



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF PINWOODS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Volume 37, Issue 8 - September 2018

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*Elders and Deacons on sabbatical
are not listed.*

Our Mission

Pinewoods exists to worship and proclaim the excellences of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, to promote unity among God's people, to make disciples by equipping them for works of service, and to ignite a life transforming movement of the gospel in Pensacola, the Gulf Coast, and the world.

From the desk of Senior Pastor Joel Treick

Dear Pinewoods,

This month, Pinewoods received 14 new members, three of whom were baptized as believing disciples of Jesus Christ! This is great news! At the risk of over-using exclamation points (I plead guilty) ... we're overjoyed that God continues to add to our number!

But this begs a question ... a question I'm often asked as the pastor of Pinewoods Church. "Is church membership biblical?" I think most of the people who ask that question are sincere, committed, Bible-believing Christians. I don't sense that they're trying to justify spotty attendance or avoid the responsibilities of church membership. I think they sincerely believe that church membership is a man-made tradition ... something that would have been completely foreign to Jesus and the Apostles. To paraphrase one man who spoke with me about this issue some time ago, "I'm a Christian. I attend church every week. I tithe. I'm very committed to Pinewoods. Why should I have to formally join the church?"

It's a good question! As your pastor, I never want to do something because "that's the way it's always been done." A blind appeal to tradition is a bad reason to do anything! Certain traditions can be good! Every year we have a church-wide Christmas dinner. I love that! We celebrate "Graduation Sunday" every year ... complete with sheet cake and a "your life in pictures, with a soundtrack" video presentation. (I love those! Many tears of joy are shed on Graduation Sunday!)

But with that being said, we always want to have clear biblical reasons for doing what we do, and church membership is no exception. So, we're back to the original question ... "Is church membership biblical?" I believe it is ... so let's walk through some of the key biblical passages that (I think) point very strongly in the direction of formal church membership.

First Big Idea: Christianity isn't just about believing, it's about belonging.

Romans 12:4-5 ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

The word "member" in Romans 12 refers to a part of the body. My arms and legs are "members" of my body. (If they get cut off, that's referred to as "dismemberment.") Even though the various members of my body are distinct, there's an organic connection between them. They're all part of one organic whole.

It works the same way in the local church. There are "hands" and "feet" in the church, but we're all connected. "We, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." In other words, to believe in Jesus is to belong to the church. We can't be connected to Jesus without being connected to each other.

To drive that point home, there are 59 "one another's" in the New Testament. (If you'd like the full list in one handy info-graphic, check out <https://overviewbible.com/one-another-infographic>.) As Christians, we're called to love one another, to be at peace with one another, to be devoted to one another, to



honor one another, to stop passing judgment on one another, to instruct one another, to greet one another with a holy kiss (in our context, that translates into the patented Evangelical side-hug ... just in case there are any high school boys reading this), serve one another, forgive one another, admonish one another ... and that's only scratching the surface!

The point is, Christianity is about believing in Jesus ... and belonging to the church. I can't put it any better than John Piper, who said, "Church membership is a blood-bought gift of God's grace. More than most of us realize, it is a life-sustaining, faith-strengthening, joy-preserving means of God's mercy to us. I urge you not to cut yourself off from this blessing."

Second Big Idea: Elders are called to **shepherd** the **flock of God**.

1 Peter 5:1–4 ¹ So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: ² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Who exactly are the elders called to shepherd? Are the elders called to shepherd every Christian in the world? I'm a teaching elder. I'm ultimately responsible for what is taught at Pinewoods. Am I responsible for what's being taught at the Lutheran church down the street? What if they're teaching something that I think is unbiblical? Am I responsible for that? What about our ruling elders? Are they called to "exercise oversight" over every Christian in Pensacola? (Is that even possible?)

These are not flippant questions. According to Hebrews 13:17, our calling is to "keep watch over" a certain number of souls ... and we will have to "give an account" to God for those souls. Which souls? All souls? Some souls?

The answer is that our elders (teaching and ruling) are called to shepherd the members of this local church. Our church has a list of members who have covenanted to be part of this local body. (When you join the church, you make membership "vows," which are solemn promises to God and this local body of believers.) That's the sphere of our responsibility. The elders at the Lutheran church down the street will be responsible for the souls of their members. That's the scope of an elder's responsibility.

Third Big Idea: Christians are called to **submit** to their elders.

Hebrews 13:17a ¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit to them ...

1 Peter 5:5a ⁵ Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders.

This question is closely connected to the last series of questions. "Which elders?" Let's use an extreme example. (Matt Chandler used this example in an article he wrote for the "9 Marks Journal.") Let's say the "elders" of the Westboro Baptist Church tell me that I should picket the funerals of dead soldiers. Do I have to be subject to them? Let's say some random "elder" who I've never met comes up and tells me he wants to meet with me every week for accountability and discipleship. He wants to teach me to speak in tongues as the key to Christian growth. Do I have to submit to him? Should I submit to him?

The answer is that when the writer of Hebrews talks about "your leaders," he's speaking specifically of the elders in "your local church." If you're a member of Pinewoods Church, "your leaders" are the specific elders who've been called by God to shepherd the members of this local congregation.

(This begs another question ... "How did they become elders?" Who voted for them? Who decided they should be elders? Who decided they meet the biblical requirements? If there's no such thing as church membership, can any random person decide who's an elder? If there are no members, can anyone vote? Who decides who's allowed to vote? The first people to show up that day? Do you see how none of this works without clearly defined church membership?)

Fourth Big Idea: Local churches are called to practice **church discipline**.

1 Corinthians 5:11–12 (ESV) ¹¹ But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. ¹² For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?

In 1 Corinthians 5, Paul urges the members of the church in Corinth to discipline a wayward member of the church by placing him outside the church. Notice how in verse 12, Paul also notes that he has nothing to do with judging “outsiders,” while he clearly commands us to judge “insiders.” The concept of “insiders” and “outsiders,” makes no sense without church membership. How does a church formally exclude someone, unless that person was formally included at some point? How can a church say, “You’re no longer a member of this body. You’re no longer connected to us,” if that person was never a formally connected member of the body in the first place?

Another relevant text is Matthew 15:17, where Jesus says that the final verdict to be rendered in matters of church discipline is the local church. “If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church.” On this passage, John Piper writes ...

“If there is no church membership, how can you define the group that will take up this sensitive and weighty matter of exhorting the unrepentant person and finally rendering a judgment about his standing in the community? It’s hard to believe that just anyone who showed up claiming to be a Christian could be a part of that gathering. Surely, ‘the church’ must be a definable group to handle such a weighty matter. You know who you mean when you ‘take it to the church.’”

Fifth Big Idea: In the Bible, members of local churches are **organized** and **listed**.

1 Timothy 5:9, 11 ⁹ Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband ... ¹¹ But refuse to enroll younger widows ...

Galatians 6:10 ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

The ancient church had lists of widows, which was presumably taken from the broader list of church members. That’s why Paul could say, “Let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” He knew (and the local pastors knew) who was an insider and who was an outsider ... and the point is, “Be good to both insiders and outsiders.” (Our natural tendency is to only be good to insiders! Human nature hasn’t changed that much in the last 2,000 years.)

That’s a lot ... and we’re only scratching the surface here! If you’d like to explore this subject more deeply, I encourage you to explore some of the resources made available by the PCA’s *Discipleship Ministries*, John Piper’s *Desiring God* ministry, Mark Dever’s *9 Marks* ministries and Thom Rainer’s helpful little book *I Am a Church Member*.

To those who have joined the church ... whether you’re an “original member” who joined 40 years ago when the church started ... a “new member” who joined in the last year or two ... we love you and we’re so thankful that we’re “members” of each other! Joining the church is a profoundly beautiful thing, because it’s a profoundly biblical thing! God made us for each other. We’re not alone ... we’re a family! (Never forget that!)

In Christ,

Pastor Joel



Commissioning Service for Heather S.

***SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 2, 2018***

The Pinewoods’ Missions Team invites everyone to a potluck lunch immediately following the Commissioning Service.

Please bring a potluck dish to share. Dessert will be provided.

PRAYING FOR OUR PINWOODS MISSIONARIES

Ian and Heather serve in a sensitive ministry.

Ian reports that this summer started off a bit different than most. First, the rains started very late and they were not as regular as they should be. Normally it is raining almost every day during the summer, but that was not the case this year. This is not a good thing for a country that depends on the little rain they normally get. Please pray that it rains enough for the crops to grow well.

When the rains finally came, Ian and Heather discovered that they had leaks everywhere in the house, literally in every room! Ian and the landlord have been scrambling around in the attic and on the roof trying to plug up the leaks, but since those repairs there has not been any further rain. Pray that the roof is fixed, and that the family can move all their furniture back where it belongs.

The ministry is thriving. One interesting development is that Ian and Heather's guard, Benoit, who is Catholic, has been hearing all the theology students that come to the house talk about what they are learning from the MINTS classes. With all that he is hearing, Benoit told Ian that he has decided he wants to know what the Bible says himself. Unfortunately, he cannot read so Ian was able to put an audio Bible on his phone and he has been listening to it ever since. It is exciting how God is at work!

One of the goals of the theology school is to train local pastors to eventually teach the courses themselves. There are two sets of courses. A day course that is close to a university level which now has 26 students. Also, there is an evening course that is for pastors who have had very little in the way of formal education. In the night courses, there are around 10-15 students. One of the students from the day course, Francois, has been with the school since the beginning and he has shown an ability to teach. Ian is excited to tell us that Francois has started teaching some of the night courses. It is exciting to have a national pastor teaching a theology class and hopefully it will encourage other pastors to be willing to teach also. This is one of the prayers that Ian and Heather have been praying since the start of the program and they thank God that He has answered that prayer. Please pray that God would raise up others as well. Also, François will be the national pastor of the newest church plant in the village of N.... W..... that will commence in the next few months.

A pastor from Canada visited recently to teach a course on preaching, and he did an amazing job. All of the students loved the course and told Ian how much it had opened their eyes to the beauty of the Bible. It is their hope that this pastor will return soon to teach additional courses.

Ian has been traveling a lot lately teaching in a neighboring country, I.... C.... The student population at the pastoral training center in that country has expanded recently. It has been very encouraging to Ian to see them grow. Ian always considers it a privilege to return to I.... C.... as these pastors are the same men his father worked with back when he was young.

Ian also recently attended a meeting in Senegal with other national pastors and workers who serve in other countries in West Africa. It was a good time to hear about the work they are doing and to share about his own work.

Prayer requests:

- Pray for Benoit, that he will continue to seek God's Truth as he listens to the Bible on his phone.
- Pray for the repairs to Ian and Heather's roof, that they will be effective in stopping the leaks.
- Praise and prayers for Francois, as he prepares to pastor the newest church plant. Pray that additional students will step forward to become teachers and pastors.
- Praise for the work in I.... C.... that is thriving.
- Pray for Ian's brother and sister-in-law, Evan and Bonnie, that they raise the last of their support so that they can join Ian and Heather's ministry soon.

Evan and Bonnie serve in a sensitive ministry.

Even and Bonnie and their two young children recently completed their cross-cultural training in Belgium. They attended lectures most mornings, followed by exposure to practical applications of cross-cultural ministry in the afternoons. They took advantage of opportunities to spend time in the African district of Brussels. Since Evan spent his childhood in Africa and is familiar with various African cultures he was surprised to find how "African" this district in Brussels is. This district has a large population from the Congo, with multiple tribes and tribal dialects represented. Evan and Bonnie were able to meet many refugees, spending time learning about their transition to Europe. This training in Belgium showed Evan and Bonnie how God is working throughout the world. The church in Belgium has experienced rapid growth in the past few years due to many African immigrants coming to faith.

Evan says that the most difficult, yet rewarding, thing about this experience in Belgium was the daily involvement of Charlotte (2 years old) and Lucas (4 months old). This time in Belgium, although crazy and chaotic, gave them opportunities for growth in patience, grace, and mercy towards each other, and they are thankful to have had the chance to "exercise those muscles" before heading to West Africa.

PRAYING FOR OUR PINEWOODS MISSIONARIES

Evan and Bonnie are now completely finished with their training and are making preparations to go to the field. They have raised 80% of their needed monthly support, and are very eager to proceed to West Africa. They are currently packing up, and hope to complete their support goal in time to depart this November. The ministry team in West Africa is eager for their arrival!

Prayer requests:

- Pray that we will soon reach our support goal so that we can leave for West Africa.
- Pray for us as we pack up and prepare to leave.



Evan, Bonnie, Charlotte and Lucas

David and Jan serve in a sensitive ministry.

PRAISE God with us for:

- a great time with the three families and one single man that we visited at our organization's cross-cultural training in Belgium; the single man is already on the field
- an encouraging time with the International Director of our denomination's Global Muslim Ministries (our public brand for Enterprise) and his family visiting with us for several days
- God's direction as we seek to add to the member care team
- the privilege of hearing God's word preached well week-by-week
- the honor for our son Daniel's organization [training4changeS](#) to be shortlisted for the Beyond Sport [Sport for Peace and Social Justice Award](#)
- the joy of good relationships with our adult children and their spouses

PRAY for:

- the ongoing struggles that immigrant friends in All Nations Church face with learning English, loneliness and other emotional pains, health issues, employment; that they would truly look to Christ for comfort and that the church can support them and encourage them
- the three families whom we visited in Belgium to quickly finish support raising to go to locations in the Muslim world; for the single man to adjust well to his new location and work
- our travel to the Middle East to visit a family who is working in a hard place in difficult circumstances; our visit to be refreshing for them
- wisdom for us as we plan travel in the fall to the US to connect with workers in our member care team and time in South Africa to visit Daniel, Kendra and Sami.
- our setting wise priorities in our work and not being diverted to things that might appear more urgent
- new workers for the Global Muslim Ministry (GMM); we have opportunities for all kinds of skills and in many locations
- the regional directors of our GMM works in Central Asia and in Europe as they move back to their regions after several years in the US and face the challenges of readjustment
- God's grace toward us not to prove vain this year and for him to show us specific ways in which we may steadily become more like Jesus in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity

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Judy and Alberto Nunez serve with FRIDLA – Friends of the Disabled in Latin America. Judy reports that a couple who is involved in several ministries recently learned about FRIDLA and plans to become a part of FRIDLA's ministry. Judy says this couple has a real heart for the disabled, and as an added plus the wife speaks fluent Spanish!

The FRIDLA operation in the US will be moving to a large warehouse in Augusta, Ga. The warehouse space will be shared with the ministry to Joni and Friends (Joni Erikson Tada). In this warehouse FRIDLA will have their own storage area, a separate workshop, a kitchen an office and a conference room. The new couple will take care of moving the current FRIDLA workshop to Augusta.

This couple also told Judy that if something should ever happen to her, they want Alberto to teach them how to restore the equipment and about dealing with the international relations aspects of FRIDLA's ministry. This caused Judy much joy to know that FRIDLA would continue on should she need to step down from the ministry.

Judy and Alberto will be moving to Aiken, Sc., which is 30-45 minutes from the new warehouse in Augusta.

FRIDLA has a shipment of mobility equipment that is scheduled to depart in September destined for Uruguay. Judy and Alberto hope to leave for Uruguay in November to oversee the distribution of this equipment.

On August 6 Judy had surgery on her shoulder and is doing well. She expects to be fully recuperated by the date of their departure to Uruguay in November.

Prayer requests:

- Strength for Judy
- For their house in Rock Hill, SC to sell
- Buying a new home in Aiken
- Paper work to go through for new warehouse
- Shipment to Uruguay to go through w/o hindrances
- Safety and success for the trip to Uruguay
- For Alberto to understand the necessity helping Judy with her shoulder exercises.
- God's grace and strength for all of the above!

Tony and Amber Elswick serve in Nicaragua with MTW.

As you may recall, the Elswicks have temporarily returned to the US due to the recent political unrest in Nicaragua. Last month, Tony was able to take a quick trip back to Nicaragua, and while there he was able to reconnect with the pastors in his program, his national partners and other missionary friends.

One of the highlights of this trip was that Tony was able to visit the worship leader's family of one of the church's his ministry partners with. This family struggles a lot financially, and their situation is made more difficult because one of their daughters is disabled. However, their joy and love for the Lord shines through to everyone who meets them. Tony was able to bring a few bags of groceries to them, which was timed by the Lord, because the wife reported to being down to their last 14 cordobas (about 50 cents). Tony was able to give more groceries to the church and it turned out that they were in the process of collecting food from their congregants to give to the people in the community who have lost jobs during the political crisis.

Also during Tony's visit, the ministry had a one-day conference for local pastors. where we bused the pastors into Tony's office. They did a study on Psalm 33 focusing on God's sovereignty and then did a group project where the pastors shared their difficulties and then discussed how to apply the principles of Psalm 33 to their situations. It was an emotional and encouraging time. After lunch, they did a Bible study on the topic of loving your enemy. At the conclusion of this one-day conference Tony was able to give the men some resources and gifts to help encourage and equip them, including some money to help provide for their physical needs.

The trip also helped to provide Tony with a better understanding the situation on the ground and allowed the ministry to create a plan for the future. Tony was able to have a lot of conversations with many missionaries who have 15-20 years of experience and a wide network of contacts, as well as a lot of nationals. While the situation is fluid and can change, and the unrest is not resolved, most missionaries are reporting that they feel safe and that life is returning to normal, which is what Tony experienced during the trip.

In light of that, Tony is going to plan another trip in September and in late October/early November. If things continue to appear reasonable, the Elswicks are aiming to move back in January. Of course, things change weekly, so they greatly appreciate prayers for wisdom!

Prayer requests:

- Pray that the political unrest in Nicaragua will soon be peacefully resolved.
- Pray for wisdom, protection and strength for the local pastors and their families.
- Pray for wisdom for the Elswicks and their desire to return to Nicaragua.

PRAYING FOR OUR PINEWOODS MISSIONARIES

Joel and Stephanie serve in a sensitive ministry.

Recently, Joel and Stephanie have felt led to pray as a couple specifically for those in their community *who have no questions*: that circumstances would drive them to seek answers, talk to believing friends or colleagues, and pick up a Bible and read it!

Pierre, a Christian in Joel and Stephanie's community who works in the local Airbus plant, has been starting discussion with his non-believing co-workers – many of whom *have no questions* and no belief in God. Pierre has been encouraging these co-workers to read the Bible to find the true meaning of life. One of his co-workers, Leo, has thanked Pierre for the discussions, and it is Pierre's hope that Leo and others will become open to the Gospel.

It's historically been difficult for the French church to reach professionals like Pierre and his colleagues. The population where the church plant is located has exploded over the past several decades, due in large part to the installation and growth of Airbus, one of the largest producers of commercial aircraft in the world. Many residents of the church's target area, like Pierre, work at the production facility, study at Airbus Training Center, or work for Airbus Defense and Space or Airbus CyberSecurity. Often folks assume on meeting him that Joel works for Airbus.

Praise and prayer requests:

- Praise Him for the joy of connecting us with nationals who also have a burden for intercessory prayer!
- Ask Him to reveal the hidden idols in our hearts, even as He convicts unbelievers like Leo that the gods they rely on cannot help.
- That Leo, Pierre's other colleagues, and his family members would pick up a Bible and that the Holy Spirit would speak to them as they read.
- Pray, with Pierre, for more opportunities to be a witness and for the words to speak in the moment.
- Pray for a persevering hope, founded in the Scriptures, for French believers in our church who need hope for the future or in the face of personal trials.

We have been very encouraged by initial results of MTW's assessment of our gifts as a couple. Please keep praying that God will guide and direct us through this process.

Ben and Kim Church serve with MTW in Uganda.

Refugee Settlements:

In July, Ben's team hosted a short-term team from Stony Point Reformed Presbyterian Church in Richmond, VA. This is the second year that this church has worked in the Kiryandongo Refugee Settlement with the refugee churches there.

One of the refugee churches in the camp is running a primary school with over 400 children who are not able to pay school fees to attend schools in the neighboring town. The teachers are voluntary, and some of them are still in the process of completing secondary school themselves! But they give of their time and abilities to make sure that the younger students continue learning. Ben's ministry facilitated a teacher training for them that gave tools for effectively teaching from a Christian/biblical worldview.

MTW missionary MJ Cox worked with some medical professionals to train nurses and health technicians in compassionate care and other areas of healthcare from a biblical perspective. The team from Stony Point Church raised funds to distribute life-saving medication including treatment for malaria and typhoid from the pharmacy that the church operates as well as other locations in the camp. As a result of receiving this free treatment and hearing the good news of the gospel, five families prayed to receive Christ!

Just like in other parts of the world, young people love soccer! A soccer tournament was held for the youth in the camp and eight teams participated. The winning team took home a goat as first prize! The pastor of the church reported to Ben that many youth have now joined the church because of the tournament.

One of the members of the short-term team is a counselor with experience in grief counseling. She led a group of women in processing the trauma that they have experienced in the war in South Sudan and how they could help others in processing their grief in a biblical way.

There was also a training session where two veteran PCA pastors led a group of pastors and women ministry leaders from the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan. They focused on the qualifications of elders.

Church Planting:

The work of church planting also continues in the area around Sseguku in south Kampala. In addition to the regular evangelistic Bible studies and weekly discipleship, Ben's team is meeting with a group on Sunday evenings to plan for the launch of the first church service. The group will be dividing up into three groups to walk through different neighborhoods, pray for those areas, and also pray for the Lord to lead them to the place He would like for the team

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to begin their services. The team is also getting feedback from Launch Team members about which ministry areas they believe God is calling them to serve in based on their spiritual gifts. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to direct them in those decisions!

Prayer requests:

- For the evangelism that takes place in the community on a weekly basis.
- For the gospel to be proclaimed clearly and for it to take root in the hearts of those who hear it in our Bible studies, and door to door evangelism
- For the Lord to build and direct our church launch team as we look for a place to meet for services and plug members into ministry teams
- For the dear brothers and sisters in Kiryandongo Refugee Camp. They are living and serving the Lord through severe trials. The team is helping with ongoing treatment of those who are seriously sick and planning ways to continue encouraging them in their situation.
- For peace and stability in South Sudan.
- For our follow-up of medical ministry, education and pastoral training in the refugee camp



Pastor/ministry leadership training in Uganda



Teacher training in Uganda

PRAYING FOR OUR PINEWOODS MISSIONARIES

Mark and Nicola Faires serve with SEND North, an organization that supports and administers remote ministry activities throughout Alaska, as well as in the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories in Canada.

Mark and Nicola have had a fairly busy summer this year. A work team from a church in South Carolina joined them for a week in late June and was of tremendous help. They were able to do most of the work in converting one of the buildings into an office. They also helped with organizing several of the storage sheds that were full of various odds and ends from the previous owner (this was a VERY tedious task! Thank you!!) and were able to tidy up the property. Everything looks fantastic and Mark and Nicola are so thankful!

Most of Mark's focus this summer has been on aircraft maintenance. The Cessna 206's flaps failed to function as Mark was landing here at home after flying a work team out to a Bible camp. He is praising God that it was with an empty load and on a long airstrip that the malfunction occurred. Had he been landing elsewhere, the result could have been disastrous. The malfunction with the flaps occurred just before Bible camp season and excluded him from participating in the majority of the camp flying. It was a disappointment to not participate in the flying, but it was also a blessing as it freed him up to work more on SEND's Cherokee 6 that is undergoing extensive maintenance in the hanger.

Nicola and the children spend most of their days at home playing outside, tending to their greenhouse, and preparing the guesthouse for the missionary families that come to stay. They continue to visit their neighbors across the street at the assisted living facility. It is a small facility with a maximum capacity of 7 residents and they have been able to form friendships with most of the residents and staff. The residents and staff are a blessing to the Faires and they are thankful that God placed the facility directly across the street.

Praises:

- Several in the villages throughout Alaska have made commitments to follow Christ!
- We are thankful for the work teams that have helped this summer.
- The funds for the Cherokee 6 repairs have been raised!
- The Lord's protection over Mark despite the flap malfunction.
- Mark and several men from our church went dip-netting and caught 131 salmon between them. Our freezer and grocery budget are thankful for the abundance of meat that the Lord has provided.
- Thank you for your continued prayers and support! You are an encouragement to us!

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for the maintenance on the Cherokee 6, that Mark would have a keen eye on repairs that need to be made.
- We still need additional financial supporters
- Nicola's grandma was diagnosed with cancer last year and is not doing well. Prayers for my family in the coming weeks would be much appreciated.



Evelyn, Orson and Winston Faires – future pilots?

PRAYING FOR OUR PINEWOODS MISSIONARIES

Mack Griffith, Chaplain (Ret) Colonel USAR, serves as the associate director of the PRCC (Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel), an agency of the PCA's Mission to North America (MNA). He is a "chaplain to the chaplains" for the PCA and Reformed chaplains who serve our military forces. Email: Mgriffith@pcanet.org

How you can become personally involved in the PCA's Chaplain Ministry:

For valuable information on the PCA's Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains (the PRCC) and for suggestions on how you personally may become involved with this ministry please visit this website: <http://pcamna.org/chaplain-ministries/>

This month we are highlighting the prayer requests from a "brand new" Active Duty Navy Chaplain. In his report he shares some interesting insights into the uniqueness of military chaplain ministry:

LTJG Steven Thomas Szelmeczki, CHC, USN, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, SC (New River Presbytery, PCA) Our adjustment to military life has been encouraging so far. We have been very warmly received by the Protestant congregation at the MCAS chapel and both Brenda and I have had opportunities to interact with various Marines and their families outside of it. Brenda attends a weekly meeting with the spouses of many deployed service personnel. The ladies who attend that meeting are not shy in stating what they are struggling with, and that gives Brenda an opportunity to befriend them and look for opportunities to provide discipleship and mentoring. As for me, I have officially taken over my duties as Chaplain for the Headquarters Squadron. The Squadron has over 800 personnel assigned to it and I have met many of them over the last two months. In June I also took over the Protestant congregation at the chapel. The congregation is relatively small (mostly military retirees), but I have seen an increase in single Marines attending services sporadically over the last month. Outside the chapel program my week is filled with meetings, trainings and counseling. I truly enjoy all of them, but especially the counseling because the sessions are very different from the church setting. In church, you have a lot of Christians with problems in their life that may or may not be fully revealed to the pastor. In the Marines, people walk into my office with any number of issues and usually address them with me in blunt honesty (because of the confidentiality I enjoy as a Chaplain.) **The hard part for me is trying to move that candor into dialogue and into a deeper relationship with God that lasts outside the moment. Please pray that God uses me in this unique capacity to build up others for Christ.**

Thank you once again for your prayers. I humbly ask you to pray specifically that:

- God will draw souls to himself at the Air Station through our presence.
- For me to continue to gain trust and confidence with all the Marines of H&HS.
- That Brenda and the kids will adjust to military life and find enjoyment in it.
- That the children's ministry I am trying to build at the chapel will take off.

EMAIL: steven.szelmeczki@usmc.mil



Pinewoods Men's Ministry Kick-off Celebration

Come join us for a kick-off celebration dinner to hear the exciting details about the Pinewoods Men's Ministry, "**I Am My Brother's Keeper.**" Dinner will be provided. Invite a friend, a co-worker, a neighbor. Everyone is welcome. Please sign up in the Narthex so that we can ensure there will be enough food.

Where: The home of Bruce Cullen
3541 Hwy 196
Molino, FL 32577

When: Saturday September 15th at 4PM

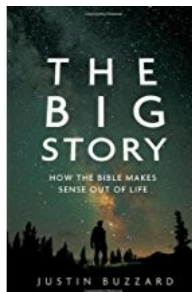
Contact Scott Dean (850)712-6571 or Bruce Cullen (225)715-9274

LIBRARY NEWS

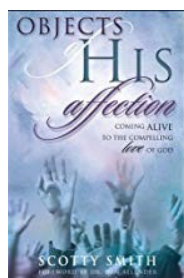
SO MANY THANKS! One Of our beloved Pinewoods families has donated four (!) large boxes of books to our Library. How can we thank you enough on behalf of the whole congregation?

\$66! We were able to sell some duplicate books at a used book store in another city. It was so good to get cash for your donations that we already had on the shelves! Thanks again for your donations!

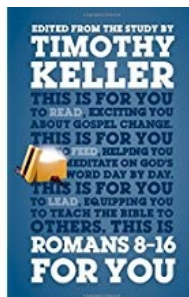
NEW ARRIVALS!



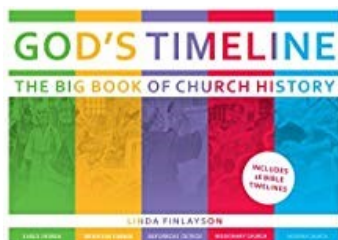
The Big Story: How
the Bible Makes Sense
out of Life
by Justin Buzzard



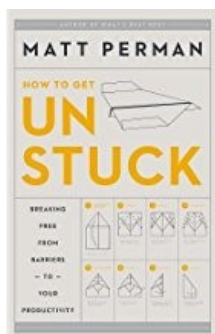
Objects of His
Affection: Coming
Alive to the
Compelling Love of
God *by Scotty Smith*



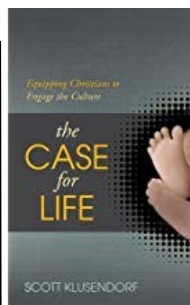
Romans 8-16 For You
by Timothy Keller



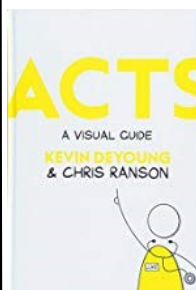
God's Timeline:
The Big Book of
Church History
by Linda Finlayson



How to Get Unstuck:
Breaking Free from
Barriers to Your
Productivity
*by Matthew Aaron
Perman*

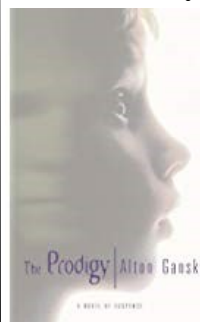


The Case for Life:
Equipping Christians to
Engage the Culture
by Scott Klusendorf



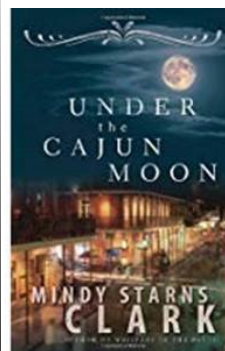
Acts: A Visual Guide
*by Kevin DeYoung
and Chris Ranson*

4 Novels by Alton Gansky - including



The Prodigy
by Alton Gansky

5 novels by Mindy Stearns Clark - including



Under the Cajun Moon
by Mindy Stearns Clark

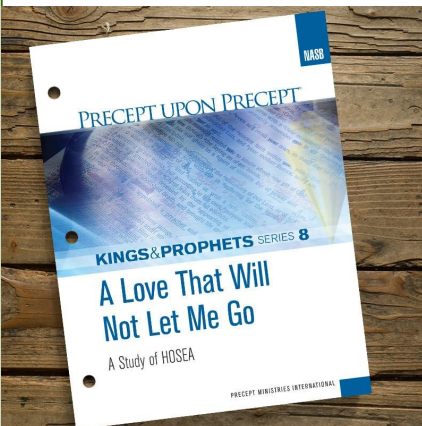
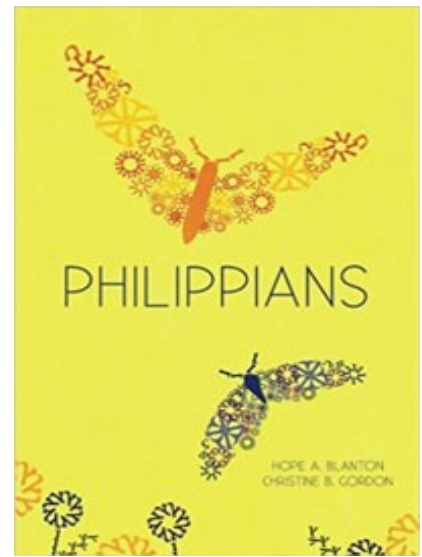


Fall Bible Study

Philippians At His Feet

Tuesday Morning 9:30-11:00 am starting September 4

Wednesday Evenings 6:15-7:30 pm starting September 5



Anyone interested in studying
Precept Upon Precept—Hosea
“A love that will not let me go”

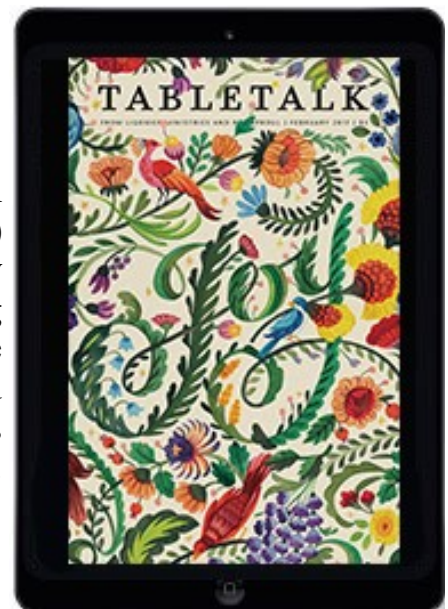
This is a four lesson class starting Wednesday, August 29
 Meeting every other week. Cost is \$9.00.

At Sheryll Biles House 9:00 am

Questions? Please contact Sheryll Joe Biles, 850-479-5944.

TableTalk - Wednesdays - 10:30 to 12:00 at Mrs. Sarah
 Oaks' home (1600 Amanda Lane)

Together, weekly, we go through TableTalk - a monthly
 discipleship magazine written by today's leading
 theologians and pastors to help Christians grow in the
 knowledge of God. It includes daily devotionals, themed
 content dealing with a particular issue, and featured columns
 on a variety of issues.

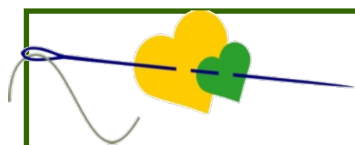


OPPORTUNITY:

The girls in prison are low on yarn after a busy summer of work! If you have leftover, please deposit them in the box located to purchase new supplies as women to give back to the from behind bars. Thank you Collection will continue through the month of September.



in the fellowship hall. Of course, feel free well. This is an opportunity for these community and minister, in a small way, for your help- it is very much appreciated!



Sewing Party for Safe Harbor

9:30 am Thursday, September 13
@ Pinewoods Church
Meet in the Fellowship Hall

Ladies, join us as we make baby blankets for the ladies at Safe Harbor. We have some sets already cut and ready to sew. Bring your sewing machine and come sew and fellowship. Please wash flannel fabric before bringing it. Fabrics should be gender neutral since these blankets will be distributed before baby is born.

Pinewoods Ladies
join us for a

Baby Shower

September 22, 2018
from 10:30 am - 12
in Room 28 @ Pinewoods
to welcome
A Sweet Little Pumpkin of
JAMES & SARAH.
Sarah Nyenhuis is
registered at: Bed, Bath &
Beyond, Walmart and
Target.

Questions? Please contact Shirley Roe
shirleyroe@me.com

Morning of Fun and Fellowship

Ladies! Bring your favorite coffee/tea mug

Saturday, October 27, @ 9:30am @

Myrene Treick's home

3181 Creekwood Drive, Cantonment

for a time of food and female fellowship!

We have planned this to be a relaxed time to get
to know each other! Bring your mug and a smile.
we will provide everything else!



UPCOMING CHURCH-WIDE EVENTS:

Sunday, September 2 - Commissioning Service for Heather S.

Please bring potluck dish to share. Dessert to be provided.

Contact: Deb Showalter, sevenshows10215@bellsouth.net

Saturday, October 20, 7p.m. Sing! PENSACOLA Concert @ Saenger Theatre

Contact: Sheryll Biles sheryllbiles@cox.net

Sunday, October 28, Immediately following the worship service

BBQ Lunch & Yard Fun - everyone stay, the meal's on us!

Contact: Sheryll Biles sheryllbiles@cox.net

Sunday, November 18, 4:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Covered Dish Luncheon

(includes a canned food collection)

Contact: Sheryll Biles sheryllbiles@cox.net

Sunday, November 25, 4:30 p.m. Deck the Halls

Contact: Sheryll Biles sheryllbiles@cox.net

Saturday, December 8, (Time TBD). Pinewoods' Annual Christmas Party

Contact: Sheryll Biles sheryllbiles@cox.net



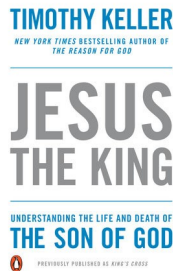
Classes begin each Sunday at 8:45 a.m.

PW Kids (Kindergarten - 5th Grade)

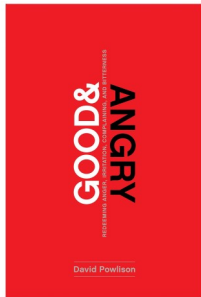
Meet in Education Building (Rooms 7 & 8)

**PW Students
(Jr/Sr High)**

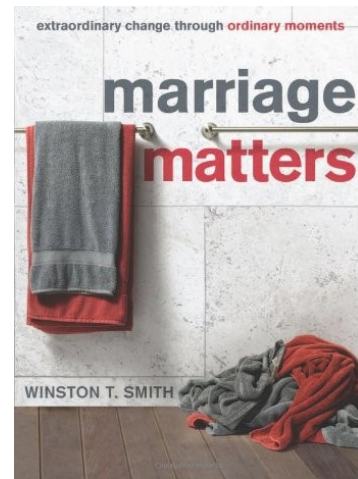
King's Cross, by Tim Keller
Meet in The Mike



Young Adults Class
*Meet in Education Building
(Room 6)*



Adult Class
Marriage Matters by Winston T. Smith
Meet in Education Building (Room 5)



Sunday Night Live

Every Sunday night during the school year from 5:30-7:30 PM we offer a service for children of **ALL AGES** which includes **free dinner**, playtime, games, and a lesson from The Gospel Project for Kids with worship & catechism music.

Sunday - 6 pm

McSwain / Sport Life Group -
(Jean 516-3990)

Milstid / Drew Life Group -
(Frank 968-0274)

Ladner Life Group -

(Judy 968-9888)

Treick / Roe Life Group - 5:30 - 7:15pm *(Shirley 748-0154)*
Meets at church Fellowship Hall

Tuesday

Men's Prayer Breakfast - 6:15 am @ Denny's *(Don 748-0151)*

Hannah Prayer Group - 8:30 am *(Sarah 476-4978)*

East Hill Life Group - 6:15 pm *(Suzy 469-1138)*

College & Careers - 7:00 pm *(Mercer 516-6971)*

Wednesday

Precept Studies - 9 am *(Sheryll 479-5944)*

Tabletalk Group - 10:30 am *(476-4978)*

Music Ministry - *(Kate 982-0786)*

Thursday

West Nine-Mile Life Group - 6:00pm @ Bruce & Sheryll Biles' home 3580 Ashland Avenue
(Heather 228-209-4092; Sheryll 850-479-5944)

This group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month

**** Note: Times and Locations subject to change from each week so please call first. ****

NOTE FROM OUR CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR, BRENDEN CAMP

Dear Volunteers,

Below you will find the updated schedule for Nursery, Hall Monitor, and Children's Church through the end of October. Please review your date(s) and be mindful that you are in full control of switching as needed. If you are unable to locate contact information for anyone listed, please contact the office or me.

Thank you for serving the children and families of Pinewoods.

In Christ,

Brenden Camp
Children's Director
Pinewoods Church
Email: brenden@pinewoodschurch.org
Cell: (850)450-7433
Office: (850)968-9342

PW KIDS EXISTS -FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT-
 TO RAISE UP EACH NEW GENERATION OF CHILDREN TO:



Volunteer Schedule

DATE	INFANT Kristen Rasmussen (Staff)	HALL MONITOR	TODDLER Kathy Touchstone (Staff)	CHILDREN'S CHURCH
9/2/2018	Kathi Kelly	Krissy McKee	Cookie Poynter	Becky Gallagher
9/9/2018	Kendall Sainata	Thiesha Harr	Jennie Carter	Judy Dickinson
9/16/2018	Cory Barrows	Karen Mabie	Chris & Heather Carter	Sandy Skillman
9/23/2018	Meghan Hinson	Emily Butler	Robby Hinson	Lydia Hual
9/30/2018	Jean Sport	Stacey Ziglar	Mercer Sport	Shirley Roe
10/7/2018	Tricia Hubbell	Jesse Chasser	Vera Meacham	Gary & Jeanne McArthur
10/14/2018	Steven Whittle	Brenden Camp	Susan Whittle	Ashley Camp
10/21/2018	April Showalter	Krissy McKee	Deb Showalter	Samuel & Jessica Armstrong
10/28/2018	Vicki Webb	Dan Meyers	Julie Meyers	Becky Gallagher



NewsLetter
DEADLine