



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

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THE PINE NEEDLE – JANUARY 2022

A Note from the Pastor

Every year, I visit my doctor for a physical. I am sure most of you know the drill. The doctor pokes, prods and listens. Blood work is drawn. The point of this yearly exam is to keep an eye on what is going on with my body and to catch any problems that might go undetected. While being poked and prodded is not comfortable (I hear it will get worse as I get older), it's an important part of staying healthy.

Just as we require some poking and prodding physically, we need it spiritually to. Sometimes problems can lie just beneath the surface and might go undetected until they trip us up. A new year is a great time to stop and ask ourselves some probing questions. Such a practice helps us examine our spiritual life over the past year and show us areas in which we need God's help to grow. The following questions are offered to help guide you in such reflection.

1) How did I do this past year in following Jesus through the spiritual disciplines?

	1	2	3	4	5	
Reading Scripture	<input type="checkbox"/>	1) I didn't do this at all.				
Prayer	<input type="checkbox"/>	2) I did this once or twice.				
Worship	<input type="checkbox"/>	3) I did this occasionally				
Fellowship	<input type="checkbox"/>	4) I did this more often than not.				
Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	5) I did this consistently				

2) How did I do this past year in allowing the Holy Spirit to make me more _____?

	1	2	3	
Loving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1) I struggled in this area.
Joyful	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2) I think I am about the same in this area
Peaceful	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3) I grew in this area.
Patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

- Gentle
- Faith-Filled
- Generous
- Self-controlled

3. How did I do this year at loving others as Jesus loved me?

- | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Family | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| With Friends and Neighbors | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| With Those in need | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| At Work or School | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| With Strangers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- 1) Not well
- 2) Average
- 3) Room for improvement
- 4) Well

4. What sins did I struggle with this past year? (Check all that apply)

- Impatience Pride Lust Greed Gluttony (over eating)
- Neglecting care of my body Anger Gossip Envy/Jealousy Vanity
- Lying/Deception Unforgiveness

5. As I look ahead to 2022, I would like to grow in my:

- Reading Scripture Worship Prayer Fellowship Service

6) As I look ahead to 2022, I would like to become more _____:

- Loving Joyful Patient Kind Gentle
- Faith-filled Generous Self-controlled

7) What tangible steps will I take in 2022 to grow in these areas?

Usually after the lab results are in and after the exam is done, my doctor sits down with me and discuss the findings. Rather than simply telling me I need to lose weight (for example), he (or she) will discuss what resources or interventions are available. Supplements, medicines, exercises, surgery, etc.

Unfortunately, we can sometimes feel left alone when it comes to our spiritual results. We want to do better, but we don't really know how. If you would be interested in such a conversation, please know that I would be honored to sit down and discuss anything you've learned during this exercise. I would be happy to help you find resources and methods to help you grow this year.

May 2022 bring us all closer to Christ and may we all see our hearts and character transformed.

Thank You

We have been so blessed by the generosity of the people of Pine Street during the Holiday season. The gifts, cards, and other remembrances mean a lot to us. We hope that your holiday was as blessed as you made ours. Thank you. Pastor James, Michelle, Karis and Isaac

The Pastor's Bookshelf

Have you ever wondered what the Pastor has been reading lately? What books are influencing his thought process? Here's just a few of the books Pastor James has read recently:

- *A Trowel and A Sword: Prayer Practices for those on the Front lines of the Gospel* by Verlon Fosner and Jon Davis
- *Finding Our Way: Reclaiming the First-Century Church for the twenty First Century* by Jeff Lockyer
- *Transforming Worship: Planning and Leading Sunday Services as if Spiritual Formation Mattered* by Rory Noland
- *Emotionally Healthy Discipleship* by Pete Scazzarro.

Introducing: Church Wide Reads

If you know anything about me (Pastor James), you know that I am an avid reader. Walk into my office and you'll find four bookshelves full of books. (I have read many of them, but, not all.) Often, after reading a book, my mind will be turning over lots of new ideas and trying to figure out how what I read applies to the church. I often wish someone else would read the book with me. And now you can!

The Church Wide read is an opportunity for us to read four books together this year (roughly one each quarter). My hope is that if we all read the same book, it will help direct our minds in the same direction. It will spark unity. It will lead to some new and (hopefully) interesting conversations. It will raise our knowledge level as a church.

I'll pick a book each quarter that we'll read together. It might be a book that speaks to a specific issue we are facing. It might be a book that our Bishops or consultants recommend. It might be a book that is generating a lot of conversation in other churches. There's a lot of books that I could choose! You are invited to read the book at your own pace over the quarter. I'll schedule a few book "chats" for those who wish to talk about what we've read.

Our first Church Wide Read will be *Worship on Earth as it is Heaven* by Rory Noland. *Worship on Earth as It Is in Heaven* is a book that speaks to us as we re-learn what it means for us to worship together. In it, Rory Noland helps us think beyond our preferred styles of worship as individuals and helps us focus instead on the God we worship. Noland's book helps us grow both as individual and as corporate worshippers. It contains practical suggestions for incorporating worship into our personal lives, as well as tips for how to worship more fully as part of the congregation.

We'll tentatively plan on book chats:

Sunday January 30th at 11:00am (after the service)

Tuesday February 22nd at 6:30pm

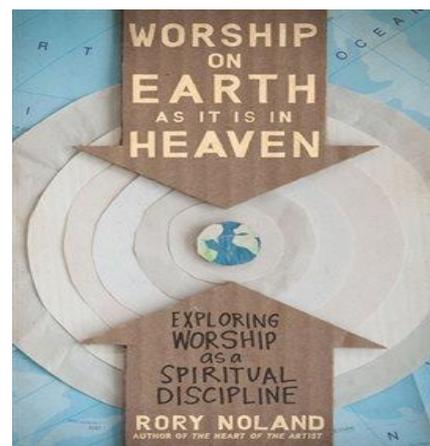
Saturday March 26th at 9:00am

Feel free to attend whichever chat best fits your schedule. And don't be afraid to read the book even if you can't attend one of the chats. It will still benefit both you and our church.

The book can be purchased from Amazon or Christian Book. A digital version can be obtained through the Hoopla app available through the JVB library. I have also purchased several copies that will be available for the congregation to share. Simply sign one out when they are available and return it when finished.

I look forward to our conversation!

~ *Pastor James*



OFFICE HOURS –

Monday - Friday – 8 AM – 2PM

See us on the web and on Facebook <http://www.pinestreetumc.org>

Worship Schedule

9AM and 11 AM

Nov. 21st 10AM

STAYING CONNECTED

RADIO SERVICE You can tune in at **9AM** on WWPA 1340AM and 101.7 FM

Not able to make it to in-house worship? You will now be able to join us by "**Live Stream.**" The links will be found each week on our Facebook page or go to www.pinestreetumc.org

FEBRUARY PINE NEEDLE

Please have any material for the **February Pine Needle** in the church office no later than Friday, January 21st. **If possible, please send all articles to the church via email or provide a typed copy.**



A very Happy Jubilee Birthday to those who are age 85 and above.

Jean Robbins January 12th

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends on the recent death of:

Mary Dodge
Anthony Parente

ALTAR FLOWERS

Open Date for Altar flowers – January 30th

Would you like to provide altar flowers in memory of or in honor of someone? Cost for flowers is \$25 and we order them from Janet's Florist. If so, Please contact Barb Flock at 570-326-6970.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Pledge to Mission Service 2022: "Healing Leads to Joyful Sacrificial Giving"

Objective: to prayerfully consider increasing our individual" Pledge to Mission" giving of ourselves by stretching to increase our pledge so that United Methodist Women may continue to support women, children and youth.

Our first meeting for 2022 will be held on Wednesday, January 19th at 1:30 p.m. in the Narthex. Suzanne Heilman is in charge of the program. All women of the church are invited. Thank you. ~Pat Wittig & Suzanne Heilman

ANGEL TREE

There is still time to bring in things for the DWELL Angel Tree. We will be collecting until the week of January 2, 2022.

- Family-Friendly Board Games and Card Games
- Lego sets for children of all ages
- Arts & Craft sets for children
- Sticker-by-number books for children
- New children's clothing in all sizes and seasons
- Grocery store gift cards (for foster parents)

DONATIONS FOR TORNADO DISASTER RELIEF.

If you wish to provide financial assistance to the relief and recovery effort, click on the link to UMCOR'S U.S. Disaster Response web page: <https://umcmmission.org/united-states-disaster-response/100%> of this giving is used for disaster response and enables UMCOR to provide grants to disaster response ministries. Or **donations may be made directly to the church with "Tornado Disaster Relief" in the memo line.**

*Thank
you* 

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. For the LORD is the great God, and the great King above all gods. In His hand are the deep places of the earth the heights of the hills are His also. The sea is His, for He made it; and His hands formed the dry land. Psalm 95:1-5

Thank you John Piper, and Larry Fryda for the rides to Geisinger. Also, thank you Linda Helsel, and Karen Cook for the delicious food. I really appreciate all the favors given to me. ~Carol Shultz

I wish to thank my Pine Street family for the many good wishes I received on the occasion of my Jubilee Birthday (plus two). The many cards, phone calls, and other gestures of kindness were very much appreciated. ~Pat Wittig

Thank you so much for the delicious chicken and vegetable soup. We enjoyed it for lunch on two days. It was very kind of you to think of us. The soup really boosted our spirits. Thank you again. Your soup ministry is soup-er! ~Margaret Schell

Thanking God for the example of your life and heart for him. I got another card from all of you and my college connection. I just wanted to say Thank you for all you have done to bless me during my time here at LBC! I am always excited to see mail and you have been so kind to me! Thank you all, and Merry Christmas!
~Alex McWilliams

Thank you for the cards, which regularly appear each month. We especially appreciate the Bible verses on the cards. They are meaningful to us. Most of all, thank you for thinking of us. Sincerely, ~Margaret and Joan Schell

Dear Prayer Chain, My deepest thanks to you for your prayers for my sister Marjorie Ann Pepper. She passed away peacefully as you had prayed. I am sure she entered into Gods' love graciously also as you had prayed for her. My love and thoughts for you. ~Nancy Patil

Thank you so much for the altar flowers. The bouquet of yellow and maroon mums, white carnations, ornamental grass and statice was beautiful. Thank you especially to Cathy Marr who brought us the flowers and visited with us. We really appreciate your thinking of us. Sincerely, ~Margaret Schell

Dear Friends, thank you so much for inviting us to be with you this summer in worship. Your generosity is deeply appreciated. Thank you for standing with us in prayer as together we seek to be champions for the cause of orphans, vulnerable kids and the families that love them. We can't do this work alone! ~DWELL

Thank you for your servant hearts! We are grateful for your meal contributions and serving at Saturday Dinner Church. You bless us as well as our Sojourners as you participate in this ministry.
~Sojourner Truth Ministries

Sunday Morning Refreshments

The Sunday Morning Hospitality team is looking for individuals or families that would like to provide refreshments on Sunday mornings. Homemade items are acceptable. If interested in providing refreshments some Sunday, please contact Gail Maurer at 570-419-4781.

If you would like to help, but are unable do so in person, donations are being accepted towards purchasing "pre-packaged" snacks to be provided alongside Homemade items. Checks or cash may be noted "refreshment fund" and placed in the offering box in the narthex/lobby.

We look forward to our time of fellowship before and after the service.



WAYS TO SUPPORT PSUMC FINANCIALLY

Updates from Gail Maurer, Financial Secretary:

I'm pleased to report that as of 11-30-21, we have received 48 Estimate of Giving cards totaling close to \$166,000. Thanks to each of you as you support our current ministries. Anyone who hasn't completed a card yet is invited to still do so.

For those who requested information to start **e-giving**, go to WWW.pinestreetumc.org (our website) and click the GIVE button near the top.

Here on our website you can setup a one-time gift or a recurring gift using your bank account or by debit card.

The first time you go to our online giving page, you need to create **Your Online Profile**. This only needs to be done once. During this process, you will enter your email address and create a unique password. Record your password in a secure place for your records. You will also enter your bank information including the type of account, your routing number and account number. If you create a recurring donation, you won't need to log in unless you desire to change the amount or schedule of your donation. You may then use the password you created to log in to your account.

You will have the option of giving to the General Fund (which is Current Ministries), the Capital Campaign Legacy Fund, Memorial Gifts or Special Gifts. This is a secure site where you control everything, but if you have any questions, please call me at (570) 419-4781.

Weekly offering Envelopes



Pine Street United Methodist Church
441 Pine Street
Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701

MY OFFERING

FEB 16 2020

MY GIFT FOR
CURRENT MINISTRIES \$ _____

Name : _____

Address : _____

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN \$ _____

"God loves a cheerful giver. For God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more so that there will not only be enough for your own needs, but plenty left over to give joyfully to others." -11 Cor. 9:7-8

Offering envelopes are available from the church office.

Also, green offering envelopes are available for those who wish to use them. And as always, cash or checks may be given. Due to Covid we have a locked box in the Narthex for you to drop in your offering as you enter or leave. Some also wish to mail in their offering to the church office.

Pine Street UMC

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Year's Day
2 10:00 am Worship	3 5:00 pm BSF AA Meeting WH	4 BLAST	5 10:30 am Weight Watchers 6:00 pm Weight Watchers	6 10:30 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	7 BLAST	8
9 10:00 am Worship	10 5:00 pm BSF AA Meeting WH	11 BLAST	12 10:30 am Weight Watchers 6:00 pm Weight Watchers	13 BLAST Memorial Service - Mary Dodge 10:30 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	14 BLAST	15
16 10:00 am Worship	17 5:00 pm BSF AA Meeting WH	18 3:00 pm BLAST UM Foundation of PA	19 BLAST UMW Meeting 10:30 am Weight Watchers 6:00 pm Weight Watchers 6:30 pm Leadership Meeting	20 BLAST 9:30 am Springman Book Club 10:30 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	21 BLAST	22
23 10:00 am Worship 1:00 pm Lycorning College event	24 5:00 pm BSF AA Meeting WH	25 BLAST	26 BLAST 10:30 am Weight Watchers 6:00 pm Weight Watchers	27 BLAST 10:30 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	28 BLAST District & Band Festival	29 District UMW Mtg.
30 10:00 am Back-up Lycorning College event Worship	31 5:00 pm BSF AA Meeting WH					

**Pine Street United Methodist Church
441 Pine Street
Williamsport PA 17701**



January 2022



Pine Street United Methodist Church

Our Vision

Show Christ's Love

Teach God's Truth

Share the Gospel

How is God calling you to fulfill our vision?

Have you checked out the website for Pine Street? www.pinestreetumc.org

Check out Pine Street UMC Facebook page

Witnessing to our faith and serving Christ in our Community