



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 – June 2022

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

For kids (and many adults) summer means more time sleeping in, swimming, hanging out with friends, and watching TV. Summer activities replace time spent on reading, working on math skills, and problem-solving.

Everyone needs a break and a chance to have fun, but educators are well aware of the “Summer Slump.” Teachers know that when students return in the fall, their academic skills are a little rusty. One study determined that students lose about one month of classroom learning each summer.

There’s also a “summer slump” that happens in churches every summer. Just as students avoid class work, we can become lackadaisical in our discipleship. It’s very easy to say, “It’s such a lovely day, it won’t hurt to miss one Sunday……” And before you know it, you’ve missed more Sundays than you’ve been present. During the rest of the year, you may be pretty faithful about giving regularly, but when summer gets here, you miss a Sunday and while you intend to make it up the next week, somehow it gets overlooked and the check never gets written out. It may not seem like that big of a deal, but it’s dangerous because we’re allowing our summer fun to become more important than our obedience to God’s commands and our spiritual growth enters a slump.

Additional studies have made it clear that a variety of interventions (for example, summer reading programs, and educational computer games) can help prevent the summer slump academically. There are also some interventions we can implement to prevent a spiritual slump this summer.

The bible makes it pretty clear that we “should not give up meeting together as some are prone to do.” That includes the summer months. So, start planning ahead now. Plan now to be in worship. Unless you’re a teacher, you’ll most likely get up and go to work during the summer even on those really nice days. Why not do the same on Sundays? Show up at worship and thank God for the lovely day! (Teachers, this does not let you off the hook!)

You’ve likely already spent time investigating hotels, restaurants, and attractions at your summer destinations. Take a few moments and investigate churches in the area too. With the availability of information on the internet, it’s very easy to find out when and where churches are worshipping. Besides, they might be doing something that you can bring back and share with Pine Street! (I would be remiss if I did not mention that you can also join Pine Street via our Live Stream every Sunday morning.)

The bible also says, “Generous people plan to be generous.” And that’s good advice. Intentionally plan to be generous this summer. It’s easy for our summer giving to slip. So, just like you budget for vacation, take some time now and decide what you want to give this summer and find a way to make

it happen. If you need to write out one check for the whole summer, go ahead. If you need to track your giving using your offering envelopes, do it. If you need to mail your check in to the church while you're away, someone will be here to open the envelope. If you need to sign up for E-giving, sign up! (I highly recommend the e-giving option! You can set it up to last only for the summer. Why not give it a try?)

Summer reading is not just for kids. Make it a goal to pick up the Bible and read this summer. We've published two devotional guides to help you grow in your Bible reading this summer (You'll find more information about them elsewhere in the newsletter). Might I also suggest that this summer would be a great opportunity to read our church-wide read book, "Worship on Earth as it is in Heaven?" If you're still not sure what to read, come talk to me! I would be happy to help.

No matter what your summer plans are here's hoping that we can avoid a spiritual slump!

SUMMER WORSHIP

We're calling this summer "Psummer of the Psalms." It doesn't take a Biblical scholar to figure out that we'll be exploring the book of Psalms this summer.

As the blurb on our summer bible study book says, "The book of Psalms is well-known and well-worn". It is the Old Testament book most often quoted in the New Testament, and its quotations can be found everywhere from John Milton to *Star Trek* to Congressional speeches. Why so much attention? The Church Father Athanasius said it best- "most of the scripture speaks *to* us, but the book of Psalms speaks *for* us." Even though they are thousands of years old, the Psalms can speak for and to us today. What do they have to say?

While we will spend most Sundays looking at various psalms, we'll also have a few guest speakers and even a bit of fun thrown in!

Here's the summer schedule at this point:

June 5- Pentecost Sunday, communion

June 12- Psalm 3

June 19- Guest Speaker: Rev. Paul Amara, Williamsport District Superintendent

June 26- Psalm 46

July 3- A service of our National Songs (Outdoor service, weather permitting)

July 10- Psalm 103, communion

July 17- Guest Speaker: Angelique Ladbardie, Sojourner Truth Ministries

July 24- Christmas in July

July 31- Psalm 124

August 7- Psalm 8, communion

August 14- Guest Speaker: Alex McWilliams

August 21- Psalm 91

August 28- Back to School Sunday

September 4- Labor Day Weekend, Summer Wrap Up and Hymn sing

Worship Schedule
9AM Adult & Youth Sunday School
10AM Worship
10AM Children's Program

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 are able to join us by "**Live Stream.**" The links will be found in the weekly email, on our Facebook page each week or go to www.pinestreetumc.org

June Worship Calendar

June 5 – Pentecost Sunday

June 12 - Psalm 3

June 19 – Father's Day, Rev. Paul Amara, Wmspt. Dist. Superintendent

June 26 – Psalm 46

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. 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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**GRADUATION SUNDAY: June 26<sup>th</sup>.** If you have a graduate, please let us know their name, name of school and degree by Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. We would like to honor their accomplishment.

### **SMALL GROUPS: Good News! A new small group has formed!**

Friends of Pine Street UMC is under the leadership of Carole Fulmer. Their one goal is to do random acts of kindness. There are NO meetings and NO dues, but there is one "TO DO". We want our group to perpetrate acts of kindness on others in the name of the group. For more information or to join, contact Carole Fulmer at [cfulmer2@comcast.net](mailto:cfulmer2@comcast.net) or (570) 322-4185.

*\*\*It is when a community works together that it grows together\*\** Come, join us!

**FRONT-LINE MINISTRIES:** Many opportunities currently exist for you to serve. If interested, contact the church office @ (570) 323-4604 or by email at [office@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:office@pinestreetumc.org).

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

### Summer Collections

**June 5-19** we will be collecting for the YWCA. The YWCA is working to eliminate homelessness and create better lives for those who experience abuse. Liberty House and Wise Options houses residents at the YWCA. Exit baskets are given to residents as they leave the program and set up their own homes. Kitchen items are needed: Pots & pans (sets or individual), plastic containers, foil & plastic wrap, can openers, dish towels & cloths as well as other items used in a kitchen.

**July 3-17** we will be collecting for Sojourner Truth Ministries. The collection will be presented to Pastor Angelique on Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. They request the following items: Postage stamps, bleach & cleaning cloths.

Check the Lobby for collection boxes. Thank you for helping our community.

## **Transform 2022**

**August 1-5.** This is a week-long volunteering event in which we come together as people of the community to SERVE PEOPLE in our community.

Here's how it works: homeowners and non-profit organizations are able to make us aware of needs they have with which they could use a neighborly hand: such as yard work, painting, weatherizing, small construction projects...etc. Then, throughout August 1-5 **anyone** is able to volunteer their time. We mobilize teams and send them out to these different projects that have been submitted to us and get it done! At the end of the week, we will be able to see dozens of homes and nonprofits in our community that have been benefited.

You can volunteer as an individual, with a friend or as a team. Any amount of time works ie. A few hours, a half day, a whole day, several days or the whole week! Please contact the church office for an application for help, to sign up or for more information.

## **First Saturday**

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** (date change from June 4<sup>th</sup>), **July 2<sup>nd</sup>** & **August 6<sup>th</sup>**. **It happens on Pine Street!**

Each Saturday has a theme, we create a little theme related craft to do with the children, that's it. We are seeking individuals to help. We are also collecting small (4 to 6 oz. by Sun., June 26<sup>th</sup>) bottles of bubbles for July's craft. Contact Pastor James or Lisa at the church to sign up.

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

A gift of \$3,300.00 was presented to the FOCUSED program (Feeding Our Children United Serving Each with Dignity). Each week their volunteers pack an unbelievable amount of food that ensures our children do not go to bed hungry over the weekends. Their bellies need to be filled before we can fill their heads. The average is 1,100 bags each week. Each bag costs about \$2.50; multiply that by 1,000, there is a cost of \$2,500 each and every week. Over a school year that is \$102,500. This gift was a combination of \$3,000 from the Foundation and \$300 from our Souper Bowl Sunday soup sales. We are truly blessed.

## **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)).

## **JUNE HAPPENINGS @ PINE STREET**

|                                              |                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>June 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup></b>  | <b>Annual Conference.</b>                           |
| <b>June 8<sup>th</sup></b>                   | <b>UWF Spring Picnic, 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall</b> |
| <b>June 12<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Family Promise</b>                               |
| <b>June 13<sup>th</sup></b>                  | <b>YMCA Summer Program begins</b>                   |
| <b>June 14<sup>th</sup></b>                  | <b>Bloodmobile 1 p.m.- 6 p.m.</b>                   |
| <b>June 19<sup>th</sup></b>                  | <b>Father's Day</b>                                 |
| <b>June 20<sup>th</sup></b>                  | <b>Food Bank 1 p.m.-3 p.m.</b>                      |
| <b>June 25<sup>th</sup></b>                  | <b>Open Dance 7 p.m.</b>                            |
| <b>June 26<sup>th</sup></b>                  | <b>Graduation Sunday</b>                            |
| <b>July 2<sup>nd</sup></b>                   | <b>First Saturday</b>                               |
| <b>July 4<sup>th</sup></b>                   | <b>July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday (Office Closed)</b>  |

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

**Opportunity blooms!** Anyone wishing to have flowers on the altar “in memory” or “in honor” of someone please contact Barb Flock at (570) 326-6970 or email: [flocks339@comcast.net](mailto:flocks339@comcast.net)

## **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.

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

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

**June 8<sup>th</sup> – UWF Spring Picnic, 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall. Susan Swank-Cashera will be joining us and speaking on Women's Health. See Pat Wittig for details.**

## *Congratulations, Pat!*



*Pat Wittig*

*Valiant Woman Award 2022*

May Friendship Day Celebration, May 6, 2022, Presentation Speech

The Valiant Woman Award is presented by local chapters of CWU in "recognition of a woman who has given longtime service to CWU, her own church and her community and who lives the Gospel message in her own life".

This year we are honoring Pat Wittig for her many years of dedicated service to CWU in Lycoming County.

I've known Pat for 22 years and in that time I have been witness to her tireless dedication to all that she does, including her volunteer work for her church at Pine Street, its people and its mission. She approaches her work for CWU with the same energy and love.

When I was asked to present the award today I decided to do some research on how long Pat has actually been in her present position as Ecumenical Action Chairperson. Going through

past minutes I can document 22 years...but I bet it has been a lot longer! I personally have never known a world without Pat in charge of the Christmas Stocking project! I did a little math and Pat has been instrumental in planning, purchasing, setting up and delivering 22,000 stockings to area nursing homes!!! That's approximately 132,00 gifts for seniors to brighten up their Christmases.

Anyone who knows Pat knows she is always busy! No wonder, a few years after I got to know her and see her in action in the community, at her church and especially with CWU I gave her an affectionate nickname, "The Energizer Bunny!" because she keeps on going and going and going. Always helping, always doing good and always smiling. Pat, we are so grateful to you for all your years of joyful service.

*Thank  
you* 

A special thank you to Kris Attavino, Joe Bielski, Larry & Glenda Breon, Al & Karen Cook, Larry Fryda, Thelma Lentz, Mary Pewterbaugh, Margaret Piper, Marion Reeser, Paul & Mary Smith, Pat Wittig, Paula Yenner for volunteering at Central PA Food Bank in May. We packed 250 boxes of food in 2 hours to tunes of the past.

## **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 set up 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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## **JULY PINE NEEDLE**

Please have any material for the **JULY Pine Needle** in the church office no later than **Monday, June 20<sup>th</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:

Rhonda Portanova

Roberta Harris

# Pine Street UMC

# June 2022

| Sunday                                                                                                          | Monday                                                                                                            | Tuesday                                                                               | Wednesday                                                                                                             | Thursday                                                                               | Friday                                                         | Saturday                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                       | <b>1</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers                                              | <b>2</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Praise Team                                              | <b>3</b><br>BLaST                                              | <b>4</b><br>3:00 pm Memorial Service<br>(Rain locaton) |
| <b>5</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship                                          | <b>6</b><br>BLaST<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH                                                                        | <b>7</b><br>BLaST                                                                     | <b>8</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>5:30 pm UWF Spring<br>Picnic<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers              | <b>9</b><br>BLaST<br>10:30 am Praise Team                                              | <b>10</b><br>BLaST                                             | <b>11</b><br>2:00 pm YPAA                              |
| <b>12</b><br>9:00 am Family Promise<br>Adult & Youth<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship<br>11:15 am Book chat | <b>13</b><br>BLaST<br>Family Promise<br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>9:00 am Social Service<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH | <b>14</b><br>BLaST<br>Family Promise<br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>1:00 pm Bloodmobile | <b>15</b><br>BLaST<br>Family Promise<br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers | <b>16</b><br>BLaST<br>Family Promise<br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>10:30 am Praise Team | <b>17</b><br>BLaST<br>Family Promise<br>YMCA<br>Summer Program | <b>18</b><br>Family Promise                            |
| <b>19</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship                                         | <b>20</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>1:00 pm Food Bank<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH                                 | <b>21</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program                                                   | <b>22</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers                            | <b>23</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>10:30 am Praise Team                            | <b>24</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program                            | <b>25</b><br>7:00 pm Open Dance                        |
| <b>26</b><br>9:00 am Adult & Youth<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 am Worship                                         | <b>27</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>6:00 pm AA Meeting WH                                                      | <b>28</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program                                                   | <b>29</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>10:30 am Weight Watchers<br>6:00 pm Weight Watchers                            | <b>30</b><br>YMCA<br>Summer Program<br>10:30 am Praise Team<br>7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir |                                                                |                                                        |

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



**June 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**