

Pine Street Baptist Church
A Steadfast Fellowship of Grace

January, 2013

THE BEACON



Upcoming Dates

January 7

Men's Basketball, 7 pm

January 9

Family Worship - 6:45 pm

January 13

Youth Meeting - Noon

January 14

Deacons Meeting

7:00 pm

Men's Basketball, 8 pm

January 16

Quarterly Business

Meeting - 6:45 pm

January 17

Senior Adult Dinner

6:00 pm

January 24

Men's Basketball,

6:30 pm

January 27

Youth Meeting - Noon

January 31

Men's Basketball, 9 pm

With the Christmas holiday behind us many people have undoubtedly returned a gift or two they at Christmas. The reasons for the returns are varied. It may have been the wrong size or color. It could be that you already have one. Perhaps you simply didn't like it or maybe there is a defect in the item. Nevertheless, retailers after Christmas spend a great amount of time and energy processing returns.

Each store usually sets its own return policy. There are certain guidelines you must follow. You may or may not need a receipt. You may need to return the item in a certain amount of time. Some stores will give you a cash refund while others may simply offer a store credit. Then there were those purchases that up front, "All sales final." Depending on the store, the return guidelines will determine your actions.



When it comes to the return policy of God one could say it is pretty liberal. As individuals we sometimes wander away from God in our lives. We leave God behind and move on in a direction of our choice. The story of the prodigal son in Luke's gospel illustrates this so well. The youngest of two sons left his father and wasted all that he had on wild living. When he became broke, homeless, and destitute he decided to go back home.

The son was unsure of how his father would receive him. In fact, he never considered going back to life as it used to be. He would be happy just being a servant in his father's household. Yet, as Jesus tells the story, the Father received his wayward son with joy and enthusiasm. Forgiveness was the father's return policy and he showered it on his son. His son had returned and that was all that mattered.

Jesus told this story to illustrate the return policy of God for all who sin and wander away from God. Regardless of the distance we create between ourselves and God, God is always willing to receive us back. God will not turn away any sinner who repents and returns to him. Rather, like the Father in the story, God receives us with joy.

The return policy of God as we begin 2013 is the same as it has always been. It simply says, "Come home." As we begin this year let us remember God's return policy and grand invitation. There is no other one like it. In fact, returns are what God does best.

Philip

Take a Look!**THANK YOU FROM THE OREGON HILL BAPTIST CENTER**

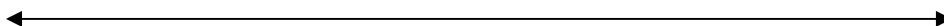
Thanks to all of you from PSBC who helped to make the holiday season a little brighter for many families across our community and our city:

Thanksgiving Meal Bags (including \$10 gift cards) were given to 53 households (227 people)
A Thanksgiving Meal was served to 35 homeless individuals on November 21st.

The Oregon Hill Baptist Center and the South Richmond Baptist Center jointly served 124 families (250 children) at our annual Christmas Store on December 6th & 7th.

27 children "shopped" for their parents, grandparents, and siblings at the Oregon Hill Center Children's Store on Dec. 15th.

Your continued support, contributions, and volunteering are such a blessing to the Baptist Center! It is hard to believe that this year, ***2013 marks our 39th Anniversary*** as partners in ministry. It was 1974 when the Cary Street Baptist Center moved into Pine Street Church and changed its name to The Oregon Hill Baptist Center. I, along with the Richmond Baptist Association are so grateful for your commitment to missions and ministry within the Oregon Hill community and look forward to whatever God has in store for us in the years to come!

**CHILDREN'S DISCIPLESHIP CLASS**

All children 3rd grade and older who are interested in learning more about what it means to be a Christian are invited to attend a special 6 week class which will be co-taught by Philip Turner, Jennifer Turner, & Susan Townsend.

Sundays, January 13 - February 17
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Children will learn the basics of Christianity, how to become a Christian, and how to live as a disciple of Christ. Each child will be given the opportunity to accept Christ as their Savior (if they are ready) during our time together. Each child will also be presented with a certificate in recognition of their participation in the class during the February 17th Worship Service.

If your child is interested in participating in this very important class or you have questions, then please contact Jennifer Turner (648-1353) or the church office (644-0339).



Martin's Cash for Causes

Pine Street will be participating in the ***Martin's Cash for Causes*** program as a means to build the general fund of the church.

Gift cards to be used for your shopping purchases at Martins are available for purchase on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights .

There is no expiration date on the cards and the cards are swiped just like a credit card until they are depleted. The church receives 5% of the card's value for participating in the program. Contact Terry Donohue if you have questions.

Contributions were made to the Properties Endowment in memory of:

Billy Wells

Contributions were made to the Ministries Endowment in memory of:

Tommy and Sherrie Welton

Clara and Robert Hagan

Contributions were made to the General Fund in memory of:

Ted Hairfield and family, Irene Walz and family, Charles Gibson, Hawes and Bisco Schools

and in honor of:

Bill and Evelyn Berry

Contributions were made to Lottie Moon in honor of:

Clint Jackson

January Birthdays

- 2: Lynn Corker
 5: Roger Harler
 6: Alexis Rae Wang
 9: Robert Bledsoe
 10: Virginia Jordan
 Dorothy Blackburn
 12: Jean Priddy
 Betty Stowell
 15: Billy Walker
 George Hall
 16: Emily Tribble Hite
 17: Peggy Williams
 18: Tina O'Mary
 20: Amanda Blankenship
 21: Ruth Carter
 Shannon Cooper
 Joyce Robinson
 David Bell, Jr.
 Lynn Corker
 30: Steven Hancock

Anniversaries

- 20: Karen and Kenneth Jarrell
 24: Bill and Evelyn Berry

Budget Report Through December 16

Needed to Date:	\$37,587
Given to Date:	\$33,622
Variance:	\$3,965

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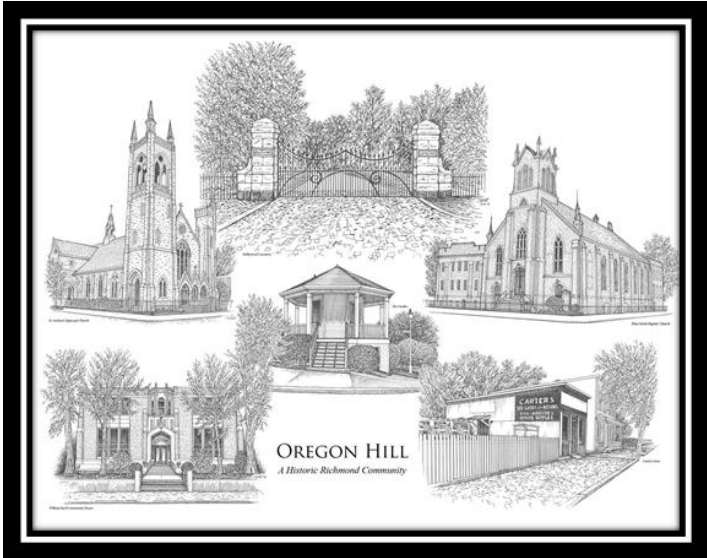
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Nonprofit
Organization
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**We're on the web at:
www.pinestbaptist.com**

Happy New Year!



Pick up one for a friend of Oregon Hill or even for yourself. Prints are available by contacting the church office or through the church's website at **www.pinestbaptist.com**.

The 22" X 17" suitable-for-framing print, features

Family Worship
Wednesday, January 9
at 6:45 pm

Quarterly Business Meeting
January 16 at 6:45 pm
Come and find out what is going on at
Pine Street in 2013!