

The Encourager

P I N E A C R E S C H U R C H

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pictures from Treehouse, 8-Tracks, February Calendar
- Birthdays and Anniversaries

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WORDS FROM OUR PASTOR



PINE ACRES CHURCH
CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

National Church Planting Council Article

Here's an article I did going into the Christian Leader.

My friend Monte told me a parable about a charcoal fire. When the coals are piled together, each coal remains hotter for a longer period. The coals help each other remain on fire. Conversely, when a coal becomes separated from the others, it cools more quickly. Like hot coals, we need other Christians around us to remain "on fire" for Christ.

Over the past few years, the whole world has felt like a lonely, separated coal that's lost touch with the others. I've felt that way as well. That includes not just my extended family but also our Mennonite Brethren extended family. We would all agree that it's been a tough couple of years. As a pastor, it's been hard enough to do just *local* church projects, but it has been even harder to travel and connect across the country with our District and National MB relationships. Like coals in a fire that get separated, we lose our "fire" faster when we're apart. But I see new hope and even a fresh start on the horizon. We can, and we need to reconnect. The devil loves it when we are disconnected. It causes discouragement. It leads to hopelessness. It limits our ability to do God's work. So, with renewed vision, we need to reconnect on critical matters like discipleship and evangelism.

I believe these past few years have taught us that we profoundly need connection and encouragement to stay strong in what Paul called the good fight of faith. I know I need this, both as a local MB pastor and as a District church planting committee member.

And that's why I'm writing my first ever article for the Christian Leader. One way I'm excited about seeing this happen is with the newly formed National Church Planting Council. In the past year the council has been formed to help facilitate and collaborate for additional MB churches across the U.S. In other words, this council is designed to get us connected to "pull the coals closer together" for church growth, church planting and church encouragement.

The council is designed to be a resource and an encouragement to the districts and local churches. I've been on my SDC church planting commission for almost all of my seventeen years here in Oklahoma, and I for one, LOVE the idea of a national collaborative effort. It's hard to plant churches and it's really hard to do it alone. It's hard to dream when you feel you have limited resources. We've got some amazing people serving, and in the months to come, I hope you get to meet some of them in person to fire us up to start more churches.

Just like the individual coals, each of our churches alone may struggle with such a momentous project like planting a church. But collectively, by collaborating, even if it seems small, we can participate in the warmth of a cause. One of our goals is to foster conversations where we can pool our resources, our experiences and our passion for planting.

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A WORD FROM OUR YOUTH PASTOR



Since I've gotten here, I've had a vision for our student ministry to be all about "Moving Students Forward". Everything we do, whether it's a camp, a Super Bowl party, a Wednesday night lesson, a Sunday school class...it's all designed with an effort to move students forward in their relationship with Jesus. In our winter business meeting I shared this verse because I think Paul talks about our faith in the same light. He says in Philippians 3:12-14:

I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

We want to be a ministry that helps students to "press on to reach the end of the race". We believe that Jesus is calling every single student that walks through the doors of the youth room to a deeper relationship with Jesus. We are never called to be stagnant or "reach perfection" as Paul says. We are always growing and learning more about Jesus.

For some students the obvious way forward might be baptism, or choosing to follow Jesus for the first time or get a Bible to take home and read. But other students it might not be as obvious. We want to come along side students and help them figure out what those next steps might be, what the way forward might be.

Being a teenager in today's world can be tough. There are so many pressures from school, friend groups, even parents to do certain things. Life is changing constantly. You are faced with big decisions about the future. You are trying to navigate the social media world. But, we believe choosing to grow in Jesus brings clarity to the problems our teenagers are faced with. If they can make that the main focus of who they are trying to become, then everything else will fall into place. It still might be difficult and hard at times, but life will be better with a focus on Jesus above everything else.

Pastor Dave

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR BRITTANY WILLIAMS



Our theme for the Elementary kids in February is “On My Block.” We are focusing on compassion. God’s compassion for us led to the greatest act of love the world has ever seen. God sent Jesus to rescue us. We reflect God’s compassion when we care about others and work to make things right. We will be studying about Jesus’ mission statement in Luke Chapter 4, Jesus and the Samaritan Woman, Jesus feeding the five thousand and Jesus healing Bartimaeus. We will be learning that compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else’s needs.

Our memory verse is “THE LORD HAS SHOWN YOU WHAT IS GOOD. HE HAS TOLD YOU WHAT HE REQUIRES OF YOU. YOU MUST ACT WITH JUSTICE. YOU MUST LOVE TO SHOW MERCY. AND YOU MUST BE HUMBLE AS YOU LIVE IN THE SIGHT OF YOUR GOD.” MICAH 6:8, NIRV

Our Preschool theme is “It’s a Party!” Did you know there are over 100 million love songs? Why so much interest in love? Well, it could be because God is love. And, God made every person in His image. We were literally made by love, to love and to be loved! That is why Jesus loves everyone, and why He taught us how we can love everyone, too. Jesus gave us so many examples of loving everyone while He was on earth, and we get to share them with our preschoolers this month. Jesus loves everyone, and we can love everyone like Jesus—that is what we want preschoolers to know. And, there’s no better time in our world for children to hear this powerful truth.

Our memory verse is, “DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE.” 1 CORINTHIANS 16:14, NIV

-Miss Brittany



FEBRUARY NURSERY WORKERS

Pink Room—1st Sunday—Stephanie Harris,
Cortney Bell

2nd Sunday—April Javorsky, LaNae Meacham,
3rd Sunday—Angela Day, Raquela Jones
4th Sunday—Jamie Collins, Katie Habekott

Blue Room—1st Sunday—Denise Percy, Carol Short
2nd Sunday—Lanita Nikkel, Kathy Harms
3rd Sunday—Sarah Brewer, Marcela Miller
4th Sunday—Travis and Deirdrah Dyck

Green Room—1st Sunday—Liz Lindamood, Nora Lindamood
2nd Sunday—Matt & Lindsey Fast
3rd Sunday—Nicole Akin, Ashlyn Pugh
4th Sunday—Carissa Cox, Denise Percy

Red Room—1st Sunday—Holly Funk, Kilee Funk, Remi
Randol
2nd Sunday—Angela Day, Presley Fast
3rd Sunday—Jeremy and Keely Anderson
4th Sunday—Neelie Lindamood, Lorelai Bull

HERITAGE NOTES

FIFTY YEARS AGO

February 1972

- A Sunday School teachers convention was held in Clinton
- Congratulations went to Dave and Judi Harms at the birth of Jennifer Ranae.

FORTY YEARS AGO

February 1982

- The Adriel ladies hosted a Valentine's banquet at the Mark Restaurant. The cost was \$6 per person.
- Congratulations went to Rick and Vonnie Schmidt at the birth of Brennan Reid.
- Held our first AWANA Grand Prix
- Average Attendance—143

THIRTY YEARS AGO

February 1992

- The Adriel ladies held a Valen-

tine's Banquet here at church.

- The Men had a Prayer Breakfast at The Mark.
- Average Attendance—151

TWENTY YEARS AGO

February 2002

- Weatherford was out of power for a week. Worship was held Sunday in the Hearthside Room with the fireplace for heat and candles for light.
- ICK-THOOS held a Mock Super Bowl Party the Sunday after the Super Bowl because of the power outage.
- OASIS made a trip to Lawton where they ate Golden Corral and attended a concert by The Reflections.
- Average Attendance—236

TEN YEARS AGO

February 2012

- Jr. and Sr. High held a Super Bowl Extravaganza with all kinds of prizes and games.
- Held a "Hats Off to Tina" Shower to honor her with hats as she began chemo,
- PAC joined Facebook
- Ave. Att.—233

ONE YEAR AGO—February 2021

Average attendance—244

CHURCH STATISTICS 2022

December Ave. Attendance:

Sunday School—155

Morning Worship—217

Wednesday—141

January Ave. Attendance:

Sunday School—147

Morning Worship—195

Wednesday—132

We continue our Pre-School Spotlight from 10 years ago. This month features **Brax Meacham**



PRE-SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

Parents: Brock & LaNae Meacham

Siblings: Madison

Favorite Food: Fruit

Favorite Game: Hide & Seek

Favorite Bible Story: Daniel & the Lions

Favorite Book: Anything about fish

Favorite Animal: Fish

Favorite Song: Building Up The Temple

TREEHOUSE / BRIDGE



Because of much sickness, we had to cancel one January meeting but and were really down in numbers the other Wednesdays, but those who were well and came had a great time!



FORGE FUN



Hope Is Alive



Help stock our shelves for the entire year! Bring any of these items to the following drop off location:

Weatherford - Weatherford Men's Home
1516 Grandview Dr. Weatherford, OK
73096

- TOILET PAPER
- PAPER TOWELS
- KITCHEN TRASH BAGS
- GALLON TRASH BAGS
- PLEDGE
- WINDEX
- MAGIC ERASERS

- FABULOSO FLOOR CLEANER
- SWIFFER JET REFILLS
- SWIFFER JET PADS
- SCRUBBING BUBBLES
- GLASS CLEANER
- DAWN DISH SOAP
- LYSOL

- COMET
- ALL-PURPOSE CLEANER
- CLOROX WIPES
- HAND SOAP
- FEBREZE
- TOILET BOWL CLEANER
- MULTI-SURFACE CLEANER

Upcoming Events



A Baptism will be held Sunday, February 13th. Come join with us as we celebrate these who want to follow the Lord.

Our church is responsible to have a volunteer at the Food Pantry every Monday in February from 1-4 pm. If you could help with this, please sign up at the Information Booth. We have been assured that you will not have to have contact with the public.



Child dedication is an outward expression by parents of their desire to seek the blessing of God on their child(ren). Also, it is a declaration that parents will faithfully perform spiritual and family functions.

A **CHILD DEDICATION** is being planned for Sunday, February 27th. This is a time when parents can publicly say, they want to raise their children to honor and glorify Christ.

Pastor Brian's Article Continued

Let me make this practical. If you came to my church and said, "Go plant a church!" that might seem overwhelming to me. But what if you said, "Let's get a group of church leaders from your region to pool our resources, locally, district and nationally." Imagine a half dozen churches in conversation. One or two churches might have a young family that's been thinking about planting. Another couple of churches may be able to cobble together some money to provide for startup costs. Another church might be able to offer a few families to go with the new church plant. When I planted a church, other churches helped by coming to do community projects periodically.

You see, those coals that were spread apart weren't capable of doing something alone, but together, when each coal provided something- the whole became greater than the sum of its parts. That is why the new National Church Planting Council exists.



All Forge kids (Jr. High, High School and College) are invited to a Super Bowl Party Sunday, February 13th at 5:00 pm in the Youth Room.

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is a ministry in which our church helps, along with other churches in Weatherford. They ask each church in town to provide something each month for the pantry. During the month of **FEBRUARY** our church is asked to provide all kinds of canned fruit. These donations can be left on the North counter in the kitchen and they will be delivered to the pantry. The Food Pantry provides a valuable service to people who are really in need in our community. Please Give!



8 - Tracks



Not knowing what the weather would be like the middle of January, we decided to stay close to home for our January 16th meeting. Twenty of us met in The Gathering for some wonderful soups and great fellowship. It's always fun when we can get together just to talk and catch up with each other.

The next meeting will be Sunday evening, February 20th when we will meet in The Gathering at 5:00 for a Baked Potato Bar. There is a sign-up sheet at the Information Booth for you to sign up. This will be a "bring something meal" so sign up to do that too!!



Such a fun evening!!

GEN 2 GEN

BY KATHY HARMS

Please join us for a Tea Party



Our focus for February is sharing God's love. We will have a tea party on Tuesday, February 1 at 6:00 pm. You don't need to bring anything, just be sure to sign up at the information desk or text me at 580-302-4644. There will be childcare available. We just need to know how many children to expect.

We will make a Valentine gift for local nursing home residents to encourage them and let them know we care.

We also have an opportunity to give cleaning supplies to our local Hope Is Alive house. It is a sober living mentoring group with a Christian emphasis. If you can, please bring an item to our tea party. This is another way to let people know that we care.

Come enjoy a time together of fun, food, and fellowship!

FORGE

Fun



W
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Winter Business Meeting

Our annual Winter Business Meeting was held Sunday evening, January 23rd at 6:00. We heard reports from various boards and voted to approve the budget for 2022. See the minutes from this meeting the bulletin board.

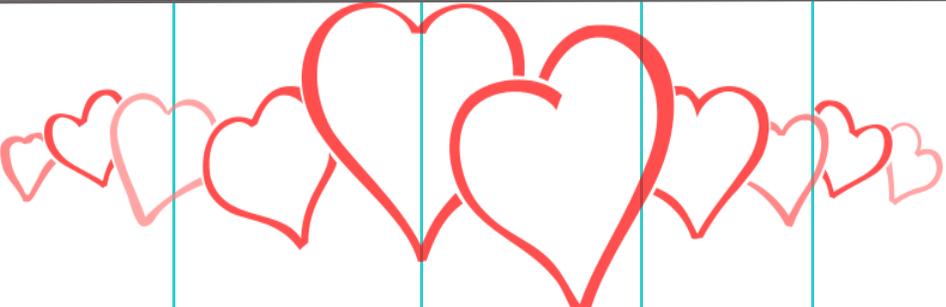


Budget Meeting



Be sure and tell someone how much you care!

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p><i>Happy Valentine's Day!</i></p>		<p>1</p> <p>6:00 pm—Gen2Gen 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00 am—Ministerial Alliance 6:00 pm—Treehouse 6:00 pm—Bridge 6:00 pm—Forge</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 am—Encouragers 6:30 pm—Constitution Committee</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4:00 - 8:00 WOCS Stew Supper</p>
	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 am—SS/ABF 10:30 am—Worship 11:00—KOW 5:00 pm—Deacon's Banquet for Single Women 5:00 pm—Overseers</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 am—Staff 1:00—4:00 pm—Food Pantry 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00 pm—Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00 pm—Treehouse (Team Spirit Night) 6:00 pm—Bridge 6:00 pm—Forge</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>13</p> <p>BAPTISM 9:30 am—SS/ABF 10:30 am—Worship 11:00—KOW 5:00 pm—Forge Super Bowl Party</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 am—Staff 1:00—4:00 pm—Food Pantry 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:00 pm—Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00 pm—Treehouse 6:00 pm—Bridge 6:00 pm—Forge</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
					<p>Kids Super Start—Tulsa</p>	
<p>20</p> <p>9:30 am—SS/ABF 10:30 am—Worship 11:00—KOW 5:00 pm—8-Tracks</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 am—Staff Meeting 1:00—4:00 pm—Food Pantry 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm—Deacon Meeting</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:00 pm—Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:00 pm—Treehouse 6:00 pm—Bridge 6:00 pm—Forge</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>CHILD DEDICATION 9:30 am—SS/ABF 10:30 am—Worship 11:00—KOW 5:00 pm—Friends Task Force</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 am—Staff Meeting 1:00—4:00 pm—Food Pantry 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study</p>					

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

PINEACRES.ORG



PINE ACRES CHURCH

CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

1321 Lark Street
Weatherford, OK 73096

Phone: 580-772-2190
Fax: 580-772-7190
Email: pineacres@pineacres.org



Pastor: Brian Harris
Youth Pastor: Dave Stegall
Children's Director: Brittany Williams
Worship Leaders:
Office Manager: Nancy Fast



BIRTHDAYS

1—Stephanie Harris
1—Brennan Schmidt
1—Lanita Nikkel
2—Max Burd
2—Gretta Coburn
3—Isaac Keasler
3—Keith Manney
4—Jadalynn Blatnick
4— Kyle Johnson
5—Jennifer Lindamood
7—Kelly Martin
8—Robert Nikkel

10—Ralfie Cox
11—Davis Day
15—Alan Foster
16—Raquela Jones
21—Jackie Aaron
21—Amos Jones
21—Blaze Malone
23—Brock Meacham
29—Axel Creswell
29—Gaylord Flood

ANNIVERSARIES

19—Keith and Kathy Sawatzky