



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 – February 2023

A Note from the Pastor

It may seem like a small thing, but where you sit on Sunday morning matters!

Interesting, isn't it? When we go to a concert, play, or sports event, we want to be as close to the action as possible. We're even willing to pay top dollar for it! (A front row seat at this year's Super Bowl will cost you upwards of \$10,000 a ticket). Yet, when it comes to worship, for some reason, everyone wants to sit in the back.

The past several Sundays, I've been inviting you to move forward, because where you sit matters. . .

It matters to those watching us on Live Stream. One of our shut-ins shared with me that she watches via live-stream and the church looks empty. She tunes in wanting to feel part of the congregation, hoping, at least, catch a glimpse of her friends, and instead she sees an "empty" sanctuary.

It matters to those looking for a church family. Nowadays, many people will visit a church online before ever showing up in person. When they tune into one of our services (live or recorded), they too see an empty sanctuary.

It matters to people who may be running late. It's frustrating enough to be running late for something. But when you realize that you've got to walk in front of 70some people, it can be downright embarrassing. Many people would rather not take that "walk of shame" and simply go home. However, saving a few easy-to-get-to spots in the back can make a difference. (Additional note: It's also helpful to sit towards the center of the pew rather than closest to the aisle).

It matters to parents of small children and people with medical needs. People with small children or medical needs often prefer the back because they never know when they'll need to make a quick exit. And nobody wants the congregation watching as they drag their two-year-old down the aisle. And nobody wants everyone to know when they need to make multiple trips to the restroom. (The above note about sitting towards the center of the pew applies here as well.)

It matters to the pastor and worship leader. I'll go ahead and admit it. It matters to me. (I can't speak for Karl and Kristin, but I suspect it's true for them as well). When I was involved in theater, I was always amazed at the difference having an audience makes. It's the same on Sunday morning. It makes a big difference to us when we can hear you participating. It makes a difference when we can make eye contact with you. But when there's a large gulf between us, it certainly makes it more difficult.

So where you sit matters!

Let me close with an experience my friend Dave had once. He was reading and praying through the book of Revelation and he was reflecting on the great multitude of worshippers that surround God's throne. He found himself wondering where he would be in that great crowd. He felt God say to his spirit "The same place you are Sunday Morning."

Pastor James

Praying For Pine Street with the Apostle Paul

Each month, we're featuring one of the prayers the Apostle Paul prayed over his churches. We invite you to allow his prayers to shape and inform your prayers for Pine Street, others and even yourself.

Try praying the passage itself, making Paul's prayer your own by slightly paraphrasing it to insert either your name, the names of others or Pine Street Church. Pray through the full prayer several times, covering various persons and groups, and adjusting the pronouns as needed.

This month's prayer is from Colossians 1:9-12.

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.



Leadership Team Update (1/18/23)

Committee members were assigned to the following sub committees:

SPRC – Lynne Koskie, Stacy Rhoads & Kathryn Penfield

Trustees – Dave Bair, Allen Page & Dale Diermyer

Finance – Brian McWilliams & Barb Flock

Donna Diermyer reviewed all financial reports in detail. There were no action items.

Discussion took place regarding the following pending action items:

- 1) Gathering estimates for a phone system replacement
- 2) The need to purchase at least 1 or possibly 2 new defibrillators
- 3) Request by the YMCA to use our facility from June 12 through August 26 for 24-30 4th & 5th graders for a weekday summer program

Please keep the Leadership Team in your prayers as they seek to serve both Christ and his Church.

- ☐ Pray for members of the Leadership Team to gain wisdom from the Word.
- ☐ Pray for members of the Leadership Team to speak boldly on behalf of the Lord.
- ☐ Pray for members of the Leadership Team to have perseverance and courage during difficult times.
- ☐ Pray for members of the Leadership Team to honor God in all their decisions.
- ☐ Pray for members of the Leadership Team to have patience with members of the church.
- ☐ Pray for members of the Leadership Team to lead their congregation on a godly path of righteousness.



Fellowship & Refreshments

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.

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## OFFICE HOURS –

**Monday - Friday – 8 AM – 2PM**

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

## Worship Schedule

**9AM Adult & Youth Sunday School**

**10AM Worship**

**10AM Children's Program**

## STAYING CONNECTED

**RADIO SERVICE:** You can tune in at **9AM** for our previous week's service on WHPA 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](http://www.pinestreetumc.org)



**2022 MEMORIAL GIFTS** to Pine Street Church: We have been blessed by these members and friends in our lives, and we continue to be blessed by others' remembrances of them through our Memorial Funds which are used to enhance our ministries beyond budgeted items: Wesley and Mary Dodge, Carolyn Rosser, Connie Dahl, Robert Norton, Rhonda Portanova, Robert Burd, Anthony Parente, Marian and Quinton Beauge, Brayden Thomas, Walter and Marian Schell.

**Souper Bowl Sunday** – Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. Chef Mike will be at it again and soup will be available in the Lobby following the morning worship service. A free-will offering will be accepted. Proceeds will go to one of our partner agencies (ie. Family Promise, Sojourner Truth Ministries, Dwell) to help with unexpected costs.

**Plastic flower boxes**...we are in need of the small plastic rectangle size for Altar flowers. If you have any you can donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Questions? Please contact Barb Flock @ 570-326-6970

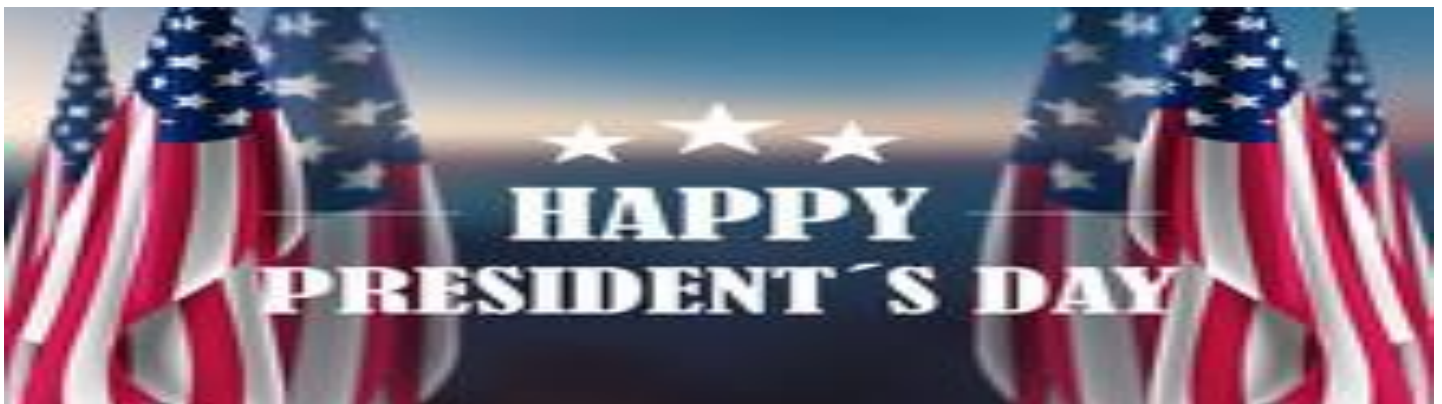
**Administrative Assistant wanted:** Faxon-Kenmar UMC, 1301 Clayton Ave, Wmspt, PA, 12 hours per week. See [Faxonkenmar.org](http://Faxonkenmar.org) for details about the position and the application process.

Administrative Assistant Position: United Churches of Lycoming County. You will be responsible for the supervision and daily operation of the United Churches Office. To learn more about this position please email Tammy @ [director@uclc.org](mailto:director@uclc.org) or call the office at 570-322-1110

Altar Flowers...Sunday Feb 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday Feb 26<sup>th</sup> are available. Do you have someone you would like to recognize? Contact Cathy Marr @ 570-433-0244

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

- Feb 11<sup>th</sup>**      **Sweetheart Dinner, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Food by The Food Guy™ (chicken, roasted potatoes, green beans & salad). Music by the Williamsport H.S. Big Band. Dancing & Dance Lessons. \$20.00 per person. Tickets on sale now. Contact Donna Diemyer @ 570-322-5775 or Lisa @ the church office. Join us for an evening out.**
- Feb 12<sup>th</sup>**      **Souper Bowl Sunday**
- Feb 14<sup>th</sup>**      **Happy Valentines Day**
- Feb 15<sup>th</sup>**      **United Women in Faith, 1:30 p.m. in the Lobby**
- Feb 15<sup>th</sup>**      **Leadership Meeting, 6:30 p.m. in the Lobby**
- Feb 16<sup>th</sup>**      **Bloodmobile, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Gym/Fellowship Hall. Go to American Red Cross website to sign -up to donate. Contact the church office to volunteer.**
- Feb 20<sup>th</sup>**      **Presidents Day**
- Feb 25<sup>th</sup>**      **Open Dance, 7 – 10 p.m. Gym/Fellowship Hall**



### **Scholarship Applications**

Scholarship help is available from funds given to the church. A gift is designated for music students. If you are going to study music in college, you may be eligible for tuition assistance or help with lesson fees. If you are going to attend one of our United Methodist Colleges, you may be eligible for tuition assistance from the R. Andrew Lady Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship

Committee will receive the applications due June 5<sup>th</sup> and determine the recipients. Applications are available from the church office. ~ Nancy Lady

## **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

February Meeting – February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 p.m. in the Pine Street Lobby. Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. Please join us.

This year's offering will support the ongoing racial justice work of the UWF's national office.

Our foremothers authored the Charter for Racial Justice decades ago. Today your gift supports both our campaign to interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline and our long-standing work building member's capacity to implement the Charter at all levels of the organization.

Suzanne Heilman, program chair. All women are welcome.

Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Church Women United World Day of Prayer, 1:30 pm @ St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – UWF Women's Retreat @ Best Western in Lewisburg.

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## *Community events and dates of interest*

Widow's Valentine Luncheon celebrating "The Sweet Love of God", February 11<sup>th</sup>, 12 (noon) p.m.-2 p.m. at Lycoming Valley Baptist Church, 4980 Lycoming Mall Rd., Montoursville. RSVP by Feb 8<sup>th</sup>. Phone or Text 570-772-2961.

Bus Trip – February 20<sup>th</sup> to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Departing from First United Methodist Church @ 5:45 a.m. Cost is \$70.00. This includes the bus transportation and museum admission. Make your reservation by emailing [office@duclc.org](mailto:office@duclc.org) or calling 570-322-1110.

Rigatoni & meatballs dinner to support Mama Arlene Brown and the kids of Urukundo, Rwanda. March 25<sup>th</sup> 4 p.m.-7 p.m., St. John's UMC-Newberry. \$10.00 adults, \$5.00 kids under 6 for early sales. \$12.00 at the door. Let's us cook dinner for you.

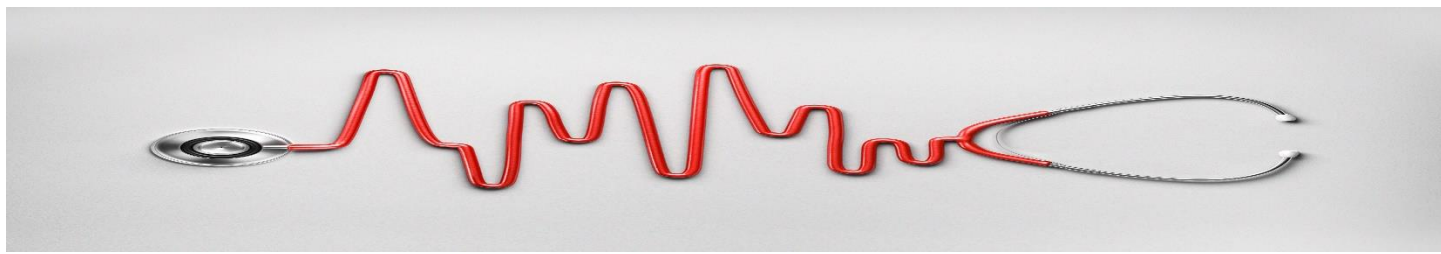
Rise Up Village Bakery...now a ministry of the United Churches of Lycoming County. Order your baked good needs here [riseupvillagebakery@gmail.com](mailto:riseupvillagebakery@gmail.com). You can receive notice of their weekly offerings by email or check the listings on their Facebook page.

AA (Acceptance is key), Pine Street's Wesley Hall, Mondays @ 6 p.m.



BSF (Bible Study Fellowship), Pine Street UMC, Mondays resuming January 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7 p.m.  
See Bible Study Fellowship online for additional details.

Weight Watchers, Pine Street's Wesley Hall, Wednesdays @ 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.



### *Thank you...*

Your financial and prayer support make it possible for us to reach out to our neighbors touching them with God's love, grace and hope ~ Tammey, United Churches of Lycoming County

I give sincere thanks to God for laying upon your heart the ministry of the Shepherd of the Streets. May God abundantly bless you as you continue to serve him through your generous giving ~ Rev. Mark Brumbach

I am doing well with my recovery from surgery. All the lovely cards I received were greatly appreciated. Thank you fellow Pine Streeters!! ~ Lynne Hopkins

Please know that you are making a difference for homeless children and their families and those in our community right here in Lycoming County. Thank you for your kindness & support ~ Jenny Hull, Family Promise

Thank you Pine Street Family for all your prayers and cards while I was hospitalized and in recovery. You were all a wonderful blessing to me ~ Ginny Kieser

The family of Laura Jean Long wish to thank their Pine Street family for the many expressions of sympathy shown them at the time of Laura Jean's passing. The family enjoyed the delicious lunch and want to thank those who provided the food and those who served the lunch ~ Brenda Beaghley



## PRAYER CHAIN

**Prayer changes things!! Our Prayer Warriors are available for you!** Prayer requests may be submitted to Marilyn Kern at [pennstate326@aol.com](mailto:pennstate326@aol.com), placed in the offering box or directly to the church office ([office@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:office@pinestreetumc.org)).

## **WAYS TO SUPPORT PSUMC FINANCIALLY**

*Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7*

2023 Offering envelopes will be distributed as soon as we receive them. 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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## **MARCH PINE NEEDLE**

Please have any material for the **March Pine Needle** in the church office no later than **Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. If possible, please send all articles to the church via email or provide a typed copy.

## **Dail-A-Devotion**

570-322-5762

Available 24/7



| Sun                                                                      | Mon                                                                               | Tue                                                               | Wed                                                                                                                    | Thu                                                                                | Fri                                | Sat                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 29                                                                       | 30                                                                                | 31                                                                | 1                                                                                                                      | 2                                                                                  | 3                                  | 4                         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                   |                                                                   | BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                                            | BLaST<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>6pm - Kieser Volleyball<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir | BLaST                              |                           |
| 5                                                                        | 6                                                                                 | 7                                                                 | 8                                                                                                                      | 9                                                                                  | 10                                 | 11                        |
| 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship                             | BLaST<br>5:15pm - Music Together<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF           | BLaST<br>5:30pm - WB Strengthening                                | BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                                            | BLaST<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>6pm - Kieser Volleyball<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir | BLaST                              | 6pm - Sweetheart Dinner & |
| 12                                                                       | 13                                                                                | 14                                                                | 15                                                                                                                     | 16                                                                                 | 17                                 | 18                        |
| Souper Bowl Sunday<br>9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship       | BLaST<br>5:15pm - Music Together<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF           | BLaST<br>9:30am - Sander's Valentine<br>5:30pm - WB Strengthening | BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>1:30pm - United Women in<br>6pm - Weight Watchers<br>6:30pm - Leadership Meeting | BLaST<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>1pm - Bloodmobile in<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir    | BLaST                              |                           |
| 19                                                                       | 20                                                                                | 21                                                                | 22                                                                                                                     | 23                                                                                 | 24                                 | 25                        |
| 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship                             | Presidents' Day<br>5:15pm - Music Together<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF | BLaST<br>5:30pm - WB Strengthening                                | BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                                            | BLaST<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>6pm - Kieser Volleyball<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir | BLaST<br>11:30am - PMEA District   | 7pm - Open Dance          |
| 26                                                                       | 27                                                                                | 28                                                                | 1                                                                                                                      | 2                                                                                  | 3                                  | 4                         |
| 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship<br>1pm - Miller B'day Party | BLaST<br>5:15pm - Music Together<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF           | BLaST<br>5:30pm - WB Strengthening                                | Ash Wednesday<br>BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                           | BLaST<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>6pm - Kieser Volleyball<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir | BLaST<br>1:30pm - UWF World Day of |                           |

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



***February 2023***



## **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**