

Pines members making masks for the Mission of Yahweh



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PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 2020

OUR GRADUATES

**Austin Alexander
Wisdom High School**

Austin will be graduating from Wisdom High School. He was a Varsity Football Player and the Welding Team Captain. He took his team to State 2 years in a row, but unfortunately due to corona they were not able to attend the second state competition. The first year they went, they claimed 2nd place. After graduation, Austin plans on going straight into the work force. "I plan on going to work for Turner Industries as a welding helper to improve my skills and eventually work my way up to head welder."



**Allie Guerra
Kinder HSPVA**

Allie is the daughter of Luis (1959-2017) and Ann Guerra. Allie is graduating from Kinder HSPVA (with an emphasis in voice). Allie is graduating with many honors including membership in National Honor Society. She is a Hispanic Merit Scholar, received Academic Honors and has been awarded Highest Honors in the Vocal Department. Allie has served on Student Council for 3 years as Parliamentarian and Vice President. She performed in the Madrigal Choir which won First Place at Madfest in San Antonio this Spring. There were over 30 choirs competing. Allie has been attending Pines since the age of 8. She took it upon herself to ask Pastor Wayne to baptize her at age 10. She has been on many mission trips, attended and/or taught VBS, and acted in many Advent plays during her years at Pines. Thanks to Ms. Shirley and the Cherub Choir, we discovered Allie's voice that set her on the road to musical theater with HITS and Wildfish Theater and acceptance to Johnston Middle School for the Performing Arts and Kinder High School for the Performing Arts. Allie will be attending The Quinlan Business College at Loyola University Chicago to study marketing. She will be in the Interdisciplinary Honors Program. When asked about her favorite thing about Pines she says it is the people because they always show so much love and support.



**Annie Buelow
James E. Taylor High School**

Annie Buelow is the daughter of Phil and Liz Buelow. She will graduate from James E. Taylor High School. She was a four year member of choir. Annie has participated in confirmation and VBS at Pines. She has participated in mission trips with a variety of churches, including Pines. Next year she will attend HCC and then consider transferring to Northeastern Oklahoma State to major in chemistry.



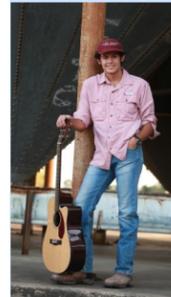
**Andrea Rogan
Texas Lutheran University**

Andrea Rogan graduated from Texas Lutheran University in December 2019 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education with ESL. She is planning to focus on completing her certification exams this year. After that, she plans to either get a teaching job or go to graduate school for a Masters in Education.



**John Murry "Jack" Dorris
Stratford High School**

Jack Dorris is the son of Emily and Anthony Gairo, and Michael and Melvie Dorris. He will graduate from Stratford High School on June 3, 2020. Growing up Jack lived in Beaumont, Maryland, Indonesia and finally Houston where he attended Stratford High School. At SHS he enjoyed running track, mentoring students on Link Crew and being a student athletic trainer. The past two years Jack has achieved top honors in the Electrician Training program offered by SBISD and HCC. Jack also attended Camp Ozark for nine years, where he grew into an independent young man with a faithful love for Jesus Christ. Since he could drive Jack has had part-time jobs, and most recently, due to the global pandemic closing school, Jack has been working full time as an Electrician Helper II at a liquid natural gas plant undergoing an expansion. Jack plans to again make a long move, this time to East Lansing, where he will study engineering at Michigan State University.



**Hannah Timmreck
Stratford High School**

Hannah Timmreck will graduate from Stratford High School as a valedictorian of her class. Hannah is a lifelong Girl Scout, who recently earned the Gold Service Award and the Emerald Circle Scholarship. She is a Stratford Spartanaire, who served as secretary her junior year and is currently serving as president. Hannah was a four year member of Student Council and The Oracle Newspaper staff. She is a member of The National Honor Society and Young Life. Hannah got her fabulous start at Pines Preschool and she treasures her memories of VBS, Sunday School, and Christmas pageants with Mrs. Bollich. Next fall Hannah will attend The University of Texas at Austin where she will study in the honors program at The Moody School of Communication.



**Catey Gans
Furman University**

Catey is the oldest daughter of Andy and Cheryl Gans. She recently graduated from Furman University, Cum Laude, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health. During her time at Furman, she was actively involved in a number of extracurricular activities, including Orientation Staff, Admission Ambassadors, Chi Omega Fraternity, and Exploration of Vocation and Ministry. She held over 8 internships and research positions, and spent a semester abroad studying public health in Stockholm, Sweden. Through these experiences, Catey has developed a passion for the ways in which one's environment can affect health, healing, well-being, and productivity. She is still in the process of determining her next steps, but aims to further explore the field of Healthcare and Workplace Design.



Pines Family News

If the church staff can help you in any way, please call the office at 713-467-2234. Even though we are not gathering at the moment, we are still at work and here for you!



The grandson of Bob and Linda Barr, Carson Jozeph Barr, graduated from Texas State University May 15, 2020. Graduating from the School of Liberal Arts, BA Geography (with an emphasis on Water Conversation). Only yesterday we were taking the twins to Wildcat Way Pre-K, across from Pines. His twin, Ethan Douglas Barr, will graduate in December 2020 from Texas State University.



What's everyone doing at home? Send us your photos!

As we've been spending our days differently, we would love to see photos of projects taking place at home -- Perhaps a gardening project, you pets, family, art or sharing your practice of meditation and prayer. All photos will be produced as a slideshow and shared on our website and social media

(based on your permission to do so). Email your photos to our communications coordinator, Micah at micah@pinespc.org.



Please hold Pines members Robin Brady and family in prayer with the loss of her dad, Tom Prevost. Tom passed on May 28th.



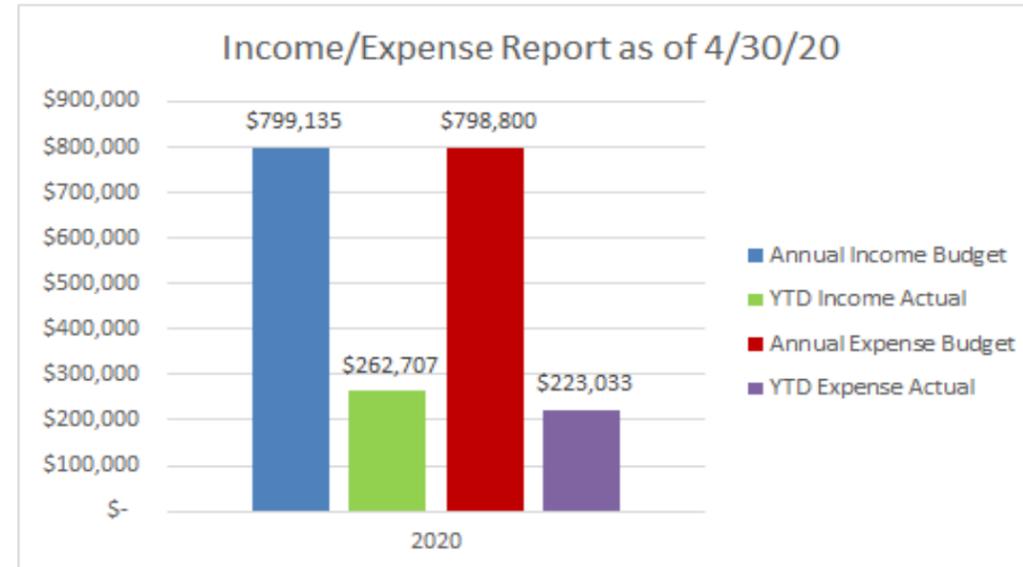
Randalls receipt through March 31, 2020 is \$131.94. Thanks to everyone who listed Pines on your Randalls cards!

REMINDER: Please, if you move to a new address, change your phone number or your email address, please call or email the church office so that we can update our files. Thank you!

Please mark your calendars with
the **NEWSLETTER DUE DATES:**
June 19 (for July 2020 issue)

Stewardship

1. Pledge income is right on budget for the first 4 months of the year. Thank you to everyone who is maintaining their family giving during our time away from each other. Non-pledge income is below budget, but overall income is on target due to receipt of the final ATT cell tower payment.
2. Overall expenses are below budget for the first 4 months of the year.
3. During April the church received Payroll Protection Program (PPP) funds from the SBA per the CARES Act. It is anticipated that this loan will be forgiven under the provision of this SBA program.



Session Meeting Notes

The Session met for its regular stated meeting on May 18. Here are some highlights:

- After consulting with health care professionals, decided to keep the building closed and continue online worship until at least the beginning of June;
- Approved grant requests to Presbytery to support summer meals for Sherwood children and the "Feed my Starving Children" event in the fall;
- Heard updates on efforts to help church members stay connected;
- Heard that pledge income continues to be on track, while non-pledge income continues to lag projections

PINES SHEPHERDS

A very big THANK YOU to all of the Pines Shepherds that have been busy contacting our members and others that have not been seen at church because of the quarantine or other issues. Listed are the caring people of Pines that have been reaching out : Ann Guerra, Carol Schneider, Phil & Linda Johnson, Jim & Beth Patterson, Karen Davis, Kari Work, Kathy Ropshaw, Linda Carlson, Margaret Schafer, Shirley Bollich, Walter Penberthy, Toshi Hayre, Phil Wetz, Carol Greene, Roger & Jerry Mowell.

**If you would like to join this group to help make sure that our people are doing ok, please contact:
Kathy Ropshaw - 713-236-8303 kr@jhyi.com
Karen Davis - 281-496-5062 klarickd@yahoo.com**



Just a few pictures of the food collection by Pines and delivery to the Sherwood area.
Thanks to everyone for their support of this vital project!



Pastor's Page

Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus,

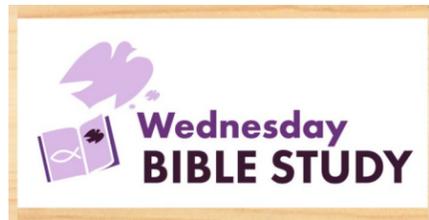
How many of you are tired of staying at home? How many of you are weary from 24/7 news updates about the Corona Virus? How many of you are feeling the burdens of the world right now? If you answered yes to any or all three of these questions you are not alone. As I was doing my devotions the other day, I came across a very helpful passage from the Gospel according to Matthew. The passage comes from chapter 11 verses 28-30 and says: *“Come to me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your soul. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”* To me, these are very comforting words from our Lord and Savior because we are weary of all that is going on and we often times feel the weight of the world on our shoulders as we try to figure out how to work from home, home school our children, keep ourselves occupied during our quarantine times. We need a break and it is Jesus who offers us this rest. I love the last part of verse 30 when it says, *“...and you will find rest for your soul.”* Our souls need rest right now, we need some sense of peace in these very un-peaceful times. I’m thankful our Lord reminds us that we can find that rest for our souls in him if we just learn from him and welcome in his gentleness.

Remembering that gentleness is hard right now, especially as businesses, camps and churches begin to open back up. These have been some very challenging weeks and our world looks, and will look, very different because of recent events. Every day I receive new updates on what houses of worship should consider, I also hear about what other churches are doing. Your Session and I have been in extensive conversations about how we, as a family of faith, should move forward in this COVID-19 age. As we enter this new reality and plan for future activities, I was reminded in one of my readings that there are some things that would be wise for all of us to remember. First of all, God is still God and we are called to worship our Lord wherever we are! You and I serve a God who is unshaken by events of history, events of today and the events of the future. We worship and serve a God who is the great redeemer, and restorer; one who can bring light into any darkness we think we may face. As a church and a people, our mission remains the same. We are called to be a joyful Christian community that welcomes all and seeks to make disciples who know, love, and trust in Jesus Christ. We would be wise to continue looking upward, continue growing inward and of course serving outward.

As we eagerly anticipate joining together for worship and other church activities please know the Session is prayerfully considering when and how this will happen, but we need your help. We would appreciate your prayers for wisdom as we seek a safe way to gradually open back up, knowing that all decisions are faithful responses to the needs and safety of our family of faith whom we love. When we do open back up, we need your help in adhering to the plan set in place so to protect all involved. Finally, I ask that you hold close in prayer those who are struggling with finding peace in the midst of this storm, those who are weary and overburdened, pray that they, and all of us, may find peace in Christ.

As we look to the future, I remind you to continue to watch your emails for updates regarding our opening status and plan. The Session will meet the first week of June to review up to date statistics and make decision about how and when to move forward. Please remember to stay safe and keep others safe, because we love you.

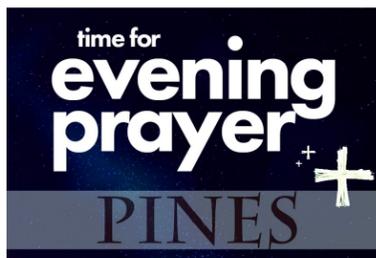
Current Events



Wednesday Morning Bible Study: Join us on Zoom each Wednesday from 11:00 A.M. to 12 noon as we dig into and discuss this week's lectionary text. This is a great opportunity to get a jumpstart on understanding and learning about the scripture for the upcoming Sunday. To join us via Zoom please click this link <https://zoom.us/j/97547275569> or call 346-248-7799 and

enter 975 4727 5569 when prompted for a meeting ID. You will enter a "waiting room" as you enter the study.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW! We have several members in need of meals for various reasons. Some of our members are ill, some are injured, and some are recovering. If you can bake a small meal and bring it to the church, please call Shirley Bollich. Shirley could really use some help with this ministry. Pines has always had a caring heart and assisted their church family. Let's all pull behind Shirley and help her provide these meals to our members. If you need Shirley's phone number, please call the church office. Thank you!!



Time for Evening Prayer: Join fellow Pines family members as we gather for an evening Vespers Service each Thursday from 5:00-5:30 P.M. via Zoom. This is a wonderful opportunity for community prayer and reflection as we seek God's wisdom and peace during these unsettling days. Remember, prayer changes things! To join the service, click on the following Zoom video link:

<https://zoom.us/j/93550776312> or call 346-248-7799 and enter

935 5077 6312 when prompted for a meeting ID. You will enter a "waiting room" as you enter the service.



We need you! Loving grownups to watch over our little ones from birth to 4 years old on Sunday mornings from 9 to 12 once we return to church. If you could commit to once per month, it would be much appreciated. Or you could substitute, all are welcome. You will need a background check and will need to take a Protect My Child test online. Talk to Rev. Cindy for more details. No worries, you do not need experience. We will have a lead teacher in the nursery with you. You will get plenty of hugs and laughter from our little ones!

ART IN THE PINES

Like to paint? Like to paint with others?

For several years Evelyn Shelton has had a group of artists who meet once a week at 1:00 pm on Thursday afternoons. They are watercolorists. The class is now held here at Pines for anyone who would like to paint and join the group. There is no fee for this class. Evelyn is the facilitator and will provide suggestions and help when needed. Evelyn is a watercolorist and has been painting for about 40 years. Please call Cindy H. for more information. We would love to have you join in with this group once we can all gather together again!

Note: You can practice in the meantime by drawing things you would like to paint once we are able to return to church.



Staying Connected: --- You can now find upcoming opportunities to connect by visiting our website: pinespc.org. Join in on the next scheduled meeting, class or event by signing up for your free Zoom account: zoom.us/signup. View our archived videos anytime and also join in "live"!



Live Worship Services: --- Pines Worship Services on Sundays are now live streaming! 10:45 am worship services can be viewed by visiting our website: pinespc.org You can also catch us on facebook for the same live streaming worship services.



Online Giving: ---As always, we thank you for your generous sharing of treasures in the spirit and practice of stewardship. Please visit our website for online giving: pinespc.org



Stephen Ministers The After People

.....after you've washed and returned the last casserole dish.

.....after the divorce papers have been served and the bottom falls out of your life.

.....after the last child honks, waves, and drives away - and the house suddenly seems incredibly empty.

.....after you arrive home after the funeral service and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.

.....after the relationship has ended but the wounds are still bleeding and painful.

.....after the doctors have said "There is nothing more we can do."

.....after the door has slammed shut - for the very last time.

.....after the phone call you were expecting never happens.

.....after you realize the hands on the gold watch you received at your retirement party move more slowly than you ever imagined.

.....after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says "Welcome to your new home

.....after the baby has arrived, putting more demands on you than you ever dreamed possible.

.....after you have been in your home under quarantine for 6 weeks and have had little contact with anyone.

Stephen Ministers are the "After People." We are ready to come alongside you or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives and provide comfort and support for as long "after" we are needed.

Please contact Bill Willis at bill.00.willis@gmail.com or call 318-548-4414.

Pack the Portico!



"Pack the Portico" Food Drive was another huge success!

Pines was recently mentioned in a SBISD website article about Sister School Solutions...

Pines Presbyterian Church collaborates with Rummel Creek Elementary parents to be a Sister School group for Sherwood Elementary. Recently the church organized a series of food donation drop offs to provide bags of groceries for Sherwood families.

"I could go on and on about the relationship between Pines, Rummel Creek and Sherwood," said Camfield. "The relationships built have made huge differences in the families at Sherwood."

This is a quote from Spring Branch ISD parent Heather Camfield and the district's PTA Council. See pictures on page 10 from this event.

Meet Rev. Cindy Mood, LCSW – Interim Associate Pastor for Children and Adult Ministry. I'm real and I'm here! I would love to connect with you and your family. If you have a moment, please drop me a line via email or text and we can set up a 30 second or 30 minute conversation to meet on the phone or via video chat. I am excited to learn about what the church can do for you to meet your family's needs.

revcindy@pinespc.org
620-727-0454



Cindy, Lena and Charles Mood

Peace be with you,

Rev. **Cindy Mood, LCSW**
Interim Associate Pastor of Children & Adult Ministries

Youth Happenings



Online Youth Ministry Schedule!

The Youth Ministry of Pines is offering weekly programs while our students stay at home! Join us every Tuesday and Thursday at 4:00pm on our Instagram page, @pinespcyouth for a Bible Study on Instagram Live! Then, every Wednesday at

7:00pm, join us for an online game night or other fun event over Zoom! The best way to stay up to date with all of our programs is in our Remind group! To join, just text @pinesyouth to 81010 and you will be signed up for our text alerts.

If you have any questions, please contact Jesse at jesse@pinespc.org!

Children's Ministry

I am beyond delighted to be a part of the ministry at Pines Presbyterian Church. Thank you for welcoming me with open arms. I look forward to getting to meet each and every one of you!

Although LifeCamp will not take place as previously planned, there is buzz about a virtual faith formation week! Keep your eyes and ears peeled as details will come from the Christian Education Committee soon.

Being socially distanced does not mean being socially isolated. However, this is a difficult concept for children. I invite you to consider becoming a prayer pal with a child from Pines. Yes, I am asking you to take some of your precious time – take it and spend a few minutes in prayer for, on the phone with or writing letters to your partnered child. We are all in this together and there is nothing as special as an inter-generational, cross-family connection between the church family. After all, this is what our Lord calls us to do! When a child is baptized, we promise to love them and bring them up in the faith alongside their family. You can honor those baptismal vows with only a few minutes of your time each week. Sign up your kiddo and yourself by emailing me at the email address below.

The internet is now an integral part of our existence, and stories are a meaningful part of each of our lives. Join me on YouTube each week as I read a family-friendly book and offer questions for you to ponder individually or as a family.

Sign up for weekly updates about Children's Ministry and links to exciting faith formation by emailing me. Maybe drop a line about who you are and your interests too!

Rev. Cindy Mood, LCSW
revcindy@pinespc.org



The Music Department

Greetings from the Music Department!

I have had such overwhelming positive response from the May 20 video “I’ll Fly Away,” that I thought I would share its origins in the newsletter.

Albert E. Brumley came from a rural background in LeFlore County, Oklahoma. As a young boy he helped the family in the fields, picking cotton. As many of you know, it’s back breaking work. In the hot sun, all day long. Brumley felt a call to music and hoped for a day when he could live his passion. At age 17, he began serious music study and received instruction from several leading Gospel music composers of the day.

Albert E. Brumley composed “I’ll Fly Away” in 1929 while in the cotton field. He was singing a popular song, “If I Had the Wings of an Angel.” Those words led him to think about flying away! He said later, “Actually, I was dreaming of flying away from picking cotton in that cotton field. Later in life, his wife encouraged him to submit his songs for publication. The first song submitted was “I’ll Fly Away.” The song, written during the Great Depression was a favorite of the nation as they listened on the radio, and “All Night Singings” by travelling Southern Gospel quartets. As the song spread throughout the country, people received renewed hope with its powerful words and lilting melody.

Some glad morning when this life is o’er, I’ll fly away; To a home on God’s celestial shore, I’ll fly away!
When the shadows of this life have gone, I’ll fly away; Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I’ll fly away!
Just a few more weary days and then, I’ll fly away; To a land where joys shall never end, I’ll fly away!

I’ll fly away, O glory, I’ll fly away; When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I’ll fly away!

“Oh that I had wings like a dove! For then would I fly away, and be at rest.” Psalms 55:6

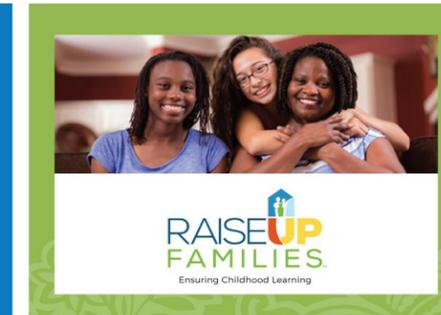
Keep a song in your heart!

Tim



PINES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MISSION OUTREACH



Mission of Yahweh

Presbyterian Children’s Homes and Services of Texas and Louisiana



For many non-profits, spring is fundraising season with breakfasts, luncheons and galas scheduled as major efforts to raise money to meet budgets. These organizations are now adapting to online fundraising. For the Pines mission partners whose fundraisers that have been cancelled, we encourage you to consider giving to your favorite non-profit and also support the Pines partners in our community.

Arrow-Freedom Place: Jim McIngvale, of Gallery Furniture, was scheduled to speak at the Houston Philanthropy Circle Symposium. In reaction to the Covid-19 pandemic, he created a video that challenges us to become “infectious” in positive ways. Arrow is proud to be named one of the 24 charities selected by the Houston Philanthropy Circle. See more information on giving by visiting: arrow.org

Faith in Practice: The Women’s luncheon, Hearts Made Whole, has a new date: Friday, May 7, 2021. For more details, visit: faithinpractice.org.

Mission of Yahweh: We will be having a LIVE EVENT on Social Media (You Tube and Facebook) on May 28, 2020 with our originally planned speakers, John and Joyce Smith and Pastor Jason Noble. Join us live and hear the miraculous story behind the movie BREAKTHROUGH. We will be posting on Facebook and Instagram on how to join by visiting: missionofyahweh.org.

Presbyterian Children’s Homes and Services: Normally, these events raise \$320,000 for the care and support of 4,500 PCHAS children and families. Now more than ever, children whose lives have been affected by poverty, stress, abuse and neglect need us to shelter and protect them. Please help us build better futures for children and families in need by making a donation today, by visiting: pchas.org.

RaiseUp Families: After careful consideration RaiseUp Families decided to take our “In Full Bloom” Spring Luncheon Virtual. This was done live with the help of The Story Hive. We couldn’t have done it without them. We had over 200 people watch it live and many more have tuned in to our YouTube channel, watching it on their own time. We appreciate all of the support as we are close to reaching 40% of our goal. Donate now by visiting: raiseupfamilies.org.



Dear Prayer Partners,

Many of you are faithful to pray the weekly prayer list. That is one of the underlying strengths of Pines Presbyterian Church. Prayer ranks among the most important things any of us do. You are appreciated! Something special is added when we pray together in person, sharing that bond of prayer and caring, that peaceful and refreshing time. Would you like to join us for the praying of the weekly list, plus any other concerns or praises mentioned? The in-person weekly prayer team currently meets at 9:00 am on Tuesdays in room C-10, although during this time, in-person meetings have been postponed. It also coincides with the start time for Pines Preschool, for anyone who brings a child to the school. The exact day and time could be negotiable if that would enable someone to participate.

Contact Bethel Strawser by email BethelStrawser5@earthlink.net for further discussion.

Bethel Strawser

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