



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

441 Pine Street, Williamsport PA 17701

(570) 323-4604

Pastor James B. Wooster, Jr.

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THE PINE NEEDLE – MAY 2022

A Note from the Pastor

In January of this year, we introduced the idea of a Church-Wide Read: one book that we would read and discuss together. Over the past several months, several of us at Pine Street have read *Worship on Earth as it is in Heaven* by Rory Noland.

I recently had a conversation with one of our members who was in the process of reading the book. She told me “I haven’t even finished it yet and it has already transformed the way I worship!”

One of the reasons that I chose this book is that worship is one of the hot-button topics here at Pine Street. We all have our opinions: one service or two, traditional or contemporary. We all have our own individual preferences when it comes to how we like to worship. We spend a lot of time talking about (and even arguing about) our opinions and preferences, but very little time talking about how God prefers to be worshipped.

The temptation is for us to say “it doesn’t matter to God as long as it’s sincere.” But that’s not exactly true. There are plenty of passages throughout the Bible that tell us God cares very much about how we worship. The Old Testament contains detailed instructions regarding calendars, altar furniture, priestly clothing. Even the New Testament talks about what sort of worshippers God wants, the need for proper order during worship services, and how members should behave during communion. It turns out that God has a lot to say about what happens in our worship services, we’ve just been too busy talking about our preferences to notice His.

In *Worship on Earth as it is in Heaven*, Rory Noland looks at biblical examples of worship. He explores what the Psalms have to say about our personal worship. He then points out that according to Revelation, we will spend eternity worshipping God not privately but corporately. He then takes us through worship in the book of Revelation and helps us grow as corporate worshippers.

As way of review for those that have read the book, and as a way of encouraging those that haven’t, here are the top eight take-aways (one from each chapter).

Growing as a personal worshipper:

1. Make Worship a Priority

2. Establish a Regular Routine
3. Smash Your Idols
4. Worship Amidst Adversity

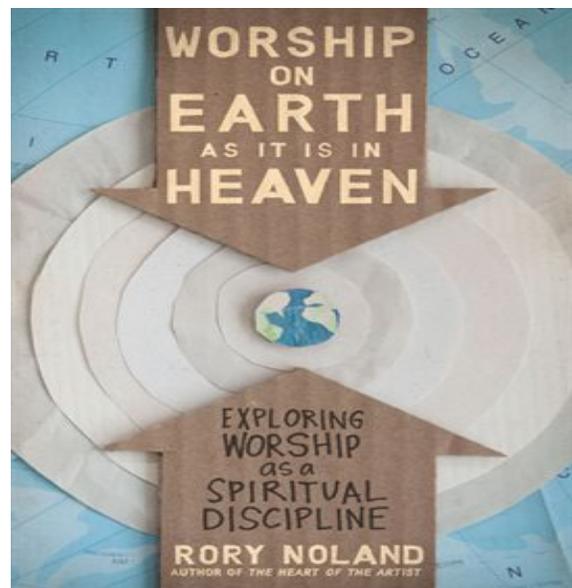
Growing as a Corporate worshipper

1. Focus on God's Attributes
2. Bring God Your Best Worship
3. Set Aside Personal Preferences
4. Embrace Diversity

If you haven't picked up the book yet, there is still time. You can of course track down your own copy if you wish. The book is available through both ChristianBook and Amazon. If you'd rather borrow a copy, we have copies available on a table in the Lobby. (Gentle reminder if you have taken a copy, please return it so that others can read it).

We have scheduled a few additional opportunities to talk about the book as well. We will be holding book chats on the following dates: Sunday, May 15th at 11:15 a.m., Monday, May 23rd at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday, June 12th at 11:15 a.m..

~ Pastor James



Adult Sunday School Class

Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. The class uses the Serendipity Bible for Groups and is located in the meeting room. Modern day topics are chosen along with readings from the Bible. Then the readings are followed by thought provoking questions that are discussed by the group. No prior knowledge or weekly readings are needed. All adults are invited to attend. Quint & Trish Bower look forward to having you!



Notes from the Office:

God continues to bless us through the use of our building. More events means more visitors. For insurance and security purposes, here are a couple things being put into practice now:

Events & Activities: When planning, please contact Lisa at the office to verify the date(s) and room(s) you wish to use are available. You may not be aware of everything already scheduled.

Entering & Exiting: Please notify the office when you are in the building and when you are leaving. This helps in the event of a safety or security issue.

Thank you

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

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**SMALL GROUPS:** Please prayerfully consider beginning or becoming a part of a small group. A small group can have any number of different interests: a typical Bible study, a Sunday School class, an exercise or walking group, any type of craft or handiwork, going out to eat, or to the movies, a book club...you get the idea. Every small group should include a devotion and a time of prayer. If you are willing to begin a small group, please let the office know the details. The office can provide you with a devotional or prayer materials, if needed. Your group can include a mix of church

members, friends, neighbors or coworkers. It is a great way to introduce people to Pine Street Church.

**FRONT-LINE MINISTRIES:** Many opportunities currently exist for you to serve: Hospitality Team, Family Promise, Food Bank, Bloodmobile, Children's Sunday School, Special Meals Ministry, Transportation, Social Services and involvement in downtown community activities such as Frist Friday. If interested, contact the church office @ (570) 323-4604 or by email at [office@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:office@pinestreetumc.org).

### **Pine Street Church Foundation Grants for 2021**

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you...for blessing our ministry with your generous gift toward the installation of our much needed furnace. Your kindness is humbly received with our sincere gratitude. ~ Sojourner Truth Ministries

Sojourner Truth..."the rest of the story"

Northway Presbyterian Church closed and the building was about to be razed. Sojourner Truth Ministries needed to replace the furnace in the former High Street UMC. A friend of Sojourner Truth encouraged the new owners of the property, Louis and Nicole Miele, to donate the furnace to Sojourner Truth and they did. Many thanks for the generosity of the Miele's. Sojourner sent a request to Pine Street Foundation for \$5,000.00 to help with the installation of the donated furnace. Our Foundation responded with a check for the requested funds, and now you know... The ministries in our city are intertwined in many and surprising ways! We are grateful that our past leaders had the foresight and desire to aid and strengthen methods for outreach and ministry!

Brothers & Sisters in Christ...Thank you for your generous gift to our FOCUSED program. Each week our volunteers pack an unbelievable amount of food that ensures our children do not go to bed hungry over the weekends. We are truly blessed through partners like you. ~ West End Christian Community Center FOCUSED Program

### **PRAYER CHAIN**

Do you have someone or something you'd like us to lift up in prayer? A need? A decision? Life changes? Maybe patience, wisdom or understanding... **Our Prayer Warriors are available for you!** Prayer requests may be submitted to Carole Fulmer or Marilyn Kern, in the offering box or the church office ([office@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:office@pinestreetumc.org)).

**MAY HAPPENINGS @ PINE STREET**

**May 7<sup>th</sup> – First Saturday, 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. Located at the Church. Volunteers needed. Contact Lisa**

**May 15<sup>th</sup> – Book Chat, 11:15 a.m. following the worship service**

**May 16<sup>th</sup> – Food Bank 1p.m.-3p.m. Contact Karen Cook**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> – UWF Women’s Banquet, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Details in UMW section**

**May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Family Promise Volunteer training, 11:15 a.m. following the worship service**

**May 30<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day Holiday**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

**Opportunity blooms!** The following Sundays in **JUNE** are available for anyone wishing to have flowers on the altar “in memory” or “in honor” of someone. June 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 26<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements cost \$25.00. If interested, please contact Barb Flock at (570) 326-6970 or email: [flocks339@comcast.net](mailto:flocks339@comcast.net)

**RED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST**

Price: \$3.25 each

Place order(s) and payment in the offering box or the church office. Make checks payable to Pine Street UMC and include “Geraniums” in the memo line. Order deadline is Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>.

You may pick up your plant(s) following the Worship Service on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> .

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**GERANIUM ORDER FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due: \_\_\_\_\_



# **THE PINE STREET CHRISTIAN MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP**

This Scholarship was established in 2021 to be funded by the Sterrett Education Fund upon recommendation of the Pine Street UMC Education Committee. The Leadership Board shall authorize a scholarship of up to \$1,000.00 per year from the Sterrett Education fund for any church member or immediate family member's tuition or other expenses in pursuit of education/training for full-time Christian ministry. The recipient of the scholarship shall meet the same requirements that are required for our other scholarships.

The awarding of the scholarship shall be decided by the Scholarship Committee: Chair, Pastor, Chair of Education Committee, Coordinator of Christian Education Ministries (or successor staff position).

## **GUIDELINES**

Guidelines for awarding of this scholarship:

1. Award is for one year at a time and may be renewed each year by reapplication.
2. Recipient will receive one-half of the grant for the fall term and the second half upon receipt of a grade report indication a C+ or better average. Succeeding grants will be considered upon receipt of the grade report for the previous year.
3. The applicant will certify that he/she does not use tobacco or illegal substances of any kind.
4. Attention will be given to the applicant's past and present church activities which will be stated on the application.
5. Two letters of recommendation are required for the initial application.

Failure of the applicant to supply all the requested information including a grade report of the previous semester may prevent further consideration.

## **COLLEGE CONNECTION**

Do you have a current Pine Street UMC college student or one heading to college in the fall? Please share their information with us (name and college address)! We would like to include them in our program. College Connection is a ministry where PSUMC provides gift cards for snacks and encouragement to help college students through exam weeks and throughout their school year.

Want to participate with College Connection? We can always use gift cards, Burger King, McDonalds, Sheetz, Dunkin Donuts, etc. You can drop them off at the church office during regular business hours or put them in the offering box on Sundays (located in the Lobby). Label them "College Connection". Maybe you'd like to send a note of encouragement, a prayer or your favorite Bible verse. Please contact Cindie Snyder at 570-323-5089.

Thank you for your interest and investment in our young people.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

### **We got a new name... United Women in Faith (UWF)**

**WOMEN'S BANQUET** (formerly Mother/Daughter Banquet) – **Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.** Tickets are on sale NOW! See Pat Wittig Sundays following the Worship Service or Lisa @ the church office daily 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Adults - \$13.00, Children under 12 - \$7.00.

The meal is filled chicken breast, mashed potatoes, gravy, glazed carrots, applesauce and assorted cakes. The meal will be served by the men of the church.

Students from Williamsport Area High School Band will entertain us with show tunes. Join us for an evening of food, fellowship and good music.



Part of our mission...thank you for being a part of a strong history and even stronger mission “to meet human needs in His name without discrimination..” Be assured that we will be doing the most good with the treasure you have entrusted to us. ~ Major Sheryl Hershey, The Salvation Army, regarding our Advent offering to them.

You always show up...thank you to All who helped, volunteered, donated and prayed during Hbly Week. Our events were successful and we are thankful for the opportunity to bless our community. ~ Pastor James

## WAYS TO SUPPORT PSUMC FINANCIALLY

**E-giving:** Go to [WWW.pinestreetumc.org](http://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.

Also, green offering envelopes are available for those who wish to use them. And as always, cash or checks may be given. We have a locked box in the Lobby. Some also wish to mail in their offering to the church office.



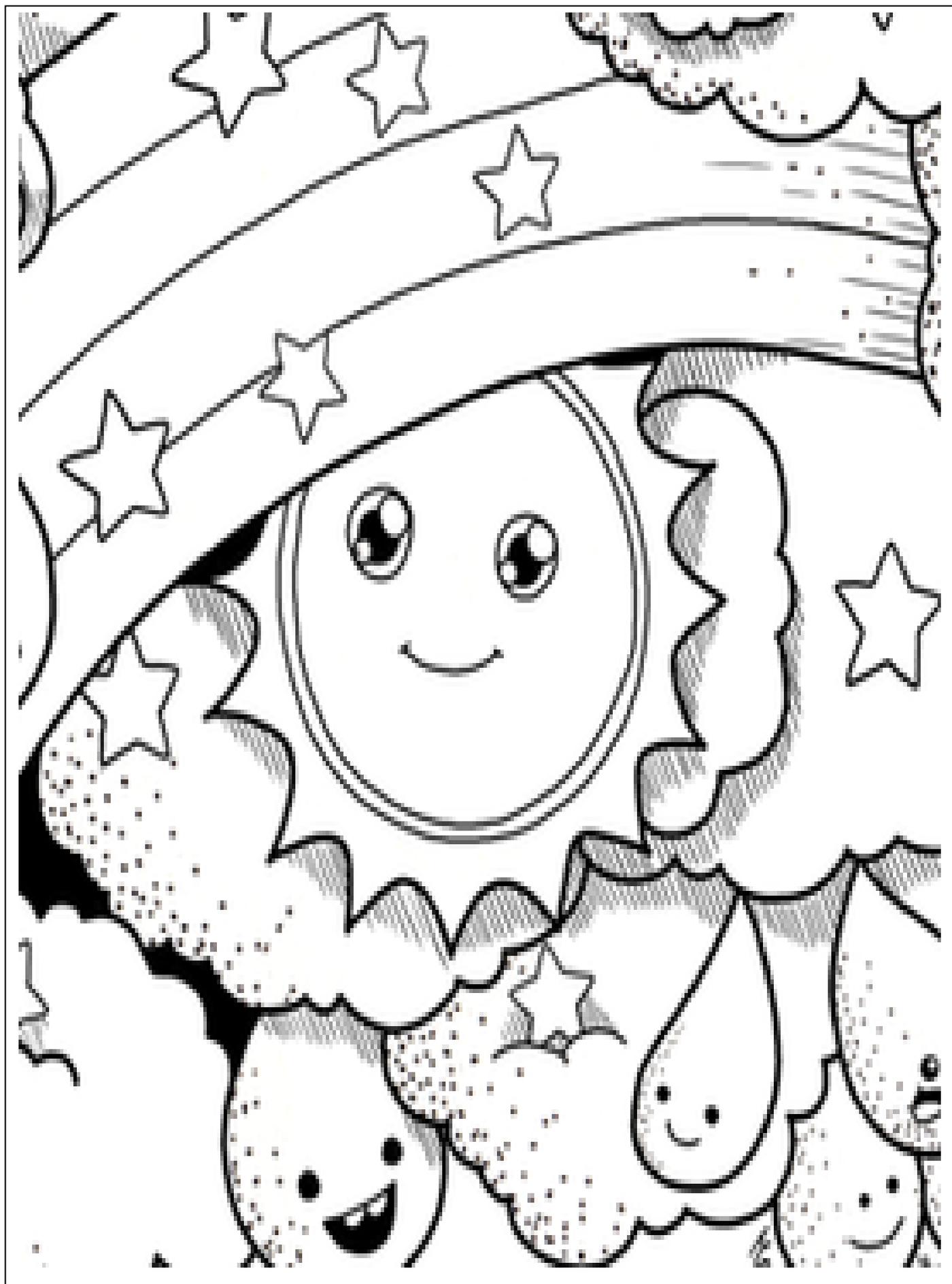
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## **JUNE PINE NEEDLE**

Please have any material for the **JUNE Pine Needle** in the church office no later than Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. **If possible, please send all articles to the church via email or provide a typed copy.**

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

Robert Norton



# Pine Street UMC

# May 2022

| Sunday                                                                                                             | Monday                                                                                                    | Tuesday                                         | Wednesday                                                                                                                   | Thursday                                                                                             | Friday                                                      | Saturday                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship                                                | <b>2</b><br>BLaST<br>5:00 pm BSF<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH                                                 | <b>3</b><br>BLaST                               | <b>4</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers                                                    | <b>5</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Praise Team<br>7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir                                 | <b>6</b><br>BLaST                                           | <b>7</b><br>9:00 am First Saturday Event<br>2:00 pm YPAA |
| <b>8</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship                                                | <b>9</b><br>BLaST<br>PSSA Testing<br>5:00 pm BSF<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH                                 | <b>10</b><br>BLaST<br>PSSA Testing              | <b>11</b><br>BLaST<br>PSSA Testing<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers                                   | <b>12</b><br>BLaST<br>PSSA Testing                                                                   | <b>13</b><br>BLaST                                          | <b>14</b>                                                |
| <b>15</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship<br>11:15 am Book chat                         | <b>16</b><br>BLaST<br>1:00 pm Food Bank<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH                                          | <b>17</b><br>BLaST                              | <b>18</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers                                                   | <b>19</b><br>BLaST<br>9:30 am Springman Book Club<br>10:30 am Praise Team<br>7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir | <b>20</b><br>BLaST<br>6:00 pm United Women in Faith Banquet | <b>21</b>                                                |
| <b>22</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship<br>11:15 am Family Promise Volunteer Training | <b>23</b><br>BLaST<br>Keystone Testing<br>10:00 am Book Chat<br>1:00 pm Outreach<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH | <b>24</b><br>BLaST<br>Keystone Testing          | <b>25</b><br>BLaST<br>Keystone Testing<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers<br>6:30 pm Leadership Meeting | <b>26</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Praise Team<br>7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir                                | <b>27</b><br>BLaST - if needed snow day                     | <b>28</b>                                                |
| <b>29</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship                                               | <b>30</b><br>6:00 pm Memorial Day Holiday<br>AA Meeting WH                                                | <b>31</b><br>12:00 pm Lyco Cty Band Dir. Assoc. |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                      |                                                             |                                                          |

Pine Street United Methodist Church  
441 Pine Street  
Williamsport PA 17701



May 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](http://www.pinestreetumc.org)

Check out Pine Street UMC Facebook page

**Witnessing to our faith and serving Christ in our Community**