# PINE RUN CHURCH OF CHRIST

11549 N. Saginaw Road Clio, MI 48420 (810) 686-9389 pinerunchurch.org Volume 3



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Paul St. Louis, Minister (810) 441-4958

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#### FEBRUARY THEMES:

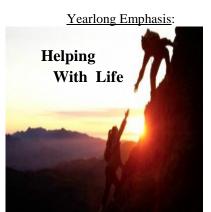
- 2- 5 UNIQUE MINISTRY
- 2-12 LESSONS TO LEARN
- 2-19 NEW PERSPECTIVE
- 2-26 LOVING OTHERS



Building Lasting
Relationships

Present Series:

- 2 -- 5 Pray for MORE
- 2-12 Perspective
- 2 19 Paying the Price
- 2 26 Knowing Christ





# BANQUET Feb. 10 @ 6:30 PM

God is love and has taught us what love is. Come and reminisce how God has shown love in YOUR life. Childhood to the present and on to the future, see how He has reached out. The lessons you "relearn" can be used to share with others and help them look to how God has reached out to them. People will be encouraged to create a spiritual journal that can be passed along to future generations, encouraging them in their faith.

The meal is free, but we are asking for reservations so that we can be assured of having plenty on hand. The menu will consist of: salad, ham, au gratin potatoes, green beans, beverage and cupcakes for dessert.

Feel free to invite guests!

Lowell (Buddy)
Mason
Leaves
Rehab
Facility



God has blessed and brought Buddy through the surgery, and enabled him to return home (as of 1/27). Prayers are still needed.

We were blessed to receive a phone call from him as we were finishing up our Wednesday Prayer & Study.

Buddy continues to struggle with eating and standing. He is sounding good and in fine spirits. Judy has been by his side through it all; including staying with him in his room (first at the hospital and then rehab) at night, sleeping in a chair.

Continue to pray for this couple and the rest of the family who are helping out as they are able. There is still quite a ways to go in his recovery.

Judy and Buddy will be celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary on February 18th. If you would like to send get well and/or anniversary cards; their address is:

> Lowell (Buddy) Mason 117 Forest Drive Carl Junction, Missouri 64834



Two people we have been praying for that were in rehab (Buddy Mason & Tracy Desgrange) were both able to return home in January. Buddy's progress can be found on page 1 of the newsletter.

Tracy is still struggling with being able to eat and having strength to get around on her own. Work still needs to be done to finish remodeling their bathroom (shower & handrails for accessibility have been put in). Family is thrilled to have her home and is helping all to return to some semblance of normalcy.

Several have been dealing with the flu. Others have been travelling

We continue to pray for visitors (those yet to come, and those who have). We lift up our missions and God's work around the world.

Daily prayer emphasis can be found on our church calendar.

God continues to answer prayer and we give Him thanks and the glory! Our study in Psalms has also shown the need to remember ALL that He has done (from the Creation, to caring for His people through the millennia).

If you know of an individual or need: Please contact Paul via his cell phone: (810) 441-4958 or by email: pstlouis59@gmail.com.



Sundays
 9:30

• Study in the Major Prophets!

We are approaching the halfway mark in Isaiah. We have seen God reaching out to all the known nations around Israel, warning them of judgment for sin. Passages throughout the Old Testament reveal that when people (nations, cities, etc.) would listen and repent, that God would see their response and act accordingly. Trials that God's people would face, were made more bearable by knowing that God had a plan for the faithful and that the wicked enemies would also be punished in time.

This book is a reminder of our need to live holy lives, to repent of sin, and to find hope in God's promises when we are facing trials. God remembers His people and provides us a Comforter to strengthen and help.

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am to learn of other messages that God gave through Isaiah!



Our Tuesday study has moved to early afternoon (1:00 PM). Our study in Proverbs is a reminder of parents responsibility to teach their children and morals and values that God wants them to have. We see that lessons are repeated throughout the book; and not to be overlooked, they were written down so that long after Solomon had passed, people could be blessed by the lessons that he taught.

Learn of God's counsel for finances, relationships and life!





#### Wednesdays @ 10:30 am

Inspiring examples of turning to God in trials, in good times, as individuals and as a nation are found throughout the book of Psalms. Passages that prophesy of Jesus and other familiar sections which are later quoted in the New Testament are found throughout. The source for many hymns and praise choruses are also found throughout this book. There is still time to benefit from these lessons as we still have the second half of the book to go. More prophecies, passages quoted in the New Testament and the source of much of the pledge to the Bible is still to be studied.

Time is also spent updating the prayer list and lifting our cares before God's throne of Grace.

Everyone is welcome to join us each week.



## Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

Teens growing up in Flint face many challenges. Many people will think of the issues with water quality, but even more difficult is an environment where the teachings of Jesus are not practiced and/or ridiculed.

Our teens are now studying from I Peter. Peter wrote to Christians living in a hostile environment who would face persecution. He challenged them to live holy lives, get rid of the bitterness and malice and find strength by feeding on God's Word. He reminds them that they are "ROYALTY" and God's ambassadors. Knowing their future would help them cope with the daily strife.

Be praying for our teens that they might apply these lessons to their life and become the light that their neighborhood and schools need to see.



## Thursdays @ 7:00 pm

We are thankful that our teens are willing to help with office work and help around the building! Any teen is welcome to come and serve!

Check us out on Facebook!



Get the latest on activities, prayer needs and other information by following us on facebook: Pine Run Church of Christ



#### www.pinerunchurch.org

Stop by and check out pictures from recent events, find the daily Bible reading and learn about upcoming events and weekly schedule!

#### MISSION FOR THE MONTH:



www.greatlakesch.org

# **Our History**

Great Lakes Christian Homes is a not-for-profit organization that exists for the purpose of meeting the physical, social and spiritual needs of the aging population with support services.

- Programming and Socialization
- Family involvement
- Spiritual Support
- Professional Standards

### **Remember our Shut-ins**

Faye Sargent-Flint

Janice Weir- Frankenmuth

# Remember our Service Personnel

David Anderson Mathew Jennings

## **Board Meeting**

February 19th following Morning Worship

We are glad to welcome back, Lorretta Malin as a Trustee of the Pine Run Church of Christ. She will be filling the term of Steve Lepeak (who moved to Pigeon, MI).

# MIDDLE EAST: TERRORIST TURNS TO JESUS

print storydownload (PDF)email story



no media

The woman sought "Samuel" out. Samuel's team came to the area a couple of times every month to distribute food aid to the thousands of Syrian refugees spread out across Lebanon's countryside. The refugees live in very rough conditions with little opportunity for work or school. Over the years, Samuel's team developed many friendships with the mostly Muslim refugees, giving the team many opportunities to share Jesus' love with them.

"Hanan" heard about the Christians through friends and invited the team to come to her house. A widow in her 40s, Hanan lived with her mother and other older

female relatives in one of the Lebanese fields where Syria refugees have made their homes in makeshift buildings. Her adult children had gone to Turkey early in the conflict, but Hanan and the older female relatives stayed. When the daily bombings in their village finally destroyed their home, they fled to the Lebanese fields.



VOM partners are sharing the gospel with Syrian refugees throughout the Middle East. During their first meeting with Hanan and the women, the team showed them the JESUS film. "I talked with them about God's love and presented the Gospel," Samuel said. After the film, Hanan's mother, a woman in her 80s. and the other older women began to cry. "They had never heard anything about the gospel and Jesus Christ," said Samuel. With tears in their eyes, the family prayed with the team, and Samuel and the others began to visit them twice a

month. Samuel felt a special

bond with the family, because they came from the same province as his father's family. Every other week, they studied the Bible together, and Samuel taught them how Bible stories could change their lives. He gave Hanan a New Testament, and she began reading it consistently.

When Hanan reached a point where she felt comfortable in her friendship with Samuel, she told him something that revealed her surprising and troubling past.

An AK-47 in Hand
Hanan told Samuel that in
Syria, she had been a
member of Jabat al-Nursra,
now known as Jabhat Fateh
al-Sham. The group had
been the al-Qaida affiliate in
Syria and is one of the major
Islamist rebel groups fighting
against the Syrian
government. Hanan was also

a nurse

"I would care for their wounds," said Hanan of her fellow jihadis, "and carry an AK-47 in the other hand." For the Sunni-background woman, the Islamist group were freedom fighters warring against an unjust government, and she wanted to play her part. But her relationship with Jesus was slowly transforming her heart as she learned more about the true peace and freedom that God offers through Jesus.

Samuel met with her every few weeks for more than a year before Hanan suddenly disappeared. "I do not know the status of her faith, whether she is still walking with the Lord or not," said Samuel. She had told Samuel that she was hoping to return to Syria, but the refugees often leave

suddenly when an opportunity for work or housing comes up or when they are granted a visa to another country.

"[It] makes us sad to lose them, but happy that they take the gospel with them, and that's what we see God doing. These refugees meet the Lord, and they are taking the gospel with them as they travel to Europe or a different part of the world," said Samuel.

# China: Pastor Yang Hua Sentenced

After secretly trying Yang Hua for "divulging state secrets," a judge sentenced the pastor of Living Stone Church on Jan. 5 to two years and six months in prison

# Sudan: Pastor Released

The Rev. Kuwa Shamal, one of four men detained in Sudan since December 2015, has been released. During a Jan. 2 hearing, the judge ruled there was not enough evidence against the pastor

# **Our Connection:**

Deb's nephew is travelling on a short term trip where the leader has recently been arrested by the local government for preaching about Jesus. Pray for God to work through him to impact lives in that challenging culture.