lord,

Well, summer is over and school has now begun. I was looking back at some of the newsletter articles I have written for September over the years, and I came across an article I had written twelve years ago. I wrote about my oldest daughter, Catey's first day of school as a high school freshman. I spoke about how both of our nerves were probably measuring off the Richter scale as she entered this new chapter... this new challenge and adventure of her life. Well, today we prepare for the next milestone in her life, the celebration of her turning in her master's thesis later this month. A tear comes to my eye as I wonder where the time has gone! It felt like it was just yesterday she was starting high school, and today she prepares to "launch" into the adult working world. As exciting as this is, our anxiety is measuring a little high as we anticipate the "What Next?" in her next chapter of life.

As tearful as these milestones may be, I know they are good, and I know they are important. Catey has grown... she has been challenged... and she has been stretched these past years. As we celebrate this milestone in her life, we also look anxiously and joyfully towards her future. Something we also do as the Pines family as we get ready to enter into a new program year. Where will we grow... where will we be stretched... where will we be challenged in our lives as faithful Christians?

As a body of believers that has been on Kimberley Lane for over 62 years, we have a lot for which to be thankful. This church has made a great impact and grown in so many ways within our community. I am thankful for all the saints who have shared so much to make us the church we are today. So, as we stand at the beginning of another year, another chapter in the life of Pines, we ask the question, "What's next?" This question shouldn't make us nervous and anxious about the future, it should get us excited. Excited because God has prepared us for this time. God has prepared us to stretch ourselves in our ministries to each other and to the community. God has prepared us for such a time as this to launch into the next chapter of Pines and make an impact on the Kingdom of God! Won't you join us?

The skies the limit!



Family Ministry Calendar for September

Calendar Highlights:

Sept 4th 9:15-10:15am

Senior High Room ALL kids ages 3- 12th grade Veggie Tale Summer Series

Sept 11th KICK OFF DAY! 9:30am

ALL kids and adults Fellowship Hall for snack breakfast and opening small group times as well as Vacation Bible Camp Celebration!

During Service is celebrating our Sunday School leaders and Bible Presentations

Youth Group 6-7:45pm

in the youth rooms - dinners and youth group time!

Sept 18th 9:15-10:15am

ALL to small groups

Pines Youth 6-7:45pm

Youth Rooms

Sept 25th 9:15-10:15am

Morning Sunday School

Pines Youth 6-7:45pm

Youth Rooms

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>

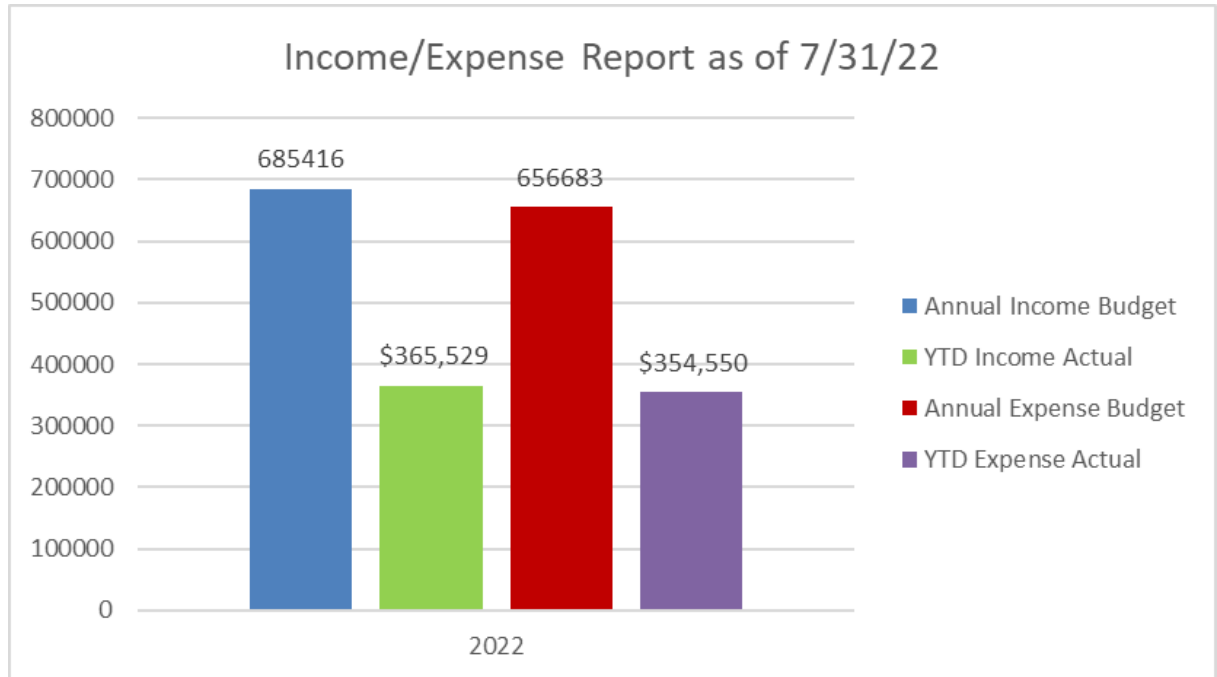
Dinner for youth on Sundays: (10-14 people- paper products and drinks provided)

www.TakeThemAMeal.com/XAPG7147

Also in need of adult leaders for weekend retreats and summer mission! See Kristin for details and dates!



Stewardship



STEWARDSHIP NOTES:

1. Pledge income in July is exactly on target for the 7 months. Non-pledge income is still trailing well below forecast.
2. Overall, committee expenses remain 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 \$365,529; total expenses were \$354,550; leaving a Net Income of \$10,979 for the year as of 7/31/22. Maintaining a positive net income in the middle of summer when attendance sometimes falls off is a great financial position for this time of the year.

Session

Here are some highlights from the August Session meeting:

- Session approved Cheryl Gans to preach on October 23 while Rev. Gans is out of town
- approved a joint Sunday service between Pines and Mosaic Church to be held on World Communion Sunday, October 2, in the Family Life Center
- approved "Kids in Worship" for the children's Sunday School curriculum
- approved "the Old Testament" and "The Parables of Jesus" for the adult Sunday School curriculum
- approved "Sacred Echo" for an all-church study during the Lenten season
- defeated a motion to conduct all Sunday School classes only on the 1st and 3rd Sundays due to a shortage of teachers; the Christian Education Committee will convene to review other solutions, including recruiting more teacher volunteers to preserve weekly Sunday School
- heard a report from the Missions Committee that generous Pines' members have exceeded the original August Agape offering goal, raising enough funds to provide 84 students with backpacks, with over a week left in the month (the new goal is 100 student backpacks)
- the Missions and Congregational Fellowship Committees are planning a thankfulness luncheon for Pines' mission partners on November 13; Congregational Fellowship is planning up to 7 meal events in the coming year

Craig Walker
Clerk



STEPHEN MINISTRY NEWS - SOUL FRIENDS

The body needs a certain amount of salt. If a person does not get any salt at all, that is bad for one's health and in the end deadly-but on the other hand, too much salt is also harmful and lethal.

Water is something we cannot live without, we can go without food for some time but not long without water.

Salt & Water sustain our earthly lives but what sustains our souls? Love is the very center of what sustains us and love and acceptance are essential for our emotional and spiritual health. Love and acceptance are felt when others who deeply care, listen to our hearts. Even when we have loving caring families and friends sometimes we need a Soul-Friend who is like salt and water for the soul. That is where our Stephen Minister's come in.

We hope you will reach out to those who have love and acceptance, your Stephen Ministers are here for you.

Please contact: Bill Willis, 713-467-2234 and he will pair you with a Stephen Minister.

Thank you

to everyone who was part of this
years

Vacation Bible Camp- Lift off!

EVERYONE is

invited to the celebration with
pictures and a video

Sunday, Sept 11th

as part of our morning kick off!

9:30am Fellowship Hall! Hope to
see you there!



**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

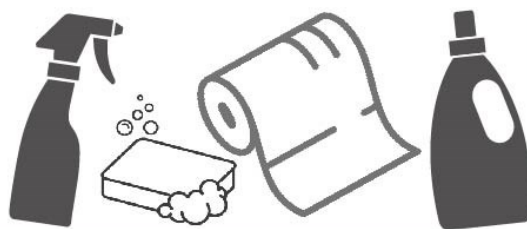
organizing team or to learn more about how you can help, please
contact Pastor Andy. Remember, we need **YOU** to make this another
huge success for our community and the hungry around the world.

September Agape

RAISE UP FAMILIES™

Collecting items for New Home Kits

Bring any size:
Paper Towels, Toilet Paper,
Window Cleaner,
Bathroom Cleaner,
Dish Soap, Garbage Bags,
Dishwasher Detergent,
Laundry Detergent



Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate, made online, or sent to the church office. Include "September Agape" with your donation.

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!



Back by popular demand after the summer break....BINGO!!! Please join us as we gather for more Bingo in the Fellowship Hall on September 22nd at 6:30. There will be food and drinks provided and of course...lot's of fun with BINGO! Don't miss the fun! Mark your calendars for September 22nd! Contact Linda Aldred or the church office if you plan to attend so we can make sure there is plenty of food for all.

Thoughts From a Member...

Dear Friends - since many people are away during part of the summer months, I suspect you sometimes wonder if the ongoing ministries at Pines which you make possible are forgotten. So, I will share the details of a recent "Gratitude Hike" in which I give thanks for the many blessings in my life, including Pines Presbyterian and the many people who make its ministries possible.

The first photo shows me at the beginning of the hike which is Adam's Falls where all of the waters in subsequent photos flow into Grand Lake before they are transported to eastern Colorado to sustain life for most of the state's population. The ever present waters remind me of God's faithfulness in walking with us.

The second photo from the top shows us hiking in what I call the "Psalm 23" meadow with its still and quiet waters and lush green grasses. It is especially beautiful in the early morning sunlight when it is easy to sense God's comforting presence.

As we begin our 2000' elevation gain to reach our destination, Lake Verna, the heightened elevation affords us a view of where we started which is Grand Lake. Looking back at life's journey can often be a catalyst for thanksgiving.

The fourth photo shows the stream which runs from Lake Verna to our beginning point of Grand Lake and serves as a reminder of God's continuing presence regardless of where we travel.

The fifth photo shows the first lake we reach after hiking 5.5 miles. It is Lone Pine Lake. While not our ultimate destination, it reminds us to enjoy the beauty we sometimes overlook in our journeys.

Finally after another 1.5 miles of uphill hiking we reach our destination of Lake Verna which is shown in the bottom photo. Each year when I get there I give thanks for another year of life, the blessings which unfolded during the year and the ability to once again complete this 14 mile round trip hike. Of course the Pines church family and its many ministries were prominent among the blessings for which I gave thanks. What an indescribable gift!

While it is wonderful to be refreshed by the beauty of God's creation, I remain aware of the suffering and turmoil in our world and I also pray for God's healing hand to be at work.

Thanks again for hiking with me and allowing me to share my reflections as God stirs my heart.
Phil

