



*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 – OCTOBER 2023

### Advent Devotional

It has been a yearly tradition at Pine Street to create our own Advent/Christmas Devotional. I know you have found it meaningful to share words of encouragement and to read words of encouragement from fellow Pine Streeters. In order to keep this tradition alive, we need your help. Consider this an invitation to write a short devotional to be shared as part of our Advent/Christmas devotional for 2023.

This year our Advent theme will be “Sing we now of Christmas.” We will be focusing on the meanings and stories of familiar Christmas carols. There’s certainly plenty to reflect on. You could write a devotional based on a word or phrase from your favorite Christmas carol. Maybe you’ve always heard a deeper meaning in one of the secular Christmas songs. Perhaps you could share with us a memory about a favorite carol. Another option would be to explore some of the songs that Luke associates with the first Christmas. We want you to feel free to write as God leads, even it means going in a different direction and doesn’t fit the theme. If you need some additional support or resources, I, Pastor James, will be happy to share my library with you. Each devotional should be 150 – 200 words and include: a Scripture verse, a title if you have one, the devotional content, a short closing prayer, and the author’s name. We’d like to have a rough idea of how many writers we will have, so if you would like to participate, please let us know by October 15<sup>th</sup>. You do not need to tell us what you are writing about, but if you would like to write for a specific date, please let us know that as well. We will do our best to honor those requests.

We would like to have the devotionals in hand by November 4<sup>th</sup> to allow enough time for compiling and printing before the first Sunday of Advent (December 3rd). The best way to submit your devotion is via email to [pastor@pinestreetumc.org](mailto:pastor@pinestreetumc.org). Please, if possible, submit your devotional as a MS Word document with “Advent Devotional” in the subject line. While email is the preferred method of submission, we can also accept paper copies if needed.

### 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 Ephesians 3:14-21

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup>may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup>and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.



### **Leadership Team Update (9/20/23)**

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

Approved the hiring of Charles S. Young as our new custodian  
Approved the request from the Scholarship Committee to take \$1,000 from principal to fund scholarship(s) given to Pine Street applicants who meet the criteria for the award(s) in a down year when the market is doing poorly and there is no growth in our funds.

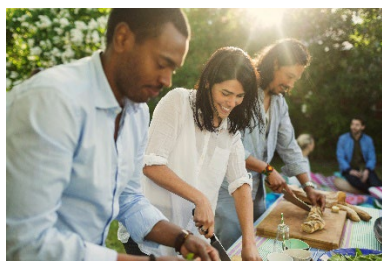
#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A merger with Faxon Kenmar is moving forward. A team of 4 members from Faxon Kenmar and 4 members from Pine Street will be created for the planning process.  
Phone System Update: the wiring has been completed and is being used for our network. Phones have been selected.  
Staff and Pastor reviews will take place in October  
Budget planning will begin in November  
The Parking Authority is taking bids to repair our parking lot

**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 - Thursday – 8 AM – 2:30 PM**

**Friday – 8 AM – 12 PM**

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

## **Worship Schedule**

**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)





**SOCK-tober:** Socks are a need especially during the colder months and especially for the homeless. We will be collecting new or gently used socks October 1<sup>st</sup> – October 15<sup>th</sup>. Collection tub is located in the lobby.

**Trunk or Treat:** October 25<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm- 8 pm in our parking lot. This event will be in conjunction with Downtown Williamsport’s Fall Festival. Consider decorating your trunk, volunteering to hand out snacks or donating candy for the event. Sign-up is located in the lobby.

**Operation Christmas Child:** We will be collecting shoeboxes filled with items for children around the world for Christmas. You may pick up a shoebox at the church or obtain your own. Small toys, stuffed animals, balls, crayons, pencils, notebook, sunglasses, toothbrush, nail clippers, craft kits and books are just some ideas. Shoeboxes can be for a boy or girl, ages 2-4, 5-7,8-10, 11-13 etc. **DO NOT INCLUDE:** toothpaste, liquids, money, breakable, scary items or food, gum, and candy. Shoeboxes are due by Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact the church office with any questions.

**John Bower Sunday School Basketball League...**has begun planning for the upcoming season. While Pine Street may not have enough youngsters in any of the age groups to form a team, we can place interested players with teams of other churches. Anyone with a child interested in playing should contact the church office. Registrations forms will be available soon. The following are the divisions by grade: k-2 beginner [8'hoops], 3-5 peewee [defense only allowed ½ court], 4-6 midget [full court], 7-9 junior and 10-12 senior. All players must attend school to be eligible.

**2024 Ministry Spending Plan:** It's time once again to work on our annual ministry spending plan. If you have ministry items that you would like to see included in the 2024 Ministry spending plan, please send them to Pastor James by November 1st.

**200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY:** Pine Street will be celebrating our 200th anniversary in 2026. If you would be interested in being part of the team that helps plan our anniversary celebration, please contact Pastor James.

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

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Oct 1<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>Farewell for Todd, 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall</b>                    |
| <b>Oct 4<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Philippians Sermon Study, 10:00 a.m. in the church Library</b>       |
| <b>Oct 5<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>District Superintendent Committee Meeting, 6 p.m. in the Library</b> |

<b>Oct 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Philippians Sermon Study, 10:00 a.m. in the church Library</b>
<b>Oct 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Bloodmobile, 1 p.m. -6 p.m. in the gym.</b>
<b>Oct 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Philippians Sermon Study, 10:00 a.m. in the church Library</b>
<b>Oct 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>United Women in Faith, 1:30 p.m. in the Lobby</b>
<b>Oct 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Leadership Meeting, 6:30 p.m. in the Lobby</b>
<b>Oct 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Trunk or Treat, 5 pm- 8 pm. in our parking lot</b>
<b>Oct 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Open Dance, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., Gym/Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>Nov 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>All Saints Day</b>
<b>Nov 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Foundation Meeting in the Meeting Room</b>

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### **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

District Annual Day, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, Spring Mills, PA

Monthly meeting, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 pm. in the Lobby. All ladies are welcome!

Conference Annual Day, October 21<sup>st</sup>, Bellefonte, PA. We will be collecting knitted hats, mittens & scarves.

World Community Day, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 p.m. Heshbon United Methodist.

November is United Women in Faith month. We will be receiving the World Thank offering. Questions or details regarding the UWF events may be directed to Pat Wittig @ 570-322-4330

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IT'S A BOY...

Jameson Philip Kern  
Born August 31, 2023, 6:42 p.m.  
8 lbs. 12 oz., 21 ½ " long

Parents: Evan & Mallory Kern

Grandparents: Scott & Debbie Kern

CONGRADULATIONS!!

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*Community events and dates of interest*

Street Food Festival, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 3pm. Downtown Williamsport on Pine Street

**United Churches of Lycoming County Crop Walk, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1 p.m. @ St. Mark's**

LAP's Yard Sale, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Pine Street UMC gym.

## *Thank you...*

Thank you to all who contributed gift cards to College Connection. It is greatly appreciated and helpful to me. I am all set for my winter mailing ~ Cindie Snyder

Dear Pine St. Foundation, Nancy, Foundation members and the church at large – the foundation gifts to the work of Sojourner Truth Ministries have truly been a lifeline for us! Quite a bit of the \$5,000.00 for the rehab of 663 Center has been spent on drywall and combined with a grant from Lowe's the work is expected to be completed in November. When we're ready to celebrate, you'll receive photos and an invitation! Oooh, the soul care that's going to continue there! ~ In his love & service, Pastor Angelique

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## **PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE**

**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*

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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## **NOVEMBER PINE NEEDLE**

Please have any material for the **November Pine Needle** in the church office no later than **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25<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                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1<br>10am - Worship<br>11:30am - Farewell to | 2<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>7pm - BSF (Bible Study)                                      | 3<br>5:30pm - WB  | 4<br>10am - Sermon Study<br>10:30am - Weight<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                                  | 5<br>6pm - District Super.<br>7pm - Chior     | 6                           | 7<br>United Women Annual<br>10am - StrEAT Food       |
| 8<br>10am - Worship<br>1pm - Crop Walk @ St. | 9<br>Columbus Day<br>1pm - Food Bank @<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>7pm - BSF (Bible Study) | 10<br>5:30pm - WB | 11<br>10am - Sermon Study<br>10:30am - Weight<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                                 | 12<br>7pm - Chior                             | 13                          | 14<br>9am - AA District                              |
| 15<br>10am - Worship                         | 16<br>1pm - Bloodmobile<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>7pm - BSF (Bible Study)                | 17<br>5:30pm - WB | 18<br>10am - Sermon Study<br>10:30am - Weight<br>1:30pm - United Women<br>6pm - Weight Watchers<br>6:30pm - Leadership | 19<br>9am - District Committee<br>7pm - Chior | 20<br>Laps Yard Sale Set-up | 21<br>UWF Conf. Annual Day @<br>8am - Laps Yard Sale |
| 22<br>10am - Worship                         | 23<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>7pm - BSF (Bible Study)                                     | 24<br>5:30pm - WB | 25<br>10:30am - Weight<br>5pm - Trunk or Treat/Fall<br>6pm - Weight Watchers                                           | 26<br>7pm - Chior                             | 27                          | 28<br>7pm - Open Dance                               |
| 29<br>10am - Worship                         | 30<br>6pm - AA Meeting WH<br>7pm - BSF (Bible Study)                                     | 31                | 1                                                                                                                      | 2                                             | 3                           | 4                                                    |

# PINE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

441 Pine Street  
Williamsport PA 17701



*October 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**