



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 – January 2023

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 too. 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 shows us areas in which we need God's help to grow. The following questions are offered to help guide you in such reflection.

Do you love God with all your heart, soul, and mind?

Do I have a growing desire to spend more time with God?

Am I spending appropriate time praying, reading, and meditating on the word?

Am I spending time in worship?

Am I growing in my desire to obey and please God?

Do I obey out of gratitude for God's love?

Am I more aware of the sins in my life?

Am I actively serving God in some way?

Am I growing in generosity?

Do you love your neighbor?

Am I loving my family? How, specifically?

Am I forgiving others? Is there anyone among my family, friends, neighbors or coworkers that I refuse to forgive?

Am I growing in my relationships with other believers?

Who have I personally witnessed to in the past year?

How is my neighborhood or workplace different because I am there?

Am I prepared and willing to share my testimony? To share the Gospel?

Am I fervently praying for others?

Am I fervently praying for and planning opportunities to witness in this coming year?

What am I doing with my time and money to help the poor and disadvantaged?

If you would like, I would be happy to sit down and discuss anything you learn. I would be happy to help you find resources and methods to help you grow this year.

Pastor James

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.

Praying For Pine Street with the Apostle Paul

One of the ways to really tap into the power of prayer is to allow the words and thoughts of Scripture to shape your prayers. This year, I invite you to allow the prayers of the Apostle Paul to shape and inform your prayers for Pine Street. As you become familiar with these prayers they will impact not only how you pray for our church, but how you pray for others and even for yourself.

Each month, we'll feature one of the prayers Paul prayed over his churches. 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 Romans 15:5-6.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Leadership Team Update

A new year brings changes to our Leadership Team.

A special thank you to those whose terms have ended and are stepping off the Leadership Team: Gail Maurer, Bill Keiser, Nick Grimes. These people have served faithfully and Pine Street is better today because of them. They may be stepping off the Leadership team, but I have no doubt they will continue to serve Pine Street well.

I also want to welcome the new members of our Leadership Team: Barb Flock, Stacey Rhoads, and Brian McWilliams. I have no doubt that they too will serve Pine Street well over the next few years.

Your 2023 Leadership Team will consist of: Mark Porter (chair), Allen Paige, Dave Bair, Lynne Koskie, Barb Flock, Brian McWilliams, Stacy Rhoads, Dale Diermyer (member to annual conference), and Kathryn Penfield (member to annual conference).

Please keep the Leadership Team in your prayers as they seek to serve both Christ and his Church. Here are some suggested ways to pray

- 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 of 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.



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



Second Mile Giving – The new second mile giving option is Firetree Place. It is located at 600 Campbell Street in Williamsport just around the corner from Pine Street. The building dates back to 1979. The Federal Housing Authority constructed the facility as a recreation center. It has a long history of community service. It is a non-profit organization open to serve the needs of children with after school programs, recreation and hot meals. Fresh Express, a free food program is also available to the community. You may designate your offering to Firetree Place January – June 2023. Thank you for supporting this outreach.

Building & Grounds Update – Take a moment and stroll down the hallway to view our Courtyard through the new windows that were recently installed to replace the former, clouded view. This designated Capital Campaign project was successfully completed after Covid & supply chain obstacles – on time and under budget! Thanks to the team that made this possible, including Williamsport Mirror & Glass, Larry Fryda, Todd Knight and Gene Weigel.

When your done looking through the clear glass take a peek into the kitchen and see our new gas stove! It's a beautiful and welcome addition. Hats off to Quint Bower for spearheading this endeavor.

Also, a huge “Thank you” to Larry Fryda and Joe and Mark Bielski for their work in filling the parking lot potholes before the wintry weather settled in. And, to Todd Knight for building excellent metal protection around the external gas meter.

Final note of gratitude to Gail Mauer, Quint Bower, Dale Diermyer & Larry (once again!) for the late Fall cleanup of the parsonage yard, just in time for the townships final leaf pick-up!

Praise to all these good stewards.

ON THE CALENDAR FOR JANUARY@ PINE STREET

- Jan 1st Happy New Year**
- Jan 2nd Church Office Closed**
- Jan 9th Food Bank, Volunteer Opportunity, 1-3 p.m. Wahoo Drive, Wmspt.**
- Jan 18th United Women in Faith, 1:30 p.m. in the Lobby**
- Jan 18th Leadership Meeting, 6:30 p.m. in the Lobby**
- Jan 28th Open Dance, 7 – 10 p.m. Fellowship Hall**



College Connection

Here we are beginning a new year and a new college semester. Do you have a child beginning college or one already attending? Does our College Connection team know? Provide the team with your student's name and school address and they will do the rest. We want our students to know they are not forgotten, offer support in their new adventure and remind them Jesus loves them. Reach out to Cindie Synder @ csnyder660@comcast.net for more information.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

January Meeting – January 18th, 1:30 p.m. in the Pine Street Lobby. Please join us.



Community events and dates of interest

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

BSF (Bible Study Fellowship), Pine Street UMC, Mondays resuming January 2nd @ 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.

Williamsport Music Club presents Handel's Messiah Sing-A-Long, Pine Street Sanctuary, January 8th @ 3:00 p.m.

West Branch Strengthening Families Program, Tuesdays beginning January 31st in Pine Street's Wesley Hall @ 5:30 p.m. For families with 10-14 yr. olds. Free meal, free childcare for younger siblings & \$150.00 in gift cards for attending minimum of 6 weeks. Contact Lydia @ 570-337-4269 or lplankenhorn@wbdaac.org for details or to register.



Thank you...

We are so appreciative you thought of us during “Thank out Sunday”. The soup was delicious. ~ Robin Ray & James Benson

Your generous gift of \$226.00 was received. We appreciate your support and partnering with us in the relentless pursuit of a more equitable world for every child ~ UNICEF USA

Joe Bielski, Glenda & Larry Breon, Mitzi & Jim Burget, Al & Karen Cook, Barb & Corey Flock, Larry Fryda, Floyd Hartman, Karl Ivers, Barb Johnson, Thelma Lentz, Maureen Pratt, Marion Reeser, Paul & Mary Smith, Doug & Paula Yenner and Pat Wittig for volunteering at the Central PA Food Bank on Monday Dec 12th. 200 boxes of food were packed.

Ladies who provided sweets for Sojourner Truth Volunteer Appreciation ...what a spread. Thank you for sharing your time and efforts. You are valued more than you know.



PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer changes things!! Our Prayer Warriors are available for you! Prayer requests may be submitted to Carole Fulmer or Marilyn Kern, placed in the offering box or directly to the church office (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.

FEBRUARY PINE NEEDLE

Please have any material for the **February Pine Needle** in the church office no later than **Wednesday, January 25th**. If possible, please send all articles to the church via email or provide a typed copy.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day Open Dance 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday 10am - Worship	2 Church Office Closed New Year's Day (substitute) 6pm - AA Meeting WH 6:30pm - BSF	3 BLaST	4 BLaST 10:30am - Weight Watchers 6pm - Weight Watchers	5 BLaST 10:30am - Praise Team 6pm - Keiser Volleyball 7pm - Sanctuary Choir	6 BLaST	7 8am - Wmspt Music Club-
8 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday 10am - Worship 3pm - Wmspt Music Club	9 BLaST 1pm - Food Bank Volunteer 6pm - AA Meeting WH 6:30pm - BSF	10 BLaST	11 BLaST 10:30am - Weight Watchers 6pm - Weight Watchers	12 BLaST 10:30am - Praise Team 6pm - Keiser Volleyball 7pm - Sanctuary Choir	13 BLaST	14
15 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday 10am - Worship	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 6pm - AA Meeting WH 6:30pm - BSF	17 BLaST	18 BLaST 10:30am - Weight Watchers 1:30pm - United Women in 6pm - Weight Watchers 6:30pm - Leadership Meeting	19 BLaST 10:30am - Praise Team 6pm - Keiser Volleyball 7pm - Sanctuary Choir	20 BLaST	21
22 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday 10am - Worship	23 BLaST 6pm - AA Meeting WH 6:30pm - BSF	24 BLaST	25 BLaST 10:30am - Weight Watchers 6pm - Weight Watchers	26 BLaST 10:30am - Praise Team 6pm - Keiser Volleyball 7pm - Sanctuary Choir	27 BLaST	28 7pm - Open Dance
29 9am - Adult & Youth Sunday 10am - Worship	30 BLaST 6pm - AA Meeting WH 6:30pm - BSF	31 BLaST 5:30pm - WB Strengthening	1	2	3	4

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



January 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

Check out Pine Street UMC Facebook page

Witnessing to our faith and serving Christ in our Community