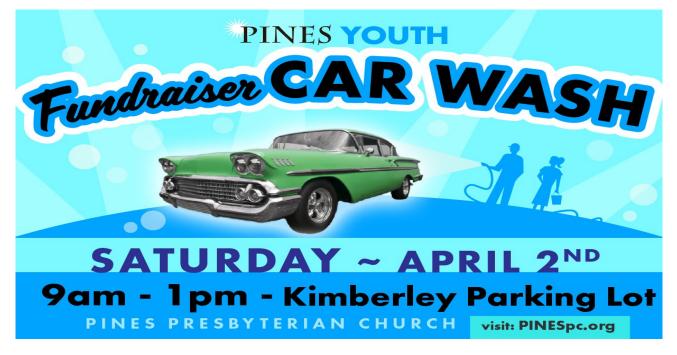


Pines Family News & Current Events





Please keep the family and friends of Pines member Don Gorrell in your prayers. Don Passed away on March 8th. He married Millie Gorrell in our Pines sanctuary in 1983. Don sang with our Pines choir for many years. He was 98 years old when he was called home. He was a kind man and will be missed.



It is Easter time! Lilies will be offered for sale here at Pines to decorate our sanctuary. The lilies come from Brookwood and are a great way to support the Brookwood ministry. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hallway. Lilies are \$11 each.

Please mark your calendars with the NEWSLETTER DUE DATES: April 22 (for the May 2022 issue)

Pastor's Page

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

There is so much to celebrate this month! April is all about new life and new possibilities before us. Each year we look forward to the budding trees, the singing birds, the longer sun filled days and the joy spring brings. This year we are extra blessed with Holy Week and Easter falling right in the middle of the month. I pray you'll join us for the many services we have planned for Holy Week.

How much luckier could we be than to be able to celebrate the new life spring creates and the new life Christ brings us through his resurrection? Well, this year I think we're extra blessed, because we are welcoming our new music staff. I am so excited to be welcoming Laurie Conner as our Director of Music Ministries and Shawn Heller as our Church Musician/Accompanist. These beautiful people have been so blessed by God with amazing musical gifts that will surely bless the choir, the congregation, and the community. Laurie and Shawn's experience, energy and enthusiasm will create, I think, endless possibilities for our music department and I am excited to see how God uses them in our midst. Laurie has a great love of music that goes back to when she was a young child and attending church with her family. Laurie has been blessed with the gift of teaching music to both young and old, and helping all ages discover their unrealized gifts. Shawn has been playing the piano since he was four years old and won multiple competitions before graduating high school. Shawn has shared his gifts around the world with different choirs and ensembles.

Our new music dynamic duo has so much energy and joy that promises to bring a new life to our historically strong music program. I have enjoyed over the past few months seeing smiles on people's faces as they listen to preludes, along with swaying and foot tapping as we've sung hymns and listened to stirring anthems. I believe the possibilities are endless and the joy will grow as these two lead us all in worshiping God through music and song.

As we celebrate the gift of hope, joy and new life that Christ has given us through his resurrection, let us also loudly sing ALLELUIA! for the gift of our newest members to our family of faith. I hope you'll join us in officially welcoming Laurie and Shawn to our family on Sunday, April 10th following worship as we break bread together and welcome in the season of spring.

With a loud alleluia,

Andy

Children and Youth

Calendar Family Highlights in April: Saturday April 2, Youth Car Wash- Kimberley parking lot 9am-1pm Sunday April 3, No youth group Friday/Saturday April 8-9th Confirmation Retreat Sunday April 10th Youth Group 6-7:45pm Sunday April 17th Easter! No youth group; Morning Family craft at 9:45am and Egg Hunt at 10:15am Sunday April 24th Youth Group 6-7:45pm Friday April 29th Parents Night Out 5:30-8:30pm RSVP with <u>Kristin@pinespc.org</u>

CAR WASH 9am-1pm to raise funds for summer mission and get your car clean!

Pray for our confirmands Marley, Tristan, and Luke on April 8-9th as they attend a special weekend of faith!

PARENTS NIGHT OUT COMING! Friday April 29th in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30pm until 8:30pm. Free! Pizza Dinner provided. We need reservations from you and will take as many as we have volunteers for! NURSERY is open and available for those under three or not potty trained. Parents please rsvp to <u>kristin@pinespc.org</u>

Willing to volunteer to allow more to come? Also please rsvp to Kristin. Service hours for teens available as well- fun way to get them. Let's have some fun!



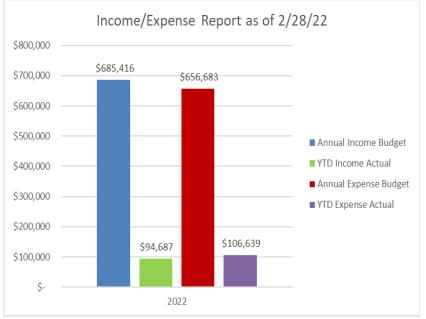
Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP NOTES:

February, 2022 financial statements can be summarized as follows:

1. Pledge income in February is slightly below forecast for the 2 months. Non-pledge income is below forecast. This is relatively normal for this point in time during the year.

2. Overall, committee expenses were on track vs. budget expectations. Mission expenditures are accrued on a 1/12th basis each month; Staff committee is expecting a BOP credit in April, Property and other committee expenses were close to forecast. Property



received a \$5,000 Preschool check, which nets against their expenses in February. 3. Total Income was \$94,687; total expenses were \$106,639; leaving a Net Loss of \$11,952 for the year.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Texas Presbyterian Foundation (TPF) holds an endowment fund on behalf of Pines Presbyterian Church. Over the life of our church, several generous members have made designated gifts in their estates on behalf of Pines to the TPF. Gifts have been designated for a specific purpose, such as missions, or to the building upkeep or general operating fund of the church and are held within the Pines Sustaining Gift Fund. TPF invests those funds on Pines behalf within their over \$1 billion portfolio of assets and provides a quarterly reporting to Pines of the value of our fund and the associated gains. Any withdrawals of these funds must be authorized by the Trustees of Pines Presbyterian Church. At the end of 2021, Pines Sustaining Gift Fund was valued at over \$630,000.

Session

The February Session meeting occurred too late to be included in last month's newsletter. Here are some highlights from the February and March Session meetings.

In February, Session:

- · elected John Plush as Treasurer and Craig Walker as Clerk for one-year terms
- approved a family worship space in the back northeast corner of the Sanctuary
- approved the Staff Committee's Terms of Call for Pastor Andy, to be voted upon by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting on March 13.

In March, Session:

- authorized Rev. Nora Fitch to preach on March 27 while Rev. Andy is on vacation
- applauded Chris Wolfe for volunteering to serve as Usher Captain
- · approved seeking a grant from Presbytery for October's Feed My Starving Children project

Craig H. Walker, Clerk of Session



Pines Stephen Leaders have been somewhat preoccupied these days, as they should be during a long training course for new Stephen MINISTRY Ministers. But that concern fades almost completely away under the shock of daily news about the stunning abominations in the Ukraine.

Our ministry to hurting people right here seems so insignificant in comparison.

But wait. Stephen Ministry is a distinctively *Christian* ministry. Christ himself is at the very center of it. In his own *name* do we pray, serve, hope, train. Let us therefore take him as our daily example. He was very aware of, but not distracted by, the shameful political and social and warmongering evils of his time. Day after day he focused on individual people who suffered in all the same ways people do today. Sickness and disability. Dying children. Economic distress. Grief. Doubt. Hopelessness. Fear. Crime. Confusion, sin and guilt. All the personal human difficulties of life. The good news of the gospel is that 2000 years later, he loves *you*, too - just as personally, just as powerfully, just as graciously as he loved those he saw back then.

Therefore, you Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers - despair not! Carry on Christ's own ministry to hurting people just as he did – with compassion, energy, imagination and steadfast faith, focused on the people right in front of you. For this is the work he has given you to do. (It is so humbling to have to take your own advice!)

So, if the burdens of your life seem too heavy to carry alone – if the grief or anxiety needs to be expressed – if you need to find out what you really think by hearing yourself tell it out loud to a ready listener - then why not try a Stephen Minister? It's free and it's totally confidential. You can find out more by contacting Bill Willis at bill.00.willis@gmail.com or by calling the church office for his phone number, or by asking anyone wearing a Stephen Ministry nametag.



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. You can also sign up in the Fellowship Hallway on the flower calendar while at church.



Please join us for the next Bingo in May!

Do you get our weekly prayer list? If not, please call Chelsea in the church office at 713-467-2234 to get on the list. Chelsea 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!



Do you have a student who will be graduating from high school or college this year? Please send their name, school and one paragraph about your student to cindy@pinespc.org. We would LOVE to highlight your graduate in our bulletin! Cindy needs to have this information by May 2nd.

Feel free to call with any questions.

Missions



April Agape - The Mission of Yahweh

<u>NEEDED:</u> New Boy's and Girl's Shirts and Shorts Sizes 2T - 14

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

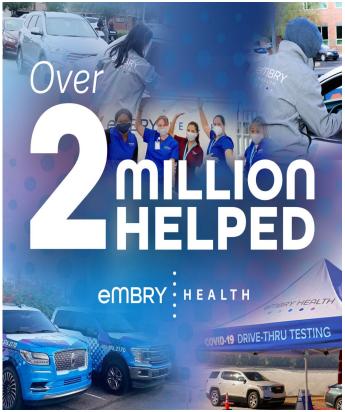
Visit us at pinespc.org

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

> 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)



FREE COVID TESTING...

You may have noticed the testing facilities on our back parking lot. Embry Health will be on our site offering free COVID testing for several months to anyone that may have a need during the following days and times:

<u>Monday thru Friday</u> 2:30 PM to 7 PM <u>Saturday</u> 7 AM to 7 PM

If you have any questions, please stop by the booth and ask them, they will be glad to assist you.



JOIN US FOR THE PCHAS LUNCHEON

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) is providing Christ-centered care for children and families in need.

Please join us for our Annual Luncheon on Thursday, April 21st at the Junior League of Houston, 1811 Briar Oaks Lane, Houston, TX 77027 from 12 to 1 p.m.

During this free event, we will be sharing stories from our PCHAS children and families here in Houston and we hope to gather together as a community to provide healing and support to the most vulnerable. To reserve your seat or a table of 10, please contact your Pines Table Host, Margaret Schafer, or PCHAS Development Officer Laura Fleming at <u>laura.fleming@pchas.org</u>.





Volunteer Need: Weekday Volunteers

Calling all retirees, stay-at-home parents, shift workers, or anyone else with time on their hands! The Restoration Team is in need of consistent weekday volunteers who can spare a couple of days a week to serve on our home repair worksites.

Volunteering is a great way to give back, be social, learn something new, or sharpen your skills. We don't need you five days a week (unless you want), so there's still time to golf! It doesn't matter if you spent the last 40 years framing houses or filling out spreadsheets, your time will be valuable to us.

If you're interested in spending 1-3 days per week on our worksites, let us know at <u>https://</u><u>www.therestorationteam.org/volunteer</u> or shoot us a message. We'd love to put you to work!





Did you know that we receive all of our Easter lilies and Christmas poinsettias each year from Brookwood? Not only can you purchase these lovely plants each season to beautify the church, but you are also benefitting Brookwood with your purchase AND you get to take them home after the services! Sign ups for Easter Lilies have begun. Find the sign up table in the fellowship hallway or call the church office to get on the list. You may also send an email to Melissa Gravett at mgravett0123@gmail.com or Linda Aldred at lindaaldred1@aol.com. Thank you in advance for your purchases!



Please join us for The Brookwood Community's Biennial Benefit Lunch on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at the Hilton Americas Hotel. We'd love to see you there! Joni Eareckson Tada, well-known author, radio host, and founder of Joni and Friends, will be our guest speaker, and Jim McIngvale will accept the inaugural *Vicki Streit Inspiration Award*. For information regarding tables and tickets, visit The Brookwood Community 2022 Benefit Lunch

For questions, contact Donna Gower at donnag@brookwoodcommunity.org or 281.375.2192



Recently the Sherwood Bulletin Board team installed the final cafeteria bulletin board for the school year with the theme of getting ready for Spring and testing for STAAR and TELPAS. A BIG thanks to Lou Master, Dave Coles and Cindy Coles.



Pines Library



This April, Kristin Beall is working on re-organizing the Library. If you can help with an hour or two now and then, it would be greatly appreciated. Talk to Kristin!





Requirements: Must be fully potty-trained and born before December 31, 2018. Class Size: 3-Year Olds - 12 Campers; 4-Year Olds - 14 Campers; 5-Year Olds - 14 Campers. Teachers: Classes will be taught by Pines Preschool teachers. High School/College Aids will also help with programming. Priority Registration: Priority will be given to current preschool students and church members, followed by siblings and new families.

