



## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING CALLED FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9**

The members of the Session of Pines Presbyterian Church have called for a congregational meeting to be held Sunday, October 9, following the 11:00 worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to create a new position for an Associate Pastor. There are several reasons that have led the Session to request creating a new position of Associate Pastor.

The call for the congregational meeting comes as a result of a report from a Mission Study Team that was formed in June. The members of the Mission Study Team were Linda Aldred (Moderator), Mark Babineck, David Sibley, Edith Stinner, and Craig Walker. They were charged to take a look at the staffing situation at Pines, and to bring a recommendation for future staffing needs, especially in light of the graduation of Barbara Retzloff from seminary in June of 2012. After studying the current staffing, the needs of the church, and the staff budget, they brought to Session at the September meeting a motion that Pines create a new position for Associate Pastor. Session accepted their report and voted unanimously to call a congregational meeting to start this process.

The rationale for this action includes the following:

1. Currently, Pines has three people who serve in pastoral roles. Reverend Wayne Eberly serves as Pastor and Head of Staff; Reverend Sam Jun serves as Associate Pastor for Youth and Families; and Barbara Retzloff serves as Director of Discipleship and Education.
2. We anticipate that next spring, Barbara will have completed all of her requirements and will be eligible to be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament and will have earned the title, "Reverend." It is Barbara's desire, one which is supported by Pines, to serve a church in an ordained capacity.
3. The Session feels that Pines needs to be prepared for the change that will take place when Barbara arrives at the time for her ordination. The seminary education and pastoral training and experience that have been present in her service as Director for Discipleship and Education position have been of tremendous value to the life of our church. We want to ensure we continue to have that high level of training and experience in the future.

By creating a new position for an Associate Pastor, Pines will be able to form an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and search for someone to serve in that position in an ordained capacity. We hope that we will be in a place to call an associate pastor by the summer of 2012.

The Presbyterian Church mandates that a congregation conduct an open search when they are seeking a pastor or associate pastor. It has been asked if Barbara would be able to apply for the position of Associate Pastor. The answer is yes, and we ask each and every member of Pines to pray for Barbara and our congregation as we move forward seeking God's will in these exciting days ahead.

Be sure to attend the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 9, immediately following the 11:00 service.

## 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 can even be 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 and known through those who deeply care and listen to our heart. Even when we have loving and caring friends and family sometimes we need a soul friend - who is like salt & water for the soul. That is where the Stephen Ministers come in, Stephen Ministry is the salt and water for the soul. Trained and caring friends walk with you and listen with utmost confidentiality. We hope you will reach out to those who care and are accepting, your Stephen Ministers are here for you. Contact Barbara Retzloff. 713-467-2234.

### “Compassion in Proportion to Cheerfulness”

Presbyterian Outreach to Patients (POP) presents the second annual Asa Hunt Lecture in Spirituality and Healing on Thursday evening, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Rev. Dr. Dave Peterson, Pastor of Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church will be speaking.

The Pines Stephen Ministers and our POP representatives will be attending and invite anyone interested in spirituality and healing to join us! There will be a light supper beginning at 6:00 p.m. followed by the presentation at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church. There is no charge to attend. Reservations should be made online at [www.pop.mdpc.org](http://www.pop.mdpc.org).

### NOTES FROM OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

All choirs are underway with our seasonal music for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. We are working hard each week to prepare and do our best as we lead you through these important seasons of our church year. We welcome our new members and are very happy to have them with us. And we continue to welcome back those who have been on extended vacations and 'out' for various reasons. It is always good to have our people returning to His service through our Music Ministry, and, it is never too late to come and join us. We welcome everyone at any time.



Our Christmas Cantata is “Sing We Now of Christmas” and it is one that all of you will like. It uses favorite melodies throughout and let's the congregation sing some of the favorite older carols. We will use our high school seniors for the narration as well as our orchestra and children's choir. The cantata date is Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup> at both morning worship services.

Thanks to our “**Pines Pealers**” and their director, Bethel Strawser for the lovely music they have been providing already this year. The “**Children's Choir**” will begin in October and meet with their director, Shirley Bollich, each Sunday morning for rehearsal.

Thanks to all of our musicians for their time and commitment in serving our Lord at rehearsals and in worship week after week. With love and God's Blessings to each of you.....Walter

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Volunteers are needed to help with coffee fellowship on Sunday mornings. This is a convenient time for our church family to enjoy some refreshments and visit with each other. Preparation is minimal. The coffee is already prepared! The volunteer is to set up and be ready to serve from 10:20—10:55 and to clean up afterwards. Volunteers can sign up for more than one Sunday. Please contact Shirley Bollich at 713-468-1661.

### DATE FOR EIGHT

Date for Eight is off and running for the Fall session. We have had a very successful participation with over 90 adults and 9 children in 11 groups. If you want to meet more people in Pines and missed our Fall session, watch for signups in January for the Spring session.

### LIFE SAVING NOTICE FOR BLOOD DRIVE!

Please mark your calendars—October 16 is the next blood drive to be held at Pines. Please consider the importance of saving lives with your Blood donation. A few minutes of your time will affect many lives!

## DRY TIMES

These are discouraging times for Texans, as the drought that dried us out all summer has stretched into the fall. Some evidence from tree rings suggests that this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> driest in the last 500 years. We are blessed to live in a city filled with trees, trees that line our streets, give shade in our yards, and cover our parks with a beautiful canopy. Driving my car, walking in neighborhoods, and riding my bicycle in the parks, it hurts to see so many trees that have died. It is hard to survive in a drought.

The drought has been amplified by fire. The Terry Hershey bike trail that runs from the Beltway out to Fry Road in Katy takes you through the George Bush Park. Fires ravaged that park just a few weeks ago, leaving our skies filled with smoke and ashes.

Our city officials have called on us to ration our precious water, running sprinklers just twice a week. We ration water because the water is a limited resource. As Houston requires more water, Lake Conroe is slowly being drained. We don't have enough water to meet the needs.

The Bible knows about dry times. I'm not talking about drought, although the Bible recounts numerous times when the rains did not come and lives were uprooted by the struggles that came with a shortage of water. But the Bible speaks of another type of dry time. The spirit, the soul, the heart of a believer faces periodic times when it feels like there is a drought. Prayers seem to go unanswered, the joy of the Lord slips away, we grow discouraged, our adversaries prosper while we wither, and we just don't know how we will keep from drying out and dying.

The counsel of the Bible brings a word of encouragement. The Bible tells us that God's resources are not limited and his love is not rationed. Recognizing that there are dry times, and that extended periods of drought can cause the soul to wither, we are instructed to be people who stay close to the supply of hope and salvation.

Psalms 1 witnesses to the person who is blessed. That person delights in the law of the Lord and on God's law meditates day and night. What is the result of being a person who makes their dwelling in the living word of God? God promises, "You will be like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither." There is a stream of living water that never dries up. Keep yourself close to that stream, sinking a tap root into that flowing water of healing and salvation.

Jesus uses another image to survive times of drought and testing and trial and tribulation. Jesus describes how we are called to live as people who are destined for a full and abundant life. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." (John 15:5-8)

We survive dry times by turning to the word of God. We survive dry times by abiding in Jesus, completely putting our lives in his hand and looking to him daily for hope and restoration. And we survive dry times by worship. The psalmist cried out, "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?" The psalmist realizes his only hope is to go to the holy mountain, the place where God dwells. He comes to worship. Even in times of drought and doubt, the people of God come to worship. "Then will I go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God." (Psalm 42 and 43)

Dry times come. We see it in nature. We see it in our souls. Remain close to God's beloved Son. Remain close to the word of God. And remain close to God in worship. Weeping may remain for the night, but God promises that rejoicing comes in the morning.

*Wayne*



Oct. 1: "Focus" (Presbytery Event, 10 am-2:45 pm) at St. Philip Presbyterian Church

Oct. 2: "Re-Focus" (Presbytery's Youth Rally at Pines P.C. led by PYCC, 4-6 pm) at Pines Meet at the Fellowship Hall by 4 pm.

Oct. 19: "Unbreakable," Jordan Burnham Event at MDPC (6:30-7:30 pm) Jordan Burnham is an engaging speaker and mental health advocate, and he will describe his secret depression and attempted suicide. Jordan has appeared on CNN, ESPN, and Dr. Phil. Interested youth and youth groups and parents are encouraged to attend! For more information, please contact Ron Langston or Sam Jun.

Come join us for the **Youth Sunday Schools** at 9:30 am! For the 6th-8th graders, meet in the Jr. high class (W-13), and for the 9th-12th graders in the Sr. high class (W-14).



Sponsored by: Interface-Samaritan Counseling Centers

**Wednesday, October 19**  
**6:30-7:30 PM** refreshments to follow  
 Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church | Amphitheater  
 11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024

Jordan Burnham, an engaging speaker and mental health advocate, will describe his secret depression and attempted suicide. Jordan has appeared on CNN, ESPN, and Dr. Phil.

Interested youth, youth groups, and parents are encouraged to attend!

**Co-sponsored by the following:**  
 Grace Presbyterian Church  
 Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church  
 Northwoods Presbyterian Church  
 Pines Presbyterian Church  
 St. Philip Presbyterian Church

For more information, please contact:  
 Ana Schick, Executive Director  
 Interface-Samaritan Counseling Centers  
 4803 San Felipe | Houston, Texas 77056  
 713-626-7990 | Ext. 104  
 aschick@interface-samaritan.com



**Happy Birthday to all who are born in October, and especially to the youth and youth leaders,** Karlee Attleson (10/7), Caroline Kaestner (10/8), Cole Kaestner (10/10), Rebecca Kusko (10/18), Jonathan Pelton (10/28), Zachary Pelton (10/28), Natalie Wright (10/9)



## Keeping Our Kids on T.R.A.C.K.

### Taking Root As Christian Kids



#### Here's what's happening in the festive month of October:

- Oct. 16th, **3rd Grade Bible Sunday** during the 11:00 service. Prayer pals will stand up with their partner as we celebrate this special milestone.
- Oct. 23rd, **Prayer Pal Breakfast** during Sunday school in the children's classrooms. Ask your teachers if you can help bring food for the breakfast. A great way to show them your support and love. Be sure to find out how many are in your child's class.
- A group will leave for **Israel** this month from our church, perhaps you and your child could send a note with one of them to open up when there to know you care for them and are wishing them a great adventure.





The teachers are SO happy to be back to school!

### Adult VBS—Summer 2011

Showing off our beautiful bird houses.

Eating always seems to be one of the best parts of VBS!



And, of course, meeting and greeting!

Cleaning up isn't as much fun, but makes for great fellowship time.



## PINES FAMILY NEWS

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:



Steven and Jill Foster on the birth of their son, John Freeman Foster who was born on September 1 in Austin, TX. John Freeman is the grandson of Mike and Colleen Foster and the great-grandson of Lloyd Foster and Carol Cullen.



Pease pray for the family of John Olney who passed away recently. John and Dortha were long time members at Pines and had moved to Corpus Christi to be near family.

### Thank You

Dear Pines Family: Thank you for many acts of love and kindness during my surgery and continuing recovery ... the prayers, notes, cards, phone calls, visits, gifts of food and flowers and rides. It has been comforting to both me and my family that I have such a loving, caring support group.

God bless, Georgette Person

I want to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, and support for me following the death of my father.  
Lynn D'Antoni

### PINES ADULT CHRISTMAS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

It may still be hot outside, but we are now officially in our fall season. Therefore it is time to start planning for Christmas and all those great festivities. Our Pines Adult Christmas Progressive Dinner is one of those great traditions and we are starting our plans for it. It will be on Saturday, December 3rd starting at 6:00 pm.

The appetizers and main course will be in the same house (to avoid one more trip) and prepared in a potluck style. The host family will provide their favorite meat and each participant will bring an appetizer or a side dish to complement the meat course.

After the main course, we will all progress around 8:30 pm to Pines Fellowship Hall for the famous desserts and coffee course. This will be an opportunity to interact with the whole group, usually around 150 people.

We will try to organize around neighborhoods or small regions, so travel time will be minimized. So mark your calendars and reserve December 3rd. You can signup on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> or November 6<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. There will be a charge of \$5 per person to cover expenses.

### MINISTRY TO THE PORT OF HOUSTON CHRISTMAS GIFT BOX PROGRAM 2011

Starting in 1963 with the dream of a Belgian sea captain who had immigrated to the U.S., and through the efforts of many, two Seafarers Centers – Houston and La Port – became places for seamen to go to in the Port of Houston. The mission of this organization is to carry out a ministry of presence, outreach, witness, worship, service, and advocacy to, with, and for seafarers and their families from around the world. Thousands of ships call in Houston every year, and the chaplains (which include two Presbyterians) try to visit every ship. The centers are supported by the community and local churches.

In 2010, the **Christmas Gift Box Program** placed 10,209 gifts on board 442 ships which had seafarers from 71 different countries. These gifts were donated by 251 churches and organizations. We are once again asking for your help to provide gift boxes from Pines to seafarers during the holiday season. A collection box is currently in Fellowship Hall for your donations of:

band-aids	combs	dental floss	deodorant	disposable razors	flashlights
Kleenex	Q-tips	lotions	lip balm	nail clippers	needle & thread
shaving cream	soap	shampoo	toothbrushes & paste		address books
calendars	disposable cameras		gum	hard candy	key chains
paper & envelopes	pencils & pens	playing cards	puzzles	games	postcards
socks	stamps	Texas souvenirs		T-shirts	baseball caps

Some of these items might be available from places where you do business or from your employer's marketing department. Please bring your donations by Sunday, November 13th. We have 50 shoe-box sized plastic boxes which we will fill, wrap, and take to the port. Keep in mind that most of the gifts should be items for men. There are very few women and children onboard. Year-round donations are also appreciated and might include: magazines (especially *National Geographic*, *Reader's Digest*, news, entertainment, sports, science, nature), paperback books, jigsaw puzzles and other games, and DVDs. For more information: – Gayle Cook, Benevolence Committee

Pines Presbyterian Women

**Invite you**

*to attend our*

# Jablescapes Luncheon

*our theme speaker is:*

**Shannon Perry**

*speaker, singer, author, and radio host*



Saturday, October 8th, 2011

11:00 am - 1:30 pm

(check-in begins at 10:45 am)

Luncheon attire, please  
Childcare will be provided

## "If the Shoe Fits..."

Our luncheon features beautifully decorated tables  
designed by these individual hostesses:

Tracy Allison  
Susan Babineck  
Lynda Barr  
Terecia Burgess  
Mary Clark  
Karen Clingan  
Carol Cullen  
Laura Fallon  
Carol Greene  
Toshi Hayre  
Kezzie Kamp  
Lodie Mueller

Becky Neisig  
Janice Pannell  
Virginia Rutherford  
Connie Sipp  
Donna Smith  
Lesa Smith  
Peggy Smith  
Lynn Stauffacher  
Angela Stinner-Trimble  
Edith Stinner  
Yohanna Tirayoh

*The Men of Pines will be our gracious waiters*



## ***BROOKWOOD COMMUNITY***

It's my honor to play for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in the BROOKWOOD GOLF MARATHON. I'll be teeing it up on November 5<sup>th</sup> at Houston Oaks Country Club. I plan to play 100 holes of golf that day to help raise funds for Brookwood. Last year, they raised a total of \$550,000, and they're hoping to do the same in 2011. I'm hoping that some of the golfers at Pines will support me in this effort. Please call or e-mail me if you would care to participate. Any and all donations are appreciated!

Checks made payable to **Brookwood Community** can be sent to me:

Bob Smith  
11530 Gallant Ridge Ln.  
Houston, TX 77082  
281-920-1399  
[Bobsmith99@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Bobsmith99@sbcglobal.net)



*(Santa Bob and a Brookwood Citizen at the 2010 Golf Marathon)*

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