

The Pinecrest Precentor

May 2021

From Our Senior Pastor

Dear Pinecrest Family,

I stand stunned and amazed by many things today as I contemplate them:

1. That a Holy God would love a sinner such as me and want me as part of His family.
2. That a Holy God would want to use me as an under shepherd to his flock/the church. (In June, I will have been the pastor at Pinecrest for 9 years and in full-time ministry for 16 years.)
3. That Pinecrest Church would love me so much and be so concerned about my spiritual health and the spiritual health of my family that they would grant me a 3-month sabbatical (May 3rd to August 3rd).

The love and support that God, the session of Pinecrest Church, and the people of Pinecrest Church are showing me and my family is truly amazing. It is not lost on me the extra efforts and sacrifices that will be required not only by the leaders and staff but also by the members of Pinecrest Church to make this Sabbatical happen. So, thank you in advance!

I truly believe that I will also stand stunned and amazed by what God has done for me and my family during the next few months. I will have benefited from spending more time each day with the Lord and being shaped and molded by Him. My family will have benefited from me having the opportunity to spend more time with them having spiritual conversations about how the Lord loves them and would use them.

I also believe that you and I will all stand stunned and amazed by the great things God in his grace will do at Pinecrest Church in the months ahead. We already have wonderful elders, deacons, and volunteers but from May 3 to June 3, we will also be adding two wonderful, retired pastors and their wives into the mix. Rev. Gary & Joyce Letchworth will be praying for, talking to, and counseling our members- I personally have always been blessed by my times together with the Letchworth's. Rev. Tom Shoger will be preaching through the book of 1 Samuel each Sunday and I have always been blessed when I've sat underneath Tom's preaching.

Brothers, sisters, and friends of Pinecrest, I truly believe that the best is yet to come for me and Pinecrest church. I look forward to the next three months of Sabbatical, but I am even more excited about coming back refreshed, introducing the vision team's plan, and working with you for the glory of God and the good of our neighbors in Flat Rock, NC for years to come.

In His grace,

Rev. Rhett Carson

Dear Pinecrest Family,

Pastor Rhett asked me to write a brief article introducing myself and sharing what we'll be studying together in worship during May, June, and July. I am a retired ARP pastor and live in Flat Rock with my wife, Sue. We have been married almost 49 years and are blessed to have five married children and 15 grandchildren. I graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1972 and since then have had several careers including being a Marine and a Naval Aviator, a vehicle engineer, a real estate agent, and then a pastor. We planted two churches before being called to a revitalization ministry at White Oak A.R.P. Church in Georgia, where we served for 15 years prior to retiring.

As we meet for worship beginning May 9, we will be studying together the book of 1st Samuel. The Reformation Study Bible has this to say about this wonderful book:

The books of 1 and 2 Samuel are masterpieces of literature. Their basic purpose is to give a historical account of the emergence and development of the Israelite monarchy... The subject of 1 Samuel is largely the intersecting careers of three figures: Samuel, Saul, and David. The key issue is...How can Israel have a king without compromising God's kingship?... Hannah's song introduces basic theological themes of the books—the sovereignty and holiness of God, divine reversal of human fortune, divine deliverance, and the futility of trusting human strength.

I think you can readily see how all of these themes can have important applications for each of us in the spring and summer of 2021. I look forward to walking through the first nine chapters of 1st Samuel with you.

Rev. Tom Shoger

Pastoral Sabbatical May 3rd-August 2nd

If you have a need, or know of someone who does, while Pastor Rhett is away on sabbatical please call the church office or your elder.

Intercessory Prayer

Liz Kimberling, Barbara Sherrill, Samuel Byrd, Gary Burrell, Pinecrest Church Team

Flat Rock Farmers Market

Pinecrest is excited to once again to host the Flat Rock Farmers Market in our back parking lot. The 2021 Farmers Market will begin on Thursday, April 29th at 3:00pm.

Congratulations Graduates!

Pinecrest is enormously proud of its 2021 graduates:

Isabella McCraw - Graduating from East Henderson High School with a CNA, plans to attend Blue Ridge Community College in the Summer and transfer to a nursing program in the future.

Bruno Saucedo-Carrasco - Graduating from East Henderson High School, plans to attend Dodge College of Film at Chapman University in the fall.

Joseph Sherer - Graduating from East Henderson High School, plans to attend Baylor University and study Theater.

Bailey Whitehurst - Graduating from East Henderson High School, plans to join the Marine Corps and will undergo basic training at Parris Island in the fall.

Our graduates will be recognized and given a gift during the 10:00am service this Sunday, May 2nd.

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9th, and Pinecrest Church will once again honor our all ladies in our worship services with a small gift of appreciation.

Volunteer opportunities

Anyone interested in helping maintain the Memorial Garden (weeding, trimming), please contact Jan Moore 828-606-8788.

Resumption of Services at Pinecrest

The Session will continue to monitor and evaluate the situation and may have to alter our plans once again, but if the Lord wills this is what our church services will look like and what will be changing in the near future.

April 2021: Resume Creeds & the Lord's Prayer in the Church Services

May 2021: Resume Nursery & Adult Sunday School at 11:15AM in the Fellowship Hall

June 2021: Resume Singing Congregational Hymns in the Church Services

July 2021: Masks are OPTIONAL once seated in $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Sanctuary

Possibly Fall 2021: Resume Bible Studies, Fellowship Dinners, Children's Church, Choir, & Handbells

Sickness Policy for Public Worship Services

Pinecrest has resumed in person public worship services. Please see below for our updated sickness policy. For our full guidelines please go to the church website www.pinecrestchurch.com. We will continue to broadcast our services online each Sunday from Facebook and our church website for those who need to remain at home.

Sickness Policy for In-Person Worship Attendance during COVID

Anyone (staff, volunteer, or attendee) who themselves or a household member has tested positive for the coronavirus should not attend public worship services until two weeks after the test was administered and any symptoms subside.

Anyone who themselves or a household member has exhibited symptoms of the coronavirus should not attend public worship services until two weeks after symptoms subside.

Anyone who knows they or a household member has been directly exposed to the coronavirus should not attend public worship services until two weeks after exposure and any symptoms subside.

On any given Sunday, anyone who does not feel well for any reason should not attend public worship services that day.

Anyone who tests positive for the coronavirus and has attended a public worship service at Pinecrest in the past two weeks should notify the church office as soon as possible at 828-692-0063.

Wednesday Online Prayer Meetings

Until we are able to meet in person again, Pinecrest will be having an online prayer meeting each week on Wednesdays at 11:00 am using Zoom Cloud Meetings. If you did not receive an email from the church with instructions on joining, please contact the church office. Please email pinecrestarp@gmail.com with any prayer requests and plan to join us online each week as we pray for each other and for the end of the coronavirus.

Online Giving

During this difficult time, we wanted to make it easy for you to continue your contributions to the church. Please visit our webpage at Pinecrestchurch.com and click on the "Give Online" button in the top right-hand corner. You may use a credit or debit card or opt for direct draft from your bank account. You may also download the Tithely app, create an account, and then search for Pinecrest Presbyterian Church. Or you may opt to mail your check directly to the church at PO Box 421, Flat Rock, NC 28731.

Youth Tubing Trip

All youth are invited for river tubing on Saturday, May 15th in Chimney Rock. We will meet at 2:30, and dinner will be provided. Cost is \$5. Contact Christian to sign up, or for more information!

May Birthdays

6 Bryson Isaacs
7 Emma Sherer
11 Bob Heltman
 Agnes Jones
12 Eric Neal
14 Kathy Groves
16 Ron Grigsby
20 Kyle Isaacs
 Judy Fredrick
21 Bill Owens
23 Heidi Isaacs

25 Joanne Cambron
 Mike Rector
27 John Sanders
28 Mary Ann Owens

May Anniversaries

8 Don & Eleanor Muller
31 Al & Joan Herrington

If your name or family members name is missing and you would like to have it included in future publications, please call the church office at 828-692-0063.

Financial Statement March 2021

*Contributions	Expenses	Deficit
\$23,256	\$32,044	\$8,788

Year to Date

*Contributions	Expenses	Deficit
\$87,442	\$100,150	\$12,708

*Does not include investment income/loss.

Upcoming Events:

In addition to the weekly schedule listed below

April 29th – Flat Rock Farmers Market Begins at 3:00pm

May 2nd – Graduate Recognition during Worship Service

May 9th – Mother’s Day

May 15th - Youth Tubing Trip

Pinecrest Presbyterian Church
Associate Reformed Synod

1790 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock, North Carolina

For the Glory of God, Pinecrest Presbyterian Church exists to produce fruit for God’s kingdom by rooting people in God’s word, growing them in their faith, and helping them branch out with the gospel in their homes, communities, and the world so that all may know that Jesus is Lord.

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am.

Sunday School 11:15am.

Sunday Youth Group Meeting 3:00 pm.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting via Zoom 11:00 am.

You may visit our webpage at Pinecrestchurch.com, connect with us via Facebook, or YouTube to view our Sunday Sermon.