



*Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.*

441 Pine Street, Williamsport PA 17701

(570) 323-4604

Pastor James B. Wooster, Jr.

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

[office@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:office@pinestreetumc.org)

## **THE PINE NEEDLE – October 2022**

### **A Note from the Pastor**

It was William Shakespeare that wrote “What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet?” It’s Juliet’s lament that Romeo’s last name is Montague, the sworn enemy of her family. She fell in love with Romeo before knowing his name and it seems unfair that now simply because of his last name she cannot love him. Juliet’s argument is that names are arbitrary, put upon us from the outside. No matter what we named it a rose would still be a beautiful flower. No matter what his name is, Romeo is still the man she loves. A name, Juliet would say, tells us nothing. . . . But that’s where Juliet is wrong!

Names may feel arbitrary and put upon us by the outside world. Names may not change who we are. But names can and do tell us something about the person’s story. Are they named after someone? Do they go by first, middle or last name? Do they have a nickname? Do some people call them one thing while others call them something else? Names can help guess someone’s age. They can tell us what books or movies the parents have been exposed to. Names are often chosen with a special meaning. Friends of mine had a series of miscarriages, when their daughter was born they chose to name her Zoe, which means “life.” When Juliet asks “What’s in a name,” we must answer quite a bit actually!

Why all this talk of names? Sunday, October 2nd is World Communion Sunday. And I thought it might be beneficial for us to think about the names by which we as Christians refer to the sacrament. What do those names bring to the table? What do they tell us about what we’re doing? What layers of meaning does each name point to?

The name we at Pine Street probably use most is “Communion.” Communion comes to us from the same root word as “community” It should be no surprise then that referring to the sacrament as communion emphasizes the relationships that are present at the table. First and foremost is our communion, our relationship, with God. When we break the bread and drink the cup, God somehow

gives something of himself to us and we offer ourselves to him.. But calling the sacrament communion also underscores our relationships with one another. Every time we gather at the table we gather together with “All God’s people on earth and all the company of heaven.” In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul emphasizes the importance of the community when he critiques “those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ.”

Another name that is often used in our tradition is “The Lord’s Supper.” Referring to the sacrament as a supper emphasizes the overwhelming hospitality of God. Jesus is the host and we are invited guests. It also reminds us that the sacrament is a meal. It reminds us of the numerous times both before and after the Resurrection that Jesus shared meals with those he loved. We remember the events of Maundy Thursday when Jesus gathers with his disciples to celebrate the Passover. We also remember Jesus’ resurrection appearances, specifically the Road to Emmaus story from the Gospel of Luke when the disciples recognize the Risen Christ when he breaks bread with them. We can sometimes miss that when we gather at the table, we are also being given a foretaste of heaven, a pledge “until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.” Thus, when we participate in the sacrament, we “proclaim the mystery of our faith: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.”

Sometimes you hear the sacrament referred to as “The Eucharist.” You’ll hear this occasionally in the Methodist church, but you are most likely to hear it from the Orthodox, Catholic or Lutheran traditions. Eucharist is an ancient word that literally means “good grace.” It is often translated “Thanksgiving” (thus our communion prayer is called The Great Thanksgiving). It reminds us that our participation at the table is not simply something we do because the pastor put it in the bulletin, but rather a response to God’s grace that comes from deep within us. According to the book of Acts, the early Christians “broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.” When we break the bread and drink the juice, we are recalling all of God’s mighty actions throughout history. When we celebrate the Eucharist, we are joyfully giving thanks for God’s mighty acts in our lives and our response is to “offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ’s offering for us.”

In the Catholic tradition, a service offering the sacrament is referred to as a “Mass.” The word “mass” comes from the Latin word “missio” from which we get our word “mission.” It literally means “sending forth.” When we take the bread and the cup, we are being sent forth with God’s blessing and God’s provision to live as God’s people in the world. The grace that we receive in the sacrament is not meant to be selfishly kept to ourselves, but rather shared with the world. We pray that God would make the bread and juice “be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may be for the world the

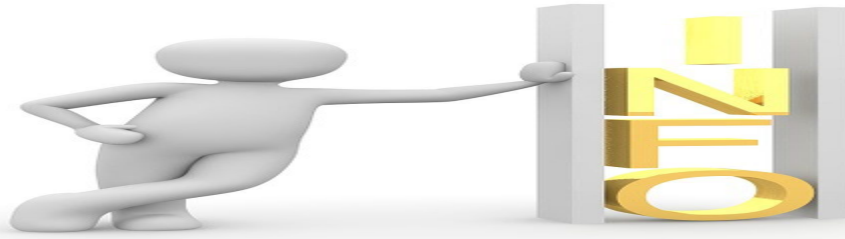
Whatever we call it: Communion, The Lord's supper, Eucharist, Mass. . . . May God impart his grace to our hearts as we partake of this Holy Mystery. Amen.

A photograph of a rustic wooden table. On the table are several items: a white ceramic cup of black coffee, a white ceramic cup of black coffee with a small blue heart on its side, a blue ceramic cup of latte with a white heart-shaped foam design on top, a small white plate with a single brown donut, a clear glass jar with water and a metal mesh filter, and another clear glass jar with water. The background is dark and out of focus, showing the legs of wooden chairs.

We invite you to join us following the Sunday morning worship service for some fellowship & refreshments. **We want to get to know you!** And if you would like to provide refreshments (homemade or bought) any Sunday, please contact Gail Maurer at 570-419-4781.

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

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



**Social Services Committee** is reorganizing and looking for new members. If you are looking for a service opportunity, this may be the chance for you to “get in the game”. If interested, contact the church office @ (570) 323-4604 or by email at [office@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:office@pinestreetumc.org).

**John Bower Sunday School Basketball League** – Starting in December. After two years of limited or no games we will be back in full operation. Any child may play. League divisions for boys and girls, range from kindergarten through seniors in high school. Games are on Saturdays. To sign up, please contact the church office (570) 323-4604.

**Trunk or Treat** – Wednesday, Oct 26<sup>th</sup> 4p.m.-6p.m. in the church parking lot. Bring your car and hand out candy from your trunk. Even better if you dress up or decorate your trunk! Supply your own candy or use ours. Cars should be in place by 3:45 p.m. Not a “trunk fan” then help pass out hot dogs & water. Fun for All! \*Candy donations accepted.

**All Saints/All Souls Day** - This year we will be celebrating All Saint's Day on Sunday October 30th. All Saints' Day is the Church's annual day of remembering and giving thanks for those who have influenced our lives and our church. While we remember all that have gone before us, it is traditional to specifically name those that have passed away over the past year. If you have names of loved ones that have passed away within the last year, that you would like to have remembered, please submit them to the office by October 23rd. Those remembered do not need to have been members of or affiliated with Pine Street.

**Charge Conference** – November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2 p.m. @ Pine Street UMC

### **ON THE CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER @ PINE STREET**

<b>Oct 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Food Pantry collection begins</b>
<b>Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, &amp; 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>JVB Library Book Sale in Fellowship Hall. 10/6 – 5p-8p, 10/7 – 9a-6p &amp; 10/8 - 9a-3p</b>
<b>Oct 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Music Together begins, 10:15 a.m. in the Agape Room. Ages 0-6 yrs.</b>
<b>Oct 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Food Bank, 1 pm – 3 pm</b>

<b>Oct 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Bloodmobile, 1 p.m.-6 p.m., Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>Oct 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>United Women in Faith, 1:30 p.m. in Lobby</b>
<b>Oct 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Leadership Meeting, 6:30 p.m. in Lobby</b>
<b>Oct 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>LAPS yard sale, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. in Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>Oct. 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Trunk or Treat, 4 p.m.-6p.m. in Pine Street Church Parking Lot</b>
<b>Oct 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Open Dance, 7 p.m. Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>Nov 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Hospice Memorial Service, 6 p.m. in Sanctuary</b>

### **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

October 19<sup>th</sup> - UWF Meeting in Lobby @ 1:30 p.m.

.....

#### *Community events and dates of interest*

Crop Walk – Sunday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> @ 1 p.m. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 142 Market St., Wmspt

Community Gospel Choir – Looking for singers! Practice is Tuesdays 5:00 p.m. @ Diamond Street Christian Church, 822 Diamond St., Wmspt. Contact Ron Johnson @ (570) 974-8681.



### **PRAYER CHAIN**

Do you have someone or something you'd like us to lift up in prayer? A need? A decision? Life changes? **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)).

## **WAYS TO SUPPORT PSUMC FINANCIALLY**

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2023 will be ordered by October 10<sup>th</sup>. Want them? No longer want them? Contact Lisa at the church office by Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

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.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **NOVEMBER PINE NEEDLE**

Please have any material for the **November Pine Needle** in the church office no later than **Monday, OCTOBER 24<sup>th</sup>**. If possible, please send all articles to the church via email or provide a typed copy.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>9am - Adult &amp; Youth</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>5pm - BSF</p> <p>6pm - AA Meeting WH</p>	<p>4</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>5:30pm - West Branch</p>	<p>5</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>JV Brown set-up</p> <p>10:30am - Weight</p> <p>6pm - Weight</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:30am - Praise Team</p> <p>5pm - JV Brown Book</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9am - JV Brown Book</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9am - JV Brown</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9am - Adult &amp; Youth</p> <p>10am - Worship</p> <p>1pm - Crop Walk @ St.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Columbus Day</p> <p>1pm - Food Bank @</p> <p>6pm - AA Meeting WH</p> <p>6:30pm - BSF</p>	<p>11</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>5:30pm - West Branch</p>	<p>12</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>10:30am - Weight</p> <p>6pm - Weight</p>	<p>13</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>10:30am - Praise Team</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>BLaST</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9am - Adult &amp; Youth</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>17</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>1pm - Red Cross</p> <p>6pm - AA Meeting WH</p> <p>6:30pm - BSF</p>	<p>18</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>5:30pm - West Branch</p>	<p>19</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>10:30am - Weight</p> <p>1:30pm - UWinFAITH</p> <p>6pm - Weight</p> <p>6:30pm - Leadership</p>	<p>20</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>10:30am - Praise Team</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>10am - Set up Laps Yard</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8am - Laps Yard Sale</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9am - Adult &amp; Youth</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>24</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>6pm - AA Meeting WH</p> <p>6:30pm - BSF</p>	<p>25</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>5:30pm - West Branch</p>	<p>26</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>10:30am - Weight</p> <p>4pm - Trunk or Treat</p> <p>6pm - Weight</p>	<p>27</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>10:30am - Praise Team</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>28</p> <p>BLaST</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7pm - Open Dance</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9am - Adult &amp; Youth</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>31</p> <p>BLaST</p> <p>6pm - AA Meeting WH</p> <p>6:30pm - BSF</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>

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



**October 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**