



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

441 Pine Street, Williamsport PA 17701

(570) 323-4604

Pastor James B. Wooster, Jr.

www.pinestreetumc.org

office@pinestreetumc.org

THE PINE NEEDLE – April 2023

I'm not sure it's safe to say, "Spring has sprung" quite yet, but it feels good to at least say "Spring is springing!" If you take a moment and look around, you'll notice the signs of new life that spring brings. Green is replacing brown. Trees are beginning to bud. Flowers are beginning to poke their heads out of the ground. The birds are returning. All around us "dead" things are coming back to life.

But, new life isn't just an outdoor thing. This season of new life in the natural world parallels so well the Easter season on the church calendar. During the 50 days of Easter, we remember Christ's resurrection and we celebrate the new life He brings us. The natural world serves as a visible reminder that God is in the habit of bringing dead things back to life. The new life that Christ's resurrection brings is something that happens deep within our souls.

The Bible tells us that the invisible things of God are seen in the visible things that He has created. So, as we enter this season of new life, I encourage you to spend some time outdoors and look for the signs of spring and new life in the natural world. Whether it's taking a walk or sitting on your porch with your cup of coffee, get outside and allow the natural world to "preach" to your spirit. Show up early some Sunday morning and take a cup of coffee into the church courtyard!

I encourage you to set aside some time for personal reflection. Examine your own soul. In the natural world, we see the signs of new life. There should also be signs of new life within us. As the dead places within us come back to life, our lives should be different. We may not bud or bloom like the flowers, but we will bear fruit. We should be able to look at our lives and see where there has been transformation. Are we more loving towards our neighbors? Are we more joyful and thankful than we were last year? Have we become more patient? Just to name a few.

This season may we rejoice in the new life that is found around us and within us! Glory to God! Amen.

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 **2 Thessalonians 1:11-12**

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.



Leadership Team Update (3/15/23)

Action Items:

Approve purchase of a new copier from Lycoming Digital Copier Co. Funds for purchase will be determined at a later date.

Approve report from the Finance Subcommittee. The bequest from Walter and Marian Schell in the amount of \$42,626.87 be deposited in the Social Service Investment Fund to provide on-going income for our Social Services Ministries.

Approve \$100 for 2023 Annual Conference Stage Decorations. Our donation will be in honor of Doug and Dee Eberly's retirement and in memory of Charles Moyer. Funds for donation will be determined at a later date.

Approve request from the Scholarship Committee. Using the Sterrett's Fund interest as well as the addition of some undesignated funds identified by our treasurer, we plan to offer annual EDUCATION AWARD gifts of \$200 per student to any PSUMC members or affiliates of our church family who continue their education beyond high school in a full-time program (college, trade school, etc.).

Discussion Items:

Facility rental rates for 2023/2024 with BLaST and YMCA

Pine St. UMC utility rates

Phone system replacement

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.

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

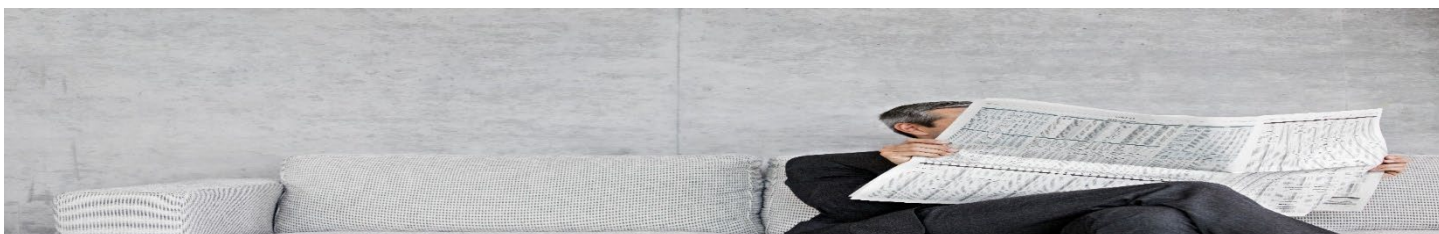
10AM Worship

10AM Children's Program

STAYING CONNECTED

RADIO SERVICE: You can tune in at **9AM** for our previous week's service on 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



Calling Volunteers for Family Promise Meal Assistance

Pine Street's 2023 weeks to provide warm meals to the parents & children housed with Family Promise are, as follows:

Sunday – Saturday

April 9 – 15 – Contact Lisa 570-323-4604 for this week.

June 11 – 17

August 20 – 26

December 3 – 9

Can you lend a hand by providing an evening meal?

Our request from Family Promise continues to be solely for warm meals, in separate packages per family. Overnight hosting is no longer conducted. Family Promise plans to have expanded kitchen/dining facilities open sometime this year, which will again allow for greater interaction with the FP guests. But, for now, we're simply delivering dinners to the Family Promise Center on Hepburn Street.

Please note these dates and contact me to assist with this valuable community program if you're able.

Thank you and God Bless, Kathryn Penfield (570) 916-3224

April showers are coming collection – was a success! Thank you for your participation. Many individuals will be a little drier this spring thanks to the rain gear you provided.

Did you guess Altar Flowers?! Then you are right! There are now only 33 opportunities remaining for you in 2023... Each opportunity comes with a sweet reward for yourself or to give to someone else. It is guaranteed to make everyone smile and give you warm fuzzies! Sign-up for your Sunday now! Call the church office ☎ (570) 323-4604 or Barb Flock ☎ (570) 326-6970

Second Mile giving is still Firetree Place (Jan – Jun 2023). Firetree Place is a non-profit community center focused towards youth development. They offer licensed child-care programs and strive to build stronger communities through educational, recreational, art, and social programs for the city of Williamsport and Lycoming County families. Please identify your gift with "Firetree Place" on the envelope or check.

Welcoming Babies: Beginning on Sunday, March 5th, the Altar Guild began the bygone tradition of welcoming new babies to parents or grandparents of Pine Street Church by placing a rose arrangement on the altar. The costs for the arrangements will be paid with memorial funds designated for Altar Guild. Please let the church office know if your family has a new baby. Any questions, please call Barb Flock at 570-220-9331.

AED – Our new AED is here! It's located in the center of the building. We will offer a training in the future, anyone interested should contact the church office at (570) 323-4604 or office @pinestreetumc.org. We are looking to purchase a 2nd AED and will be collecting donations towards that April 16th-May 21st. Please identify your donation "AED".

ON THE CALENDAR FOR APRIL@ PINE STREET

April 2nd

Palm Sunday - 10:00 a.m. Join us as we celebrate Jesus' entry into

Jerusalem. Our Sunday School kids will sing. Everyone will receive a palm branch.

- April 6th** **Maundy Thursday – 6:30 p.m. We'll share in conversation around the tables at a Soup Potluck. Please bring a pot of soup to share if you are able.**
- April 7th** **Good Friday Service – 6:30 p.m. Pine Street Sanctuary. Pause to reflect on the stories, songs, and symbols of Christ's crucifixion.**
- April 9th** **Easter – 6:15 a.m. Sunrise service at Short Park**
10:00 a.m. Easter Celebration, Pine Street Sanctuary. Communion will be offered.
- April 9th-16th** **Family Promise Week**
- April 12th** **UWF Luncheon Meeting, 12:30 p.m., Wesley Hall**
- April 17th** **Bloodmobile, 1p.m.-6 p.m., Fellowship Hall.**
- April 19th** **Leadership Meeting, 6:30 p.m., PS Lobby**
- April 21st & 22nd** **Laps Yard Sale- Fri 21st drop-off 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat. 22nd sale 8 a.m.-2 p.m.**
Questions? Contact Michelle Hopkins @ 570-326-9234
- April 29th** **Open Dance, 7 – 10 p.m. Gym/Fellowship Hall**
- May 1st** **Foundation Meeting, 6:30 p.m.**
- May 3rd** **UWF Banquet, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Tickets on sale soon. Contact the church office for more information 570-323-4604.**



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 5th and determine the recipients. Applications are available from the church office. ~ Nancy Lady

FOUNDATION FOLLOW-UP

WE ARE APPRECIATED: Pine Street Church has received a warm thank-you letter from Sojourner Truth Ministries. The Foundation Committee administers the income of our Foundation investment and awards funds to ministries who apply for grants. Sojourner's request for 2022 was \$10,000. for two projects: installation of a furnace in the Sojourner's building and the rehab of a house at 665 Center Street to be used for family housing. We were able to complete this request with 2022 funds. The letter from their Board states: "Our community is a better place because of Pine Street Church, and your Foundation makes a huge difference."

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

April Luncheon – April 12th, 12:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall. Please join us. Rev. John Piper will be talking about the Underground Railroad in Lycoming County. St. Paul Calvary will be joining us.

Cancelled Stamps – The UWF will **NO** longer be collecting cancelled stamps for missions.

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CHILDREN ARE A BLESSING FROM THE LORD...

WELCOME....

JOSEPH FRANK ALOGNA, BORN FEBRUARY 21, 2023, 7 LBS. 6 OZ, 20 IN. LONG

GREAT GRANDPARENTS: JOHN & MARGARET PIPER

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## *Community events and dates of interest*

**JUST AS I AM** Hymns tour, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. City Church 36 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Wmspt. (570) 323-9847

**Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser** – to benefit United Churches of Lycoming County. April 20<sup>th</sup>. 10% of your purchases are donated. Call ahead for seating at 272-236-3060. Remember to tell you server you are there to support UCLC!

**Work Fellowship Weekend** – April 28-30 Camp Susque. A weekend full of hearty food, fun, hard work, and warm fellowship in the great outdoors. We will be cleaning, prepping flower beds, painting, mulching etc. to get the camp ready for summer. More info or to register visit: [susque.org/wfw](https://susque.org/wfw)



**MOSES** – Sight & Sound Bus Trip, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Leaving Wmspt at 6:30 a.m., returning at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$140.00pp. Reserve your seat now. Deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup> or when bus is full. Call United Churches @ (570) 322-1110.

**Church Women United** – State Assembly, July 15, 2023, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Pine Street UMC. Meet & Greet, July 14<sup>th</sup> 7-9 p.m. Registration \$40.00. “Glorify God in All We Do”, Romans: 15:5-6. Contact United Churches @ (570) 322-1110

Free bicycles... Donated bikes that have been refurbished are available to families in need. Do you know a child who needs a bike? Contact [www.williamsportbicyclerecycle@gmail.com](mailto:www.williamsportbicyclerecycle@gmail.com) or L. Stone @ (570) 916-2940.

*Thank you...*

*I came to Pine Street to get help paying my water bill. I was treated with respect & kindness. And you helped me...thank you, thank you, thank you ~ Amy*

*Donations, grants & volunteers are the lifeblood of non-profit organizations such as us. Thank you for your recent donation ~ Family Promise*



## PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE

Hospitals are no longer contacting Pastors/Churches upon admission. So please be sure to contact us if you are in the Emergency Room or admitted to a Hospital.

**Our Prayer Warriors are available for you!** Prayer requests may be submitted to **Marilyn Kern** at (570) 323-7814 or [pennstate326@aol.com](mailto:pennstate326@aol.com), or **Pat Wittig** at (570) 322-4330, placed in the offering plate or directly to the church office ([office@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:office@pinestreetumc.org)).

*“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2 NIV*

## **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. Some also wish to mail in their offering to the church office.

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## MAY PINE NEEDLE

Please have any material for the **May Pine Needle** in the church office no later than **Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**. If possible, please send all articles to the church via email or provide a typed copy.



## *Just for fun...*

### Spring Outdoor Bible Verse Scavenger Hunt

Open your Bible to find the verse which will provide the clue. You can use this list to do a traditional scavenger hunt of collecting or observing. You could also do a photo hunt and take pictures of the items for proof of their existence. Have fun and be safe!

1. What Job mixed with dirt to coat his skin: Job 7:5
2. Tossed with mire by the water of the sea: Isaiah 57:20
3. The livestock used this for food: Deut. 11:15
4. Serves as a sign that summer is near: Luke 21:30
5. Stacked by Jacob to make a pillar: Gen. 31:45
6. The fig tree lost a piece of this: Joel 1:7
7. What the men digging uncovered in the valley: Gen. 26:19
8. A piece from the evergreen mentioned here: Isaiah 60:13
9. Devoured by birds in this passage: Mark 4:4
10. Can be found floating on the top of water: Hosea 10:7
11. These appear before the blossoms: Num 17:8
12. Something the same color as the clothes mentioned here: Ezekiel 27:4
13. The foolish man built his house on it: Matt 7:26
14. The rich man fades as quickly as these: James 1:11
15. The same number of stones that David picked up: I Samuel 17:40

*Enjoy!*



| Sun                                                                                           | Mon                                                                         | Tue                                 | Wed                                                                                              | Thu                                                                                                         | Fri                                              | Sat                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 26                                                                                            | 27                                                                          | 28                                  | 29                                                                                               | 30                                                                                                          | 31                                               | 1<br>3pm - Ravert Court of Honor                  |
| 2<br>PALM SUNDAY<br>9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship                              | 3<br>BLaST<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF                           | 4<br>BLaST                          | 5<br>BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                 | 6<br>BLaST<br>MAUNDY THURSDAY<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>6:30pm - Maundy Thursday<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir | 7<br>GOOD FRIDAY<br>6:30pm - Good Friday Service | 8<br>12pm - Ivers (Sanctuary)                     |
| 9<br>EASTER<br>6:15am - Easter Sunrise<br>9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship-Easter | 10<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF                                   | 11                                  | 12<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>12:30pm - UWF Luncheon w/<br>6pm - Weight Watchers            | 13<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir                                                        | 14<br>Nevill/Tailman Rehearsal                   | 15<br>Nevill/Tailman Wedding                      |
| 16<br>9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship                                            | 17<br>BLaST<br>12:30pm - Bloodmobile<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF | 18<br>BLaST                         | 19<br>BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>6pm - Weight Watchers<br>6:30pm - Leadership Meeting | 20<br>BLaST<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir                                               | 21<br>BLaST<br>10am - Laps Yardsale Drop         | 22<br>8am - LAPS Yardsale                         |
| 23<br>9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship                                            | 24<br>BLaST<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>6:30pm - BSF                          | 25<br>BLaST<br>10am - Preachers Aid | 26<br>BLaST<br>10:30am - Weight Watchers<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                | 27<br>BLaST<br>10:30am - Praise Team<br>7pm - Sanctuary Choir                                               | 28<br>BLaST<br>5pm - PFMC Festival Meeting       | 29<br>8am - PFMC Jr. Festival<br>7pm - Open Dance |
| 30<br>9am - Adult & Youth Sunday<br>10am - Worship                                            | 1                                                                           | 2                                   | 3                                                                                                | 4                                                                                                           | 5                                                | 6                                                 |

# PINE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

441 Pine Street  
Williamsport PA 17701



*April 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**