



# PINES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pines Press October 2024 / 12751 Kimberley Lane 77024 / 713-467-2234 / www.pinespc.org

## TRUNK OR TREAT

*Costumes Encouraged*

**Bounce Houses | Games  
Face Paint | Balloons**

## TRUNK OR TREATING!

**October 27 | 4-5:30PM**

*Kimberley Parking Lot*

Together @PINES+

## Sherwood Christmas.

### TWO WAYS TO GIVE:



**Take an angel from the Christmas Tree.**  
(Fellowship Hallway) Then start shopping!



**Make a donation.** [Place in the offering plate, drop off at church, visit [pinespc.org/giving](http://pinespc.org/giving), or use Zelle] Please note "Sherwood Christmas".

**Return unwrapped gifts (with angel) or donations by Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.**

questions: **JOHN WORK** more info: **PINESPC.org**

**OCTOBER & NOVEMBER AGAPE**

Please look for the Christmas Tree in the Fellowship Hallway starting after October 6

# Pines Family News &

**The church office is open Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. On Fridays, the office staff work from home. If you need assistance on Fridays, call Cindy at 832-489-5989.**



Please keep the family of Ann Smith in your prayers. Ann passed on September 11. She was a valued member of Pines, always had a listening ear, wonderful sense of humor, sweet smile, and kind beyond words. She will be missed.

## **Piano Lessons by Shawn Heller B.M.**

Ages 5 to Adult, 30 yrs. teaching experience, Lessons are taught in-home, References available upon request

**Join us for a tour of the Holocaust Museum** on Tuesday October 29th at 1:30. We will meet at the church at 12:15 to car pool. Tickets prices are listed below. In order to reserve your spot, please contact Cindy in the church office (713-467-2234) by October 4th so that tickets can be purchased in advance.

Members Free

Ages 0 – 18 Free

College Students with valid student ID Free

Adults \$22

Seniors (age 65 and above) \$16

AARP Members \$16

Active Duty Military \$16

## A trip to The Holocaust Museum



### **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](mailto:mgravett0123@gmail.com) or Linda Aldred at [lindaaldred1@aol.com](mailto:lindaaldred1@aol.com) to sign up.

### **Second Sunday Lunch Bunch**...meets on October 13th following worship.

Meet us at Café Express in City Center. Hope to see you there!

If you would like to opt out of receiving this newsletter, or if your email is going to change, please send a note to [cindy@pinespc.org](mailto:cindy@pinespc.org) and we will update your record.

## **Important Info...**

**In the event that the doors are not open for your group**, please leave a note on the door to ask them to call your cell phone for entry. Every group leader should have an entry card to come into the building. If you do not, please contact Cindy in the church office to assist with getting one for you. Propping the doors open not only wastes electricity, but also is a danger to those in the building in case of intruders. Please treat your church as your home. **And please, NEVER prop open the doors at any time!** Thank you.

**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

## Greetings Pines family,

I want to personally thank you all for your commitment to the church's stewardship campaign. This year we focused on the gifts of wisdom, growth and joy that come as a result of our response to God's gifts to us and God's love for us. We heard the ever so wise Roger Mowell share with us about how wisdom and experience taught him to be faithful in all aspects of his life. We were blessed to hear Chris Wolfe share with us how he has grown in his faith and how he is trying to pass that wisdom of faith down to his children. Ann Guerra and Mike Lade told us about the joy they receive whenever they give back to God, what God had so richly given to them.

Giving back to God what God has so richly given to us is an act of faith, hope and love. Stewardship, whether it be financial or acts of service, is an act of faith and love towards God and community. Our stewardship of time, talents and finances represent our involvement in God's Kingdom. Through your gifts of finances and time this body of believers is able to serve and care for our Pines family and the larger community in which we live and serve.

I hope you've gotten a chance to fill out a stewardship commitment card. These cards ask about how God is asking you to give financially to the church. I also think they're asking you how you want to support and be a part of the growing mission of Pines. There are exciting things going on here at Pines. Exciting things I hope those outside our church walls will see and want to be a part of.

We won't have the total numbers until the end of the month, but we hope that through your gifts we will be able to fund our ministry programs this year. The Missions Committee hopes to start new outreach opportunities to the community and support others that struggled financially this past year. Important programs such as financial support of Mission of Yahweh, Memorial Assistance Ministry, Raise Up Families, Faith in Practice, Feed My Starving Children and so many more. These programs connect us to the larger community of God. The Worship Committee hopes to create more opportunities to welcome people into our community of faith and center us on our relationships with God and others. The Christian Education, Fellowship, and Congregational Care Committees hope to fund opportunities that empower our faith, connect us to each other and God, and embrace those in our community.

We have a wonderful church family and I'm glad you are a part of it! Together, with God's help, we can grow in our faith and outreach to and stewardship of the Kingdom.

Blessings,



Andy

# Family Ministry Calendar for October

## PLEASE HELP!

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

### Family ministry calendar for October:

#### Calendar:

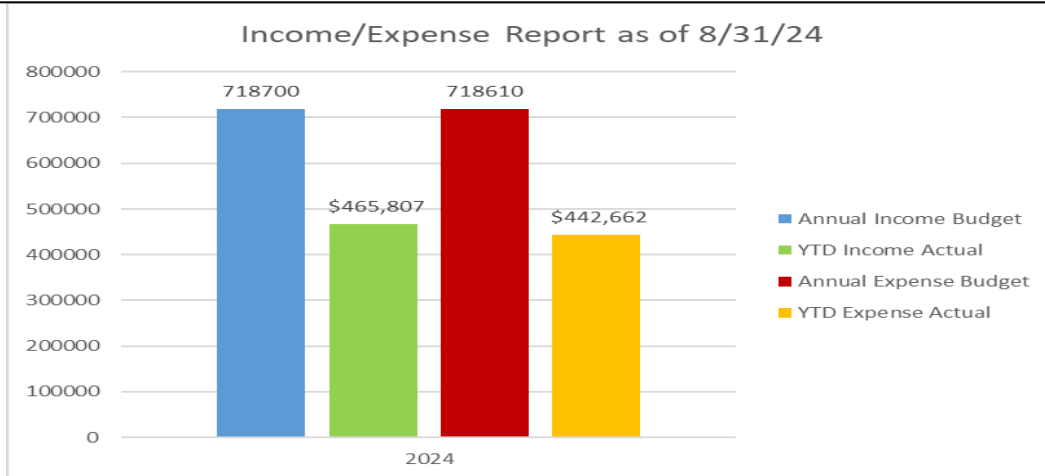
- 6 Pines Youth Hand on Hand 12:00pm
  - 12 Pines Youth Rehearsal 2pm
  - 13 Youth Sunday; Pines Youth Nugget Battle 12:00pm
  - 16 Parent U- all parent’s welcome- 6:15pm Sanctuary
  - 23 Pines Youth 6-7:30pm
  - 27 Trunk or Treat 4-5:30pm Kimberley Parking Lot
- See Kristin how you can help love on our community at Trunk or Treat!  
 Sit with candy at a car, host a bounce house, or table for face paint!

Sunday school each Sunday at 9:15am kids (w 13-14)  
 9:30pm youth (senior high room)



**Presbyterian Women's Clara Gay Circle** invites all women to join us this year as we begin a new study, Let Justice Roll Down. We'll learn about "God's call to care for neighbors and all creation" and will be led by circle members who use video presentations by author Patricia Tull. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month (September-May) at 11:30AM in room C-3. We bring our own lunch and share goodies provided by a monthly hostess. Please call me if you have questions! Marcia Welsh  
**Hope to see you there!**

# Stewardship



#### STEWARDSHIP NOTES:

The August 2024 financial statements can be summarized as follows:

1. Total income received through August was \$465,807 (65% of budget.) Pledge income was \$372,052 and unpledged income was \$37,715. Interest income has already exceeded the full year’s budget by 56% (+\$4,740). Total income is ahead of budget through the first eight months of the year.
2. Overall expenses were right on target at \$442,662 (62% of budget). Property income has increased to \$51,387, which offsets gross property expenditures of \$177,976. Net property expenses are below budget through August.
3. Net income through July was \$23,145... continuing strong results for the first eight months of the year.
4. In addition, the committee recommended that the Session approve the receipt of \$31,675.28 from the Robbins estate, with distribution of said funds as follows: 10% to Missions committee for benevolence giving (\$3,167.53), 40% to property reserve funds (\$12,670.11) and 50% to the Sustaining Gift Fund for Pines operating expenses (\$15,837.64).



**Do you get our weekly prayer list?** If not, please call Cindy in the church office at 713-467-2234 x110 to get on the list. If you would prefer to send an email for prayer, you may send it to Bethel at [prayer@pinespc.org](mailto:prayer@pinespc.org). Cindy can also help you sign up to receive our monthly newsletter "The Pines Press" 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!

### Calling all Taco Makers and Prayer Warriors!

Come join our Taco and a Prayer Team and see first-hand what a fun, rewarding, and precious ministry this is.

Join us for our next TAAP on October 4th

For more information contact the church office or Margaret Schafer.



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**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 gentlemen out there something to think about!

### Joke of the month...

**Who in the Bible knew the most people?  
Abraham knew a Lot.**

**Your help is needed!** Pines could use a kitchen manager to check the kitchen once per month and make sure it is kept clean and to check to make sure we have plenty of supplies. If you would be interested in doing this, please give Cindy a call at 713-467-2234 x110.

## Session

The Session met for its regular Stated meeting on September 23. Here are some highlights:

- Approved a barbeque fundraiser to raise money for the summer youth mission trip. Watch for a date to come!
- Approved a Service of Healing and Wholeness to be held December 4.
- Approved receipt of a gift from the Robbins estate, with funds directed to Missions, the Property Reserve Fund and the Sustaining Gifts Fund.
- Heard a positive report on pledge income and spending through August.
- Held a wide-ranging discussion on increasing congregational involvement in Pines' missions and ministries. This is part of the session's commitment to invest more time discussing and discerning God's will for Pines.

Dan Schafer  
Clerk of Session



**We continue the series of reflections from the Stephen Ministry** training participants this Spring. This month you will hear from Susan Babineck. Should you need someone to walk alongside during a difficult time, please reach out to Stephen Leaders Phil Wetz or Ann Guerra.

### Reflection- Susan Babineck

The word that comes to mind after completing Stephen Ministry training is, "closer." I find myself feeling closer to several people.

The first is my mother, who became a Stephen Minister many years ago. She was the first to talk about the marvelous joy that came from the program; talking about it with her has formed yet another special bond between us.

The second is my church. I am overjoyed and deeply honored by being selected for this powerful way to serve. It has taught me so much about the needs of others and how I can help. The life of the church has become newly vivid and beautiful to me.

Thirdly, training has brought me closer to some of the people in the church whose actions and words have been inspiring to me. I am thankful for their sharing, trust, and love. In learning and imitating their great faith, I feel I am moving closer to the person God wants me to be.

Lastly and best, I feel closer to God. It is such a privilege to help spread His constant love and support. To model, in a very minuscule and imperfect way, His caring for each of us is a precious gift of grace.

## I Book Club

**Ten ladies attended our first Ladies Brown Bag Book Club meeting** in July for a review of the book, "The Red Tent." We enjoyed our time together and our discussion. Mark your calendars for our next meeting scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup> (12:00 noon). when we will discuss the book, "The First Ladies," by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. This novel is based on the friendship between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and the educator and civil rights icon Mary McLeod Bethune – a forbidden friendship that changed the world! Plan to come. Don't forget to bring your brown bag lunch. Drinks and cookies will be provided. Questions? Call Shirley Bollich

### **Did you know we have amazing and wonderful employees on the Staff here at Pines?**

Here is a fun way to get to know them a little bit better. If you are familiar with the " 'Stro Poll" that comes up on the screen during every Astros game, then you know that they list 4 fun facts about an Astro; you can text in and guess who it is. Along those same lines, we are going to list a few fun facts about staff members and ask you to participate by guessing who you think it might be.

We will start this month with two of our members:

#### **1. Can you guess who this person is?**

He/she loves to travel and a favorite place to visit is Hawaii. An honor includes being a NCAA Division I Varsity Rower. This person loves helping out and interacting with members here at Pines. Favorite color is yellow and favorite book is *Wanderers* by Chuck Wendig. They feel God most in their life when they're putting the kids to bed, and all is calm, knowing that God has forever blessed them with these gifts.

#### **2. Can you guess who this person is?**

He/she loves the color red and adores chocolate. A favorite childhood memory is going on Saturday morning errands with Dad, wearing the cowboy boots that he had bought for this person. An honor includes singing at Carnegie Hall.

We will have a specially decorated box near the Sunday Coffee table in the narthex, along with pieces of paper to write your answers. If you think you know the answer(s) please leave them in the marked box, along with your name.

The answers will be listed in the newsletter in December. Thank you for participating.  
Session/Staff Committee

## SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY READING BUDDIES

Pines Presbyterian members are volunteer *Reading Buddies* for Sherwood Elementary second graders who need a bit of help and encouragement on their journey to becoming proficient readers. As a Reading Buddy, you work one-on-one with a student during the school day for approximately 30-60 minutes once a week. Sometimes your student will read to you, and sometimes you will read to your student – it all depends on what seems needed at the time. The Reading Buddies program is especially attractive to people who are retired or otherwise have some free time during school hours. If you would like more (no-obligation) information, please contact: Cindy Coles ([CindyLColes@comcast.net](mailto:CindyLColes@comcast.net)), Dave Coles ([DaveLColes@comcast.net](mailto:DaveLColes@comcast.net)), or Val Aldred ([valdred1@aol.com](mailto:valdred1@aol.com)).

## OPPORTUNITIES TO BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST PINES IS AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY – JOIN US!

Mission Partner	Activity	Date	Location	Contact
<b>The Restoration Team</b>	Assist with storm recovery efforts	Ongoing	TBD	<a href="http://www.therestorationteam.org">www.therestorationteam.org</a>
<b>Sherwood Elementary</b>	Deliver Monthly Food Bags (requires lifting 20 lb. bags)	Around Oct 21 and continuing periodically	Pines to Sherwood	Cindy Coles
<b>Sherwood Elementary</b>	Reading Buddies	Fall	Sherwood	Cindy Coles; Dave Coles, Val Aldred
<b>Sherwood Elementary</b>	Bulletin Board Team	Aug 9, then quarterly	Sherwood	Cindy Coles
<b>Montrose Street Reach</b>	Shop for and deliver food to street ministry	Every other month Thursday evening	Pines to Montrose location	Kathy Ropshaw
<b>Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM)</b>	Assist with clean-up/seasonal re-fresh after 50% off sale	Sunday, November 10, 1-4pm, 10 volunteers needed	MAM	Margaret Schafer
<b>Presbytery of New Covenant</b>	Attend Day of Celebration for Mission Work	Saturday, October 26 (10am-2pm)	St. John's Presbyterian	Dave Coles
<b>Raise Up Families</b>	Christmas Party	Dec 8th 3-6pm Be a Greeter Help in Santa's Wonderland Help with Holiday Bingo	Pines	<a href="#">Sign Up RUF Christmas Party</a>
<b>Raise Up Families</b>	Adopt a Family at Christmas			<a href="#">Sign Up RUF Adopt a Family</a>



The Preschool staff is off to a great start to the 2024-25 school year! Living into the Pines Preschool prayer, "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church TOGETHER" this bunch of ladies are dedicated to ministering to the preschool kids and their families.

(Submitted by Ann Guerra)

### *Memories at Pines...*

*Participating is easy. Just jot down a few paragraphs and your memories will become part of the upcoming Pines History Book. We have pictures of most of our members and we'll include those, too.*

Please tell us:

Your name, and the names of family members, along with the number of years (or months or weeks) you've attended Pines.

What attracted you to Pines and any volunteer work, and maybe a little about friendships made along the way.

Tell us your email address or phone number so we can be in touch with any questions that might arise. We have recent pictures of most of our members that we'll include.

**Submit your memories to [sharondotson@gmail.com](mailto:sharondotson@gmail.com) with any questions. She's here to help. In advance, thanks for your memories. They'll be featured in the 2024 Pines' History Book.**

**Please mark your calendars with the  
NEWSLETTER DUE DATE: October 25 (for the November 2024 issue)**