

From our Senior Pastor:

Dear Pinecrest Family,

The heat is finally starting to wane as we transition from Summer into Fall. In light of this and our recent Rally Day where we kicked off our discipleship groups for the year, I am reminded of Proverbs 6:6-8 - "Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in Summer and gathers her food in harvest."

Like the ant who prepares for the winter by gathering food, we need to be preparing ourselves for the tasks and challenges ahead. Yes, we need to work hard to financially provide for ourselves. We need to be ready to go grab milk and bread if we hear a winter storm is on its way (or fill up our gas tanks if there is a gas shortage). But we also need to be spiritually prepared. We need to be studying God's Word so that we know what it teaches and how it applies to our lives. We need to be prepared so that when a challenge, temptation, or opportunity presents itself, we will know how to handle it correctly and in a way that honors God.

So study God's Word through private devotions, but also get involved in Sunday School, in a small group or circle. Follow the example of the ant and be prepared!

Your fellow brother, Rhett Carson, Senior Pastor

p.s.- Here's an ant joke: Why was the baby ant confused? Because all of its uncles were ants!

Annual Ladies Luncheon

Saturday, September 24 at 10:30AM in Evans Hall

Speaker: Mrs. Jan Moore

Please sign up in the atrium if you will attend.

**Next Precentor deadline is
Sunday, October 16, 2016**

Election of New Church Officers

Officers serve a given number of years then rotate off the Session or Diaconate. Those rotating off are ineligible for immediate reelection, but may be reelected after one year. Nominations for these offices, or for the office of Treasurer, Financial Secretary, or Congregational Chairman, should be **submitted by October 16** to our pastor, an officer, or turned in to the church office. Nomination forms are included in your Sunday bulletin.

2016-2017 Christian Education Classes and Groups

Sunday School Classes

Lecture - Gary Letchworth leader, Bill Warner substitute

Discussion - Seth Swift leader, Chip Sherer substitute

Youth - Mike Hicks leader, Bob Eckley substitute

Children - Lynn Rogers leader, Norma Eckley and Mary Burrell substitutes

Women of the Church Circles

Circle 2 - Chairman Linda Huntsinger, meets the 2nd
Tuesday at 12:30PM at church

Circle 3 - Chairman Ruth Anne Gibson, meets the 2nd
Wednesday at 1:15PM at the church

Circle 4 - Chairman Susan Sanders, meets the 3rd
Tuesday at 1PM in homes or church

Circle 5 - Chairman Kathy Carson, meets the 3rd
Tuesday at 7PM at the Carson home.

Men's Bible Study

Rhett Carson leader, meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7PM at the church

Small Groups

Sonshine - Bill Stanley leader. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

First Wednesday Night Fellowship and Program

Please join us for our Jubilee Birthday Celebration on October 5 from 5:30-7PM. Missionary Sarah Jacober will give a presentation. A love offering will be collected for two female missionaries: Rebekah Carson and Shelia Osborne. Please bring a main or side dish to share. Birthday cake will be provided.

Pinecrest Kids Bible Club

Begins Thursday, October 6! The Club meets at 3:30PM and features games, snacks, music, and a Bible lesson. Volunteers needed.

Fall Festival

Saturday, October 22

Join us for a fun evening of fall activities at Pinecrest! More details to be announced in Sunday bulletins.

First Wednesday Night Fellowship and Program in November

The potluck dinner on November 2 will feature a concert by The Mardi Gras Blues Showband. This band consists of seven members who are all professional musicians with degrees in music. The group is led by Jack Presseau. The program will feature patriotic music. The dinner will begin at 5:30PM and the concert at 6PM. An offering will be taken to help the band with expenses.

Circle News

Circle 2 ~ Had 11 members at their meeting. October meeting will be held in the church library. Bring at lunch at 12:30PM. Business starts at 1PM.

Circle 3 ~ There were 5 members present. The next meeting will be on October 12 at 1:15PM in the church library.

Circle 4 ~ Did not meet in September. Their next meeting will be on October 18 with lunch at 12:30PM followed by the meeting at 1PM at Carolina Village.

Background Checks

The Christian Education Committee asks every volunteer who has received a background check form, **to please return the form to the church office or to Kathy Warner by October 15.**

WANTED: Our Music ministry needs you to help us make a joyful sound unto the Lord. *“O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!” - Psalm 95:1.* Come, ring bells, sing or play an instrument!

With hope and good wishes from your organist, Sonja

PEACETHATPASSETH

Certainly I am one of the many that have so enjoyed Peggy Cramer's recent articles on the influence of hymns in her life. They have reminded me of many happy memories of my own; probably the same for you. I hope others will share. Here's mine.

If you are in Pinecrest around 9:45 any Sunday morning you will hear the strains of “I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart” coming from Evans Hall. Gary (Letchworth) uses it as the tolling of an old church bell to call one and all to come on in to Sunday School class. I may be physically walking into Evans Hall but in my mind, my 3 year-old legs are

climbing the stairs to the attic room of Grandpa's church in Paxton, Illinois. They seemed like steep steps to me then and rather dimly lit but they brought me to the bright room somehow tucked between the foyer and belfry. Short backless benches provided seating for the congregation's younger children. Miss Nettie was in the front leading us through song after song: *The B-I-B-L-E, Deep and Wide, Oh Be Careful Little Eyes What You See, Zacchaeus*, and ever so many more including "I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart." I loved these songs and sang along lustfully. The second verse of joy, joy, joy is, "I've got the peace that passeth understanding down in my heart." Well, my young ears, not being familiar with the term "peace that passeth," heard that as all one word, "peacethatpasseth". Now, I had no idea what peacethatpasseth meant, but it was a BIG word that I gladly added to my vocabulary and was so proud that I could say it let alone belt it out in song.

It has lately occurred to me that we learned those songs so young but it may not be until age 34 or 50 or 77 that we really realize or experience the depth of their lessons. As I recently pointed out in one of our Circle Bible studies, we still need to be as wary of what our eyes see, ears hear, mouth speaks, and hands do perhaps even more so than when we did at age 3. "For the Father up above is (still) looking down in love . . ."

It was about three decades after I graduated from the attic class that "peacethatpasseth" hit home with me. It was very early one morning, two or threeish, when a long phone conversation ended in a way that would change my life and not, as I saw it, for the better. With Kleenex box in tow, I headed for the porch swing, a favorite spot, to sort and cry it out. But my session there did not go as I had anticipated. I was barely settled when I had the distinct feeling that I was not alone. It was so real that I looked beside me to see who else could possibly be with me on the swing. No one was there, not even my faithful cat, Sugar Brutus. No one that I could see, that is. Then I knew that it was the very presence of Jesus and I could feel the comfort for a strong arm about my shoulders. There was no audible conversation, no promises that this dreaded future would not go forward, but there distinct assurance that I would not be facing a single moment of it alone and that this too would turn out for good. Even now I can remember thinking, "Aww. THIS is the peacethatpasseth!" Not to say there was never any anguish or tears, but through the ensuing months and years there was the consistent peacethatpasseth and now I praise and thank my Lord for it.

Thank you, Lord, for those early years of Sunday School songs and teachings. They have seen me through all these years and, I know, won't

quit now. It saddens me to walk our halls on Sunday mornings and see so few children in our Sunday School. Let's all pray for more families to join with us and for the parents to have the desire to bring their children to Sunday School.
- Martha Scott

Help Needed for Hosting Presbytery

On Tuesday, October 11, Pinecrest Church will host the Fall meeting of Presbytery for ministers and elders from all the ARP churches in North Carolina. We are expecting to have 150 guests with us on that day. We will need help setting up tables and chairs on October 9. On October 11, we will need help with greeting, registration, serving food, and clean-up. If you can help please contact the church office.

Financial Statement as of August 31, 2016

<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
\$241,064	\$229,835	\$11,229

Interfaith Assistance Ministry

September Pantry: Canned fruit and canned pasta, pork & beans, tea

October Pantry: Canned vegetables, quick grits, oatmeal, powdered milk

Clothing Closet: Winter clothing and bedding, sleeping bags

PINECREST CALENDAR

SUNDAYS

- 8:30 am Early Morning Worship Service
- 9:30 am Sunday Morning Bible Study for all ages
- 9:35 am New Members Class
- 10:55 am Worship Service/Children's Church
- 12:00 pm Coffee Hour
- 6:00 pm Worship Service

Regularly Scheduled Weekly Meetings

- Monday 4:15 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- Tuesday 2:30 pm Sonshine Small Group - 1st & 3rd
- Wednesday 11:00 am Prayer Meeting - 1st & 3rd
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday 12:00 pm Sunday Bulletin Deadline
3:30 pm Kids Bible Club beginning October 6
7:00 pm Men's Bible Study - 2nd & 4th
- Saturday 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group

SEPTEMBER DATES

Saturday, 9/24

10:30 pm Ladies Annual Luncheon - Evans Hall

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday, 10/2

8:30 am Worship Service and Communion

11:00 am Worship Service and Communion Life Chain

Monday, 10/3

11:00 am Congregational, Worship and Social Concerns Team Meeting

Tuesday, 10/4

10:00 am WOCM Board Meeting - Library

6:00 pm Christian Education Team Meeting

Wednesday, 10/5

5:30 pm First Wednesday Fellowship/Jubilee Birthday

Friday, 10/7

Women's Ministries Annual Meeting - Bonclarken

Tuesday, 10/11

10:00 am First Presbytery Meeting

12:30 pm Circle 2 Meeting

Wednesday, 10/12

1:15 pm Circle 3 Meeting - Library

Sunday, 10/16

The Precentor Deadline

Tuesday, 10/18

12:30 pm Circle 4 Lunch - Carolina Village

1:00 pm Circle 4 Meeting - Carolina Village

6:30 pm Joint Meeting of Session and Diaconate

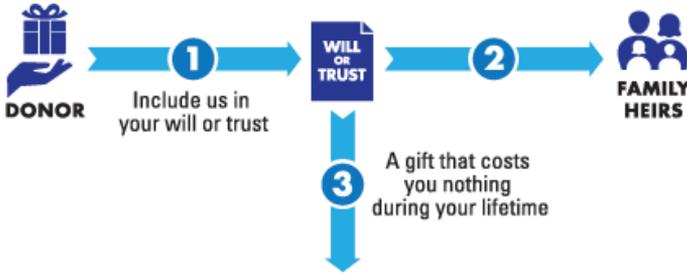
Saturday, 10/22

Fall Festival

Friday, 10/28

Middle School Retreat begins

Gifts from Your Will or Trust



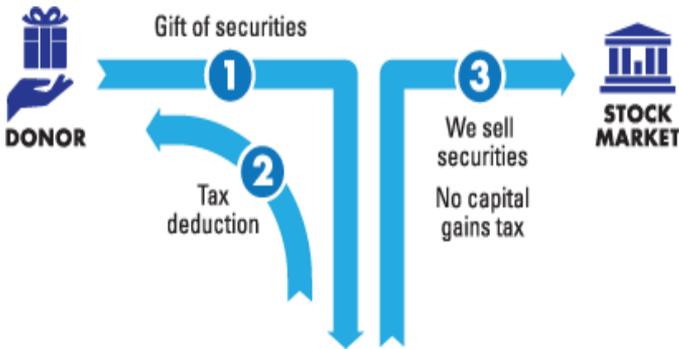
How It Works

- Include a bequest to Pinecrest Presbyterian Church in care of the Capital Reserve Fund in your will or trust.
- Make your bequest unrestricted or direct it to a specific purpose.
- Indicate a specific amount or a percentage of the balance remaining in your estate or trust.

Benefits

- Your assets remain in your control during your lifetime.
- You can modify your gift to address changing circumstances.
- You can direct your gift to a particular purpose.
- Under current tax law, there is no upper limit on the estate tax deduction for your charitable bequests.

Gifts of Stock and Appreciated Assets



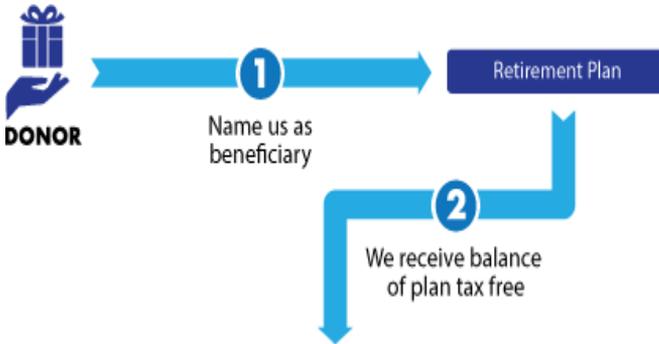
How It Works

- You transfer appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares you have owned for more than one year to Pinecrest Presbyterian Church in care of the Capital Reserve Fund.
- Pinecrest Presbyterian Church sells your securities and uses the proceeds for the Capital Reserve Fund.

Benefits

- You receive an immediate income tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of transfer (even if you originally paid much less for them).
- You pay *no capital gains tax* on the transfer when the stock is sold.
- Giving appreciated stock can be more beneficial than giving cash. The "cost" of your gift is often less than the deduction you gain by making it.

Giving from Your Retirement Plan



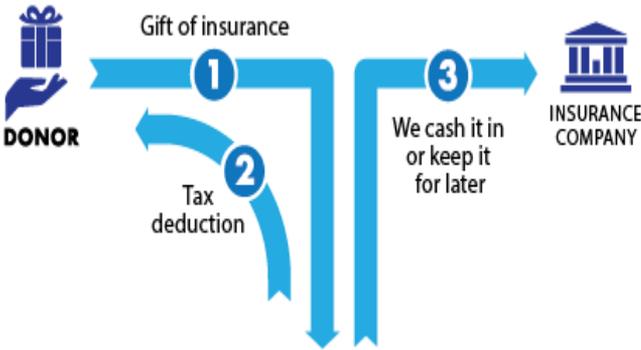
How It Works

- Name Pinecrest Presbyterian Church in care of the Capital Reserve Fund as a beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k), or other qualified retirement plan.
- Pass the balance of your retirement assets to Pinecrest Presbyterian Church in care of the Capital Reserve Fund by contacting your plan administrator.
- Please advise Pinecrest Presbyterian Church in care of the Capital Reserve Fund so we may thank you.

Benefits

- Continue to take regular lifetime withdrawals.
- Maintain flexibility to change beneficiaries if your family's needs change during your lifetime.
- Your heirs avoid the potential double taxation on the assets left in your retirement account.

Gifts of Life Insurance



How It Works

- You transfer ownership of a paid-up life insurance policy to Pinecrest Presbyterian Church in care of the Capital Reserve Fund.
- Pinecrest Presbyterian Church elects to cash in the policy now or hold it.

Benefits

- Make a gift using an asset that you and your family no longer need.
- Receive an income tax deduction equal to the cash surrender value of the policy.

(This was taken from the ARP Foundation's Website and modified for Pinecrest Presbyterian Church's needs.)