



News in the Thicket

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | PINEY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH | SEPTEMBER 2021

A Letter From The Pastor

- Mickey Adams,
Pastor

Another year is quickly passing by. Covid has been a word often heard. We have been touched in many ways and grieved the loss of dear friends. Through it all, God has continued to bless.

Because of your faithfulness, the debt of over \$270,000, will be paid this month. September 12 will be the last Sunday to give to debt retirement. We will call for payoff and send the final payment. After that week, I would encourage us to give to building repair. We have quite a list of projects. There is rotten wood and there is paint that needs attention. Our parking lot has the beginning of potholes and cracks.

Our choir has begun work on Christmas music. Homecoming is

the first Sunday in October. Then there's Thanksgiving and Fall celebration. We have updated By-laws to adopt. A new budget that doesn't have a line item called Debt Retirement will be presented.

Soon we will have a brand new web site. Access to our own app is coming, which will greatly improve our communication to you.

But most of all, we have the wonderful experience of worship and fellowship. We have a lot to do. The best is yet to come. Thank you for the great privilege of being your pastor. Your generosity was on full view in the recent benefit supper and gift to "Goobar" Arnold. He was overwhelmed.

Church Events

- Oct 3rd - Homecoming

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We Are Excited!

177th HOMECOMING - October 3, 2021

**Always a great day of worship and fellowship.
Make plans to attend and invite your friends and family!**

If you would like to help with Homecoming in any capacity, please let me know. We have lots to do around the church before Homecoming and lots to do on Homecoming day.

Text/call 706-888-1817 or email marilyn@philips-branch.com

Hospitality

- Marilyn Buice

Just a thought...

Question: Can Bro. Mickey find you from the pulpit with just a glance?

Question: Have you sat in the same section of the church for years?

Question: Do you come into the church and go immediately to your seat?

Question: Would you recognize at Publix someone (member or visitor) who sits on the "other side" of the church?

Question: Do you know if someone across the aisle is a visitor or a member?

Question: If your seat is in the front, do you stop and speak to those you pass on the way?

Question: If your seat is in the back (like most good Baptists), do you visit with those who dare to sit in the front?

We all like to be comfortable in our surroundings but WHAT IF...

You sat on the other side next Sunday and made a new friend...or

You sat in the front and spoke to a visitor on the way down the aisle...or

You sat in the back and looked for people you do not know and made a point to meet them after the service...or

You offered a kind word and smile to a mom and dad who have dressed and fed 3 little ones before coming to church...or

You took time before the service to ask someone how they are doing and truly listened to their response?

Hospitable: being welcoming and friendly; focusing on the other person, understanding their needs and offering to help them to meet those needs.

Deacon's Notes

- Mike Hudson

Please excuse me while I get on my soap box. My Sunday school class has heard me say many times that a family must have a solid foundation built on Jesus Christ. The world is out to destroy that foundation. If the foundation is not established do not be surprised when your family is no longer a family but a group of people going their different ways. One of Satan's tactics is to redefine the family. The media, which appears to me, is controlled by people that are ungodly and are forcing their views on our children. You see for yourself that every commercial and show on TV are promoting the homosexual lifestyle. If those that watch this every day will soon be numb to the fact that this is wrong and

will eventually begin to accept this lifestyle. The Bible is very clear on this subject, and I would ask that you read Roman 1:22-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 and 1 Timothy 1:9-11 and conclude for yourself what is godly and what is not. This lifestyle is only one view that is presented daily. We adults know better, well most adults, but the attack is on our children. The young mind can be easily influenced to believe things that are not right when it is their face every day. It's not just the young but many church-attending adults have considered this type of behavior is OK. That is why the foundation at home is so critical not just for the children but the adults as well.

Focus on The Family has a list for your consideration as what the Christ Centered Home looks like.

Joy is characteristic of a truly Christian home.

A Christian home is orderly.

A Christ-centered home should be marked by grace.

A Christian home is a place of service.

A Christ-centered home is a place where the spiritual disciplines are practiced.

A Christian home is based on God's purposes for every member of the household.

Let me give you a few of my thoughts to ponder;

Do your children hear you speak of Jesus in a respectful way?

Do your children see you read the Bible?

Do your children see you pray?

Does your family sit down together at mealtime?

Are you involved with your child's education and the subjects they are studying?

Do you know your children's friends?

Is the cell phone or TV the center of you family's attention?

Are you aware of the websites your children are visiting?

Do you limit the time spent on the computer or cell phone?

Have you considered turning off the cell phones when your family is together?

Deacon's Notes - *cont.*

- Mike Hudson

Oh my, it sounds like I am getting into your family business and how you are to raise your kids. That is not my intent. It is to raise the awareness of the future of our families if we do not build a Christian foundation in our homes. Men, let me say, it is your God given duty to lay the foundation.

Ponder these verses:

Psalm 127:3-5

3 Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him. 4 Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court.

Proverbs 11:29

29 Whoever brings ruin on their family will inherit only wind, and the fool will be servant to the wise.

Proverbs 22:6

6 Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

Ephesians 6:1-2, 4

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— 4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

How much do you love your children and grandchildren? The world will not get any better as the days go by and we are not in control of the world's agenda. However, we can control our homes if you are willing to except the monumental challenge that is before every family.

Sunday School

- Bruce Moore

Now that school has started and kids are SO HAPPY to be back in school, (or should I say, Parents are SO HAPPY), I would like to let you know what is happening in Piney Grove Sunday School Department. 🎵 **"It's the most wonderful time of the year"** 🎵

As I walk through the Children's Department, I get to see all the smiling and happy faces. It is such a Blessing to see and hear all the children quoting Bible Verses, singing songs, and enjoying learning about God. We are Blessed to have such Dedicated Teachers and Volunteers' working with the Children of Piney Grove.

I don't want to forget to mention our adult classes. First, I want to thank the Adult Class Teachers for what they do in preparing and delivering instruction and leading discussions with the Adults. I love to walk by and listen to the conversations happening in each class. Secondly, as our adult classes grow, we will be prepared to increase the number of classes as needed. On average, a Sunday School Class should not be more than about 10 to 15 members, but sometimes we go beyond that number. One of the reasons is getting Church Members to have the desire to become a Sunday School Teacher. Please let me know if you are interested teaching/facilitating a class. I will be happy to help you get started.

If you have any questions, please feel free contact me. I look forward to seeing you at Piney Grove Baptist Church every Sunday School morning at 9:45 AM.

Children

- Cheri Corser

Last month we enjoyed Splash Night in Fruitylicious with 27 children and 7 adults. It was a blast! We ended Fruitylicious the next week with prizes awarded for memory verses. Our children are learning God's Word.

Now we are back to our school year schedule. Parents, I encourage you to put these activities on your busy calendars and plan around them to show your children that God is the top priority in your home.

- Sunday School 9:45

- Wednesday - Family dinner 5:30 PM
(reservations needed)

- Wednesday - Music and Missions 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

I love you "cherry" much but Jesus love you much much more!

- Ms. Cheri

Youth

- *Jamie Spurlock*

September is the beginning of fall and with it comes a lot of change. The new season brings with it new opportunities. It's time for football, band, theatre, volleyball, tailgates and hopefully some cooler weather. For PGYOUTH, it's no different. A new school year has begun and with it a renewed vision for our teens.

We have just begun a study of the book of Ephesians, and it is my prayer that studying this book will revitalize our teens and get them excited about what it means to be a Christian. The book of Ephesians not only teaches us how awesome the gift of salvation is but teaches us

that salvation gives us a new purpose in life. That purpose is to be a light in a dark world and to be prepared for battle. Satan cannot stand to see young people serving, ministering, and growing in Christ. Our collective goal for this semester is to do exactly that. Love our God, be good stewards of the gifts and talents that He has given us and to be a positive influence on all those with whom we come in contact.

Continue to pray for our youth and for this semester that we will love and serve the way God has called us to do.

Outreach

- *Pam Carlisle*

The next meeting for the Outreach Committee will be September 13th at 6:00. If you are not on the committee but would like to see what we do, you are welcome to join us.

Our "Meet & Greet" room is ready to meet with all visitors and new members across the hall from the sanctuary after the service every Sunday. Bro. Mickey will be there to answer any questions you may have. We would love to meet you and give you a Piney Grove bag with a gift and helpful information just for you. There will be a slide with this information added soon to our announcements at the beginning of the service.

First Meal Free for all visitors and new members. We have a ticket for your family to join us for a free Wednesday night supper. This is a great time of fellowship and a good way to meet our members. These will be one of the gifts that visitors and new members will receive in their Piney Grove bag when they see us after the service.

Women's Ministry

- Michelle Helms

With summer coming to an end, the women's ministry is ramping up. The next Ladies Night Out is September 17th @ 6:30 at Stars and Strikes. The cost is 19.99 per person and that includes shoe rental, 2 hours of bowling, 2 slices of pizza and unlimited soda.

Loaves of Love is back. Please come join us in baking some love to share September 16th @ 9:00am.

Women's ministry will have a Bible study starting October 7th @ 6:30 meeting in Fellowship Hall. We would love to see all the PGBC ladies in attendance and bring a friend. The study will be on Women of the Bible.

The Ladies Night Out for October will be October 15th @ 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Pam Aldridge will be hosting an arts and craft fall project.

I am starting a ministry with the PGBC ladies to help go and visit, take meals, light housekeeping, or provide someone to sit with so a caregiver gets a little break. Please help me get this started. Anyone who has time and would like to make a difference in someone's day please let me know.

Come and be a part of this wonderful group of ladies as we share God's Word and love and helping church members and the community.

Men's Ministry

- Frank Clouse

The Men's Ministry here at Piney Grove is here to serve. We are interested in helping our aging members that need help with maintenance around the house. This Saturday we will be working to do upkeep of yard for the Griffin's (weather permitting).

If you have tasks which are greater than you can handle, our ministry needs to hear from you. You can contact Frank Clouse @706-566-3599. Leave a message if I am unavailable and I will get back with you ASAP.

We are here to serve The Lord Our God and one another.

Men's Ministry meetings are the 3rd Saturday every month at 8:30am.