



Pine Chips Newsletter

November 2021

Pine Island United Methodist Church
200 North Main, PO Box 8, Pine Island, MN 55963
www.piumc.org – (507) 356-4553



From Pastor Tony

The month of November has two holidays that we celebrate in the Christian Church in the United States. The first holiday we think of in relation to November is Thanksgiving, celebrated on the fourth Thursday. The other holiday that I have in mind is All Saints' Day, celebrated on the first day of November.

In recent generations, All Saints Day has been overshadowed by its fore-evening, Halloween. If you remember, the Trick or Treating night's name comes from "All Hallows (Saints) Eve."

When we bracket this month of November with these two holidays of All Saints' Day and Thanksgiving, and as we see our local fields which recently produced better than expected yields, we find ourselves with a month of being thankful.

The religious Pilgrims held a Feast of Thanksgiving to celebrate their gratefulness to God for freedom, a bountiful land, and for life itself.

⁹The Lord spoke to Moses: ¹⁰Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you and you reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest.

– Leviticus 23:9 - 10

The theme of thanksgiving continues when I remember All Saints' Sunday. When I celebrate All Saints', I remember those I have known and loved who have died this past year. I also remember persons who have died in previous years who have been important to me and persons who I have loved.

All Saints' Day is also a day to remember and give thanks for the persons who have gone before us from this church – who in their faithfulness and vision for the future been a part of giving us this gift of our church. I encourage you to reflect and consider who those people are in the life of our church family who has made this church a reality for you and me. **Consider also the legacy we are creating for the generations who will follow our generation.**

You see, the complement of "Thanksgiving" is "giving." We also should consider what gift we are willing to give to the future generations of our church family. Our faithful participation in the ministries of the church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness while we are alive will assure a church where future generations will be able to worship God and love one another.

In November, take some time (maybe even on November 1st, or even around our tables on Thanksgiving Day) to be thankful for what God has given us, and to be thankful for those in our lives who have passed on the blessings of God to following generations. As we hear in our Communion Great Thanksgiving Prayer,

*It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere
to give thanks to our God, the giver of all good things!*

May God Bless Us!

A Message from Jodie our Church Treasurer

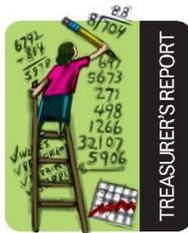
Hi to all the members of PIUMC.

First, I would like to offer my heartfelt appreciation for your generous donations over the few years. You have been consistent in your giving in the past. However, as we open the church more for activities and in person worship, we are now faced with new challenges and expenses. At the same time, we are working hard to stay connected with our members who are unable to attend church and who do not have access to the Internet. This has caused many of our expenses to be increased each month and each year.



Here is an update on how we have been doing. **We borrowed \$4,000 additional funds from the operating loan at the bank within the last month to cover our expenses. The total amount that we owe for the line of credit is \$10,577.70 as of 10/22/2021.**

We have paid \$10,910.80 this year for 2021 apportionments, and we still owe \$13,726.80 for the remainder of 2021 in apportionments.



As of Friday, October 22nd, all bills owed through the end of October are paid and current. We still need additional money to come in to continue to be timely in paying all our expenses for the remainder of the year.

Thank you for all that you have given in the past.

Greetings!

James here,

Your Online Ministry Specialist.

Not too long ago, I attended the Church of the Resurrection UMC's Leadership Institute [virtually of course]. It was here that I learned all kinds of things such as the number one thing that keeps teens from physically going into a church building on Sunday mornings.



Now this training is being augmented by our Annual Conference's Digital Campus Initiative—a program to make the church just as much a digital and safe place as the building in which the Sunday services are webcast. This program doesn't end with the last day of training; among other support, there is continued coaching and peer support throughout the year.

We will share more details as the Digital Campus Initiative progresses.

Worship with Us Inside, Outside, or Online!

We continue to have good attendance at our Parking Lot Worship Service. And there is still room for more cars on the blacktop and for more lawn chairs under the tents!

If you have not checked out this service, come this Sunday. The Emerging Ministry Team is meeting weekly to evaluate the service so it can be even better each week.



Infection rates for COVID19 in our area are at a very high-risk level. This worship option allows those who are interested to more safely gather for worship outdoors in their vehicle, to be unmasked, and to be able to sing during the service.

We will be transmitting the service over FM radio as we did last fall. We will continue our worship in the Sanctuary on Sundays at 9:00 am and will have our live internet feed of worship come from the Sanctuary at 9:00.

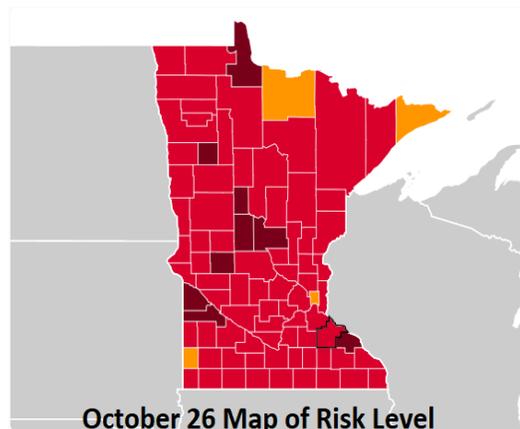
Why Are Meeting Outside?

Infection rates for COVID19 in our area are at a very high risk level. This worship option allows those who are interested to more safely gather for worship outdoors in their vehicle, to be unmasked, and to be able to sing during the service.



The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend everyone, both fully vaccinated and unvaccinated, wear a mask in public, indoor settings in areas with substantial or high transmission. If the rate of infection is above 5%, it is a cause for concern and indicates that it is not being controlled.

At the time this article is being written, Olmsted County, Goodhue County and Dodge County are all above this target rate. You can see current rate right now by [clicking here](#).



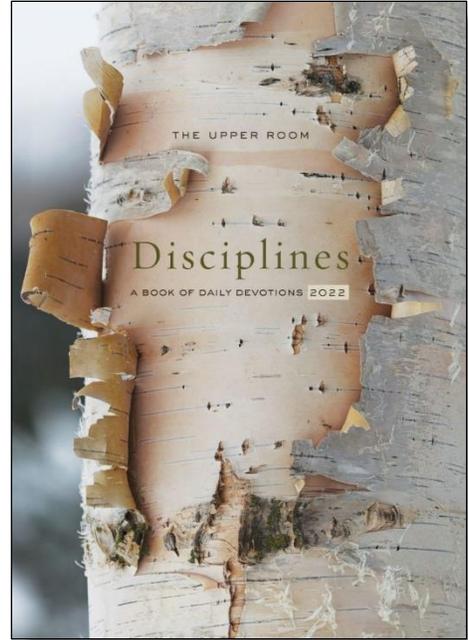
% Vaccinated Risk levels

Low risk  Severe risk

The Upper Room Disciplines 2022 **A Book of Daily Devotions**

Part of Pastor Tony's morning routine is to use both the Upper Room daily devotional and also the *Upper Room Disciplines* book. Every so often he mentions a significant quote in a sermon or our church Facebook page from my daily devotion. Here is your chance to use that same daily devotional book.

Pastor Tony has used the *Upper Room Disciplines* book for many years. *This is a different **year-long** book from the **bi-monthly magazine** that many more of us use. (And when you take into account the actual cost of the bi-monthly Upper Room Devotional magazines, the year-long version is only \$5 more – and with a group discount, the difference can be even smaller!)*



Discover God's hope and purpose for your life and allow God's Word to speak to you through the powerful daily meditations in 2022 edition of *Disciplines*. If you need support establishing a daily practice of Bible study and prayer, you'll find valuable and gentle help in this annual bestseller.

Think of it as a full-years' worth of *The Upper Room daily devotional guide*, only with noted Christian writers tackling weekly themes and writing 7 days of thematic meditations each week. Each of the writers offers a variety of perspectives on daily Bible readings selected from the Revised Common Lectionary.

If you yearn to develop a more prayerful, thoughtful, and relevant practice of daily devotional time, this book holds the key. Each scriptural- and real-life based meditation includes suggestions for prayer and further reflection that will help you be more open to God's love and guidance.

It's time to order our **2022 Upper Room Disciplines** books. If we can combine our order, and interest a few more persons, we can qualify for a group discount and save one the shipping costs. If you are interested talk to Pastor Tony or call the church office by **December 6th**.

Wrapped In God's Love

The lap robes are ready to go. They are for anyone who is in the nursing home, homebound or anyone in need. If you have someone you would like to receive a lap robe, please call the church office at (507) 356-4553.

The lap robes are crocheted. If you would like to join in making the lap robes, contact Nancy Kent at bjkentusa@netscape.net.



Annual Church Conference to be Saturday, November 20th

Our Pine Island UMC Annual Church Conference will be Saturday, November 20th **at Christ UMC in Rochester**. We are anticipating that the meeting will be from 9:00 am until 11:30 am. This annual meeting will be a time of celebration as we celebrate the ministry of our congregation and other congregations in the River Valley District. Do not come expecting church conference as usual, but rather do come expecting Holy Spirit breakthrough.

This will be a special district-wide time filled with inspiration and uplifting worship! ***Every member of our congregation has voice and vote at this special meeting. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend our Annual Church Conference meeting on Saturday, November 20th at Christ UMC.***

We are doing our part to balance our budget... And we also need your help now!

Even though our giving levels have remained relatively constant, we have had increased expenses as we've tried to keep connected and in ministry during the pandemic. We are unable to do everything that we have been doing and are making some cuts to lower expenses.

- We will be having smaller worship bulletins and will no longer be including music in the copies we hand out. (If you want the music, please print up the copy that is emailed to you on Friday and bring it with you Sunday.)
- We will only be printing and mailing information to those who call the church office and request printed information of what we send out over the internet.
- We will be shortening our monthly Pine Chips Newsletter that is printed and mailed out.
- We have shortened our church office hours. Shanna, our Administrative Assistant, will be here from 8:00 am until noon, Mondays through Wednesdays.
- Our custodians, Vickie and Larry Sather, will be cutting down on the areas of the church that they keep clean and maintained.
- We have applied for and have received a grant to pay three-fourths of the salary of our Online Ministry Specialist, James Miller. This is a Digital Campus Initiative grant from the Minnesota Annual Conference.
- Our Church Treasurer, Jodie Shanahan, is continuing to search for additional grants and interest-free forgivable loans to help fund our church's ministry.

And we also now need your help!! If you are someone who can increase your contributions, this is the time we really need your help!

If you have additional specific questions, please call Jodie Shanahan at (507) 990-4412 or Pastor Tony at (507) 356-4553 or (507) 236-3781.

Midweek News Weekly Email

Things can change fast around church!

Our two weekly emails are your source of up-to-date news about what's happening each week!

Be sure to stay connected and in the know by reading your midweek news!



If you are new to our congregation, we send out a weekly email each Wednesday with the four or five things about Pine Island UMC that you will want to know about. On Friday, a weekend edition is sent out to help us prepare for worship.

Please subscribe so you keep on getting this Midweek News. You can find the link at the bottom of the page at www.piumc.org. (Click the Midweek News link and then click "subscribe" at the top of the current issue.) If you have not received any issues, (after you have checked your "junk mail" folder) please call the church office so that we can add you to the list.

If you don't have email, we are mailing paper copies of the issues to you (along with the weekly bulletin and sermon.) If you are not getting these mailings, please call the church office at (507) 356-4553.

Join Us for Coffee Fellowship!

Join us after worship on Sundays at 10:00
for Coffee Fellowship!

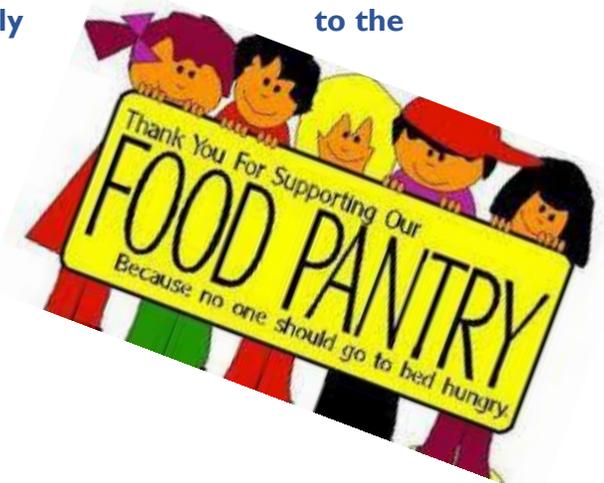
You can now find us in the Parking Lot between the 9:00am
(indoor) worship and
the 10:30am Parking Lot worship service.



1. Join us for worship at 9:00am or come early 10:30am service.
2. Enjoy coffee and fellowship safely outside in the fresh air with your friends and meet new ones!

PI Sharing Shelf needs

to the



Good morning,

If you are able, please let your members know that these are some of the current needs for the PI Sharing Shelves:

Cake mixes/frosting

Dessert mixes, Cream cheese cake mixes, etc...

Pie fillings

Canned pumpkin

Gravies (jars or boxes)

Small jars of pickles and olives

Stuffing mixes

Thank you for helping us gets the word out, and for helping with this need in our community.

Lori Weis

Sharing Shelves Board President

Our Church Office Hours are now:

8:00 AM until noon
Monday through Wednesday

(Pastor Tony is always available additional hours)

Church Office: (507) 356-4553
Pastor Tony's Cell Phone: (507) 236-3781



Diane Murray	November 01	Katie Andrist	November 15
Ross Simpson	November 02	Jim Anderson	November 16
Maggie Nei	November 03	Taylor Thomforde	November 17
Mike Archer	November 04	Lauren Heller	November 19
Sam Finnegan	November 04	Krista Hogstad	November 19
Carl Mancilman	November 04	Kim Hogstad	November 19
Bruce Swanson	November 04	Brock Mathison	November 19
Kim Huneke	November 05	Chris Dietz	November 22
Linda Murray	November 06	Jeff Neil	November 23
Ivan Pitzer	November 08	Mike Guenther	November 24
Anne Simpson	November 08	Ali Hassan	November 25
Jessa Hielscher	November 12	Rachel Lange	November 27
Brandon Mathison	November 13	Linda Brueck	November 28
Oaklie Schreier	November 13	Martin Imhof	November 29



Blumers, Craig & Rae Ann	November 02,
Alberts, Duane & Marni	November 11,
Hogstad, Brian & Kim	November 16,

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>31</p> <p>Halloween</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Parking Lot Worship 	<p>Nov 1</p> <p>All Saints' Day</p>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Emerging Ministry 7pm Trustee Meeting 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Home Services Yoga 7pm Confirmation 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Ministerial 7pm Worship Rehearsal 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Toastmasters 	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Parking Lot Worship 2pm Resco Rooket 4H 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm Caring Ministry 7pm Boy Scouts 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Emerging Ministry 7pm SPRC 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Home Services Yoga 7pm Confirmation 	<p>11</p> <p>Veteran's Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45pm Girl Scouts 7pm Worship Rehearsal 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Toastmasters 	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Parking Lot Worship 	<p>15</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Emerging Ministry 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Home Services Yoga 12pm Finance 7pm Confirmation 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Bible Study at Pine Haven 7pm Worship Rehearsal 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Toastmasters 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am River Valley District All Church Conf
<p>21</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Parking Lot Worship 	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Emerging Ministry 7pm Council Meeting 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Home Services Yoga 7pm NO Confirmation 	<p>25</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Worship Rehearsal 7:30pm Worship Planning 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Toastmasters 	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>First Sunday of Advent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Parking Lot Worship 	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Emerging Ministry 	<p>Dec 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Home Services Yoga 7pm Confirmation 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Ministerial 7pm Worship Rehearsal 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Toastmasters 	<p>4</p>



Worship Services

Inside – Outside – Online

9:00 AM Inside Sanctuary

9:00 AM – Live Feed on Facebook

10:00 AM Coffee in Parking Lot

10:30 AM Parking Lot Worship

Join us to watch live at

<https://www.facebook.com/Piumc>

**You can also watch the
recorded videos at**

<https://piumc.org>

(507)-356-4553

PIUMC.ORG

Facebook.com/PIMC

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