



AN INDEPENDENT, INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH  
UNIFYING ALL CHRISTIANS THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD  
PINEHURST, NC SINCE 1898



March 2023  
Volume 12 Issue 3

# The Chapel Herald

**Rev. Dr. Ashley Smith, Senior Pastor**

**WORSHIP | LEARN | SERVE**

## ***“Is this really happening?”: Antisemitism in Moore County and the United States***



**I**n the last three months alone, I’ve read several Pilot articles about multiple instances of antisemitism in Moore County.

Banners with Nazi symbols being hung in public? In 2023? In our hometowns? Are you serious! It’s a bit surreal to think that antisemitic ideologies still exist. Perhaps, I’m showing my naivete.

One incident occurred during the time of year when our local Jewish community was preparing to observe Hanukkah, which interestingly enough, is another context of antisemitism on a governmental, mass scale. I read recently that there were almost three thousand cases of antisemitic harassment, vandalism, or assault in 2021—almost three thousand! It’s the most incidents ever reported since the Anti-Defamation League starting keeping track in 1979.

Is it just me, or does everyone seem to be picking on the Jews? Why the Jews? I’m well aware that prejudice and racism are experienced by more people than the Jews. But the holocaust! Even today, the Jews are the bane of every country around them. They occupy one of the smallest plots of land in proportion to their neighbors. Can’t the world just leave them alone? Over there and over here.

Do you realize that God gives caution in scripture about mistreating the Jews? God told Abraham in Genesis chapter 12, verses 2-3:

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;

I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse;

and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

Although we know that God loves all people, and values the life of all, He specifically mentions a blessing and a warning about the Jews. Is it really wise for churches today to make a stand against supporting Israel? As some have done in the name of “religious correctness.” All of this begs the question: “What can we do as Christians to address antisemitism in our community? For suggestions, please email me at:

[ashleyneilsmith@aol.com](mailto:ashleyneilsmith@aol.com)

*~Pastor Ashley*



### ***In this Issue—***

- ◆ ***Meet The Brundages -pg. 2***
- ◆ ***New Members -pg. 3***
- ◆ ***Pastor Trey Message -pg. 5***
- ◆ ***Families and Youth -pg. 6***
- ◆ ***Outreach -pg. 7***
- ◆ ***Birthdays and Anniversaries -pg.11***  
***and much more!***

# Meet the Congregation

## Donna & Kevin Brundage

We both grew up in Williamstown, in The Berkshires of Massachusetts and lived there over 45 years. We met in our teens at Kevin's family's HoJo's restaurant where he was a bartender and I was a waitress. We married in 1977. Dear Amy was born two years later and sweet Jenni in 1983. Kevin owned his own business for seven years and then went into land sales, (he is a self-employed land trader) which he is still involved in today. He has bought and sold land all over the U.S., from New England to New Mexico to Florida and places in between! I was a nanny for many years and helped raise ten children. Also, I have sewn over 300 fabric house portraits. I then went on to own and operate two gift stores, one in Williamstown and one in Lakewood Ranch, FL where we lived for 11 years. We have two wonderful sons-by-marriage, and four amazing grandchildren.

Kevin was raised in the Episcopal Church and I in the First Congregational Church. I have always been intrigued with the Catholic faith and weekly stream services from St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC. This is why we choose to attend the 8:15 Eucharist Service as it is very similar to what Kevin grew up with and it comforts me. The first time Kevin visited Pinehurst, to see if it would be a good fit for us, he sent me a video of him walking around Tufts Park and the Chapel's bells were ringing. Before we even moved here we said we wanted to visit The Village Chapel and the first time we did; we felt so connected and at home with the Church, the Pastors and the people, so....we never left! We still watch that video, just to hear our Church bells ring!

We came to Pinehurst in 2017 for health reasons and for a lower elevation as we lived at 6600' in Colorado. In March 2016, in Colorado Springs, just as we were about to board an airplane; my heart went into spasm and I passed out, straight into Kevin's arms. I was shocked back to life over 40 times, put on a heart pump and breathing tube. When Kevin asked the Doctor "what is the plan", he was told "to keep Donna alive today". The Doctor said I was within an hour of being air-lifted to Denver to be put on life support. When the ER Chaplain whispered in my ear "do you believe in Jesus?" I knew then that I was close to dying. I whispered back "YES" and I know with everything in me, Jesus heard me. After a diagnosis of Idiopathic Ventricular Fibrillation, an ablation (after which I had a cardiac arrest and was given chest compressions), the insertion of an ICD (Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator), and 10 days in the hospital, I survived!! My heart had no damage and was working at close to 100%. Our daughters and sons were there continually and have been so strong and have strengthened me every day since.

So, so many miracles occurred during this whole experience and it humbled us greatly.

Beginning with my husband saving me by constantly waking me from unconsciousness, and my sweet pup who




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*"When the ER Chaplain whispered in my ear "do you believe in Jesus?" I knew then that I was close to dying. I whispered back "YES" and I know with everything in me, Jesus heard me."*

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stood on my chest, licking me awake and giving Kevin time to call 911. We considered ourselves as faithful, religious people but what we went through as a family, deepened our faith to a level we had never known existed. As we have faced many more struggles, with each one we lean on Our Father and Our God and we celebrate being strong in Christ, in spite of our insecurities. Yes, I had amazing doctors and medical staff, who we will forever be grateful for and hold in our hearts, but we know without a doubt it is through God's Blessings and Grace that we are able to celebrate my "Happy Alive Day" each March 8th. We share this very personal story, to bring hope, as we truly believe each day for each person is a gift from our Lord and is to be cherished and lived with purpose. Also, to remember that every one of us has a story. And yes, God's miracles absolutely do happen!

~"This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it". Psalm 118:24~

~"To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything". Thomas Merton~ 

~ Donna Brundage

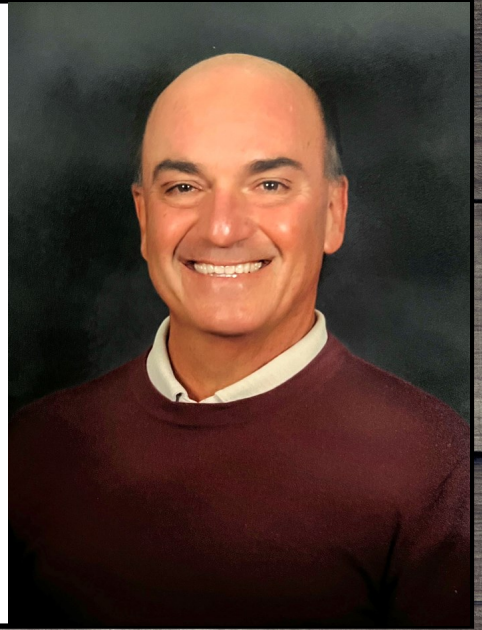
## Meet Our New Members

### **NED STROMME**

Ned and his wife, Sarah, moved to the area only a few months ago; they formerly resided in Palos Verdes Estates, CA. They now reside in the Pinehurst No 6 neighborhood. Being a past member of multiple denominations, Ned simply identifies as a Christian, and is very happy to be a member of TVC; Sarah is of the Catholic faith.

Ned may attend any of our Sunday services, but generally attends either the 8:15 or 9:30 service. He and Sarah both retired from the financial sector; he from banking, Sarah is a CPA.

They enjoy playing pickle ball and tennis, cooking and gardening as well; Ned also plays the piano



### **JOHN & MARY O'MALLEY**

The O'Malley's live in the Fairwoods on Seven neighborhood; They originally moved to Whispering Pines, NC in 1989 then to Fairwoods on Seven in 1996. They have always lived in NC for 9 months out of the year and 3 months in Wisconsin. They were members at the Episcopal Church in Southern Pines. They switched to The Village Chapel during COVID

Mary was a stay at home mom but she was involved in everything. She used to play piano quite a bit, and golf always (3 hole in ones), she has always been an artist and continues to paint at the Artist Gild in Aberdeen, NC.

John is in Real Estate development of residential and commercial properties. At 87 years old he still works 7 days a week in Real Estate. Both John & Mary love to golf and travel. John loves to work and Mary loves to paint.



**MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS-** The feedback received from The Village Chapel Readership Survey gave us some great information regarding what the congregation feels is most (or least) important about the church. One area of interest to the congregation was learning more about our new members. The process of introducing new members began in the September issue of The Chapel Herald. We will continue posting new members each month. If you do not already know them, please seek them out at various church services or events and let them know you are glad they have joined The Village Chapel.

# From the Director of Music



## Music of Remembrance

The Village Chapel was filled with amazing talent on Sunday, February, 19. Our choir, led by **Music Director Stephen Gourley**, put on a fantastic concert featuring spirituals, shaker songs and traditional hymns. Accompanied by **Janelle Francis**, and featuring special guest **Rev. Dr. Paul Murphy**, this was an afternoon we won't soon forget.

Visit our YouTube channel to watch the video.



# Rev. Trey Majure, Associate Pastor



## *“A Season of Fasting”*

It is March and we are firmly planted in the season of Lent. Lent is a “Penitential” season, the same word that we derive penitentiary from. It means expressing sorrow over past wrongs, and thus a penitentiary is a place to express that sorrow...behind bars. This season is marked by fasting and somber worship services, like those found on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.

One of the unique aspects of this season that permeates all of Christendom, is that it is recognized as a season of fasting. Growing up in Mobile, Alabama we would celebrate Mardi Gras every year. A fun trivia fact, most people believe Mardi Gras originated in New Orleans, however the




truth is that it was started in my hometown of Mobile.

Mardi Gras or “Fat Tuesday” began as a time of feasting and merriment prior to the start of Lent, so that everyone could spend one last day of freedom before the penitential season. However, throughout the years Mardi Gras has expanded from the Tuesday prior to Ash Wednesday, into a three week raucous affair filled with beautiful floats and an overconsumption of moonpies. This was one of my favorite times growing up, yet in many ways it speaks of our society at large.

For the majority of the history of the Church, and Western Civilization at that, there were times of feasting and there were times of fasting. And I dare say that the majority of the year was spent in moderation. But today it seems that as we in the United States have been blessed, we have also turned our year into a perpetual season of feasting. It is Mardi Gras year round.

We eat what we want, drink what we want, feast when we want. However, this metaphorical year-round Mardi Gras rarely ends on Ash Wednesday. Whether it is Mobile or New Orleans, the feasting just leaves the streets and enters the restaurants, taverns, and homes. There is never a season of fasting, life becomes a perpetual feast.



I think that is why now, more than ever, a season of introspection and fasting is needed. A time to separate ourselves from the chaos of the world, a time to separate ourselves from the never-ending feast and perhaps enter into peace. Perhaps we can even learn the most important lesson a consumer society can ever learn, “Man does not live on bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.” 

*~Pastor Trey*

# Families and Youth Outer Banks Retreat- Feb. 2023

The Village Chapel is Hosting Its Annual

## Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8th, at 1pm

10 Azalea Rd, Pinehurst NC

There will be a drawing for prizes

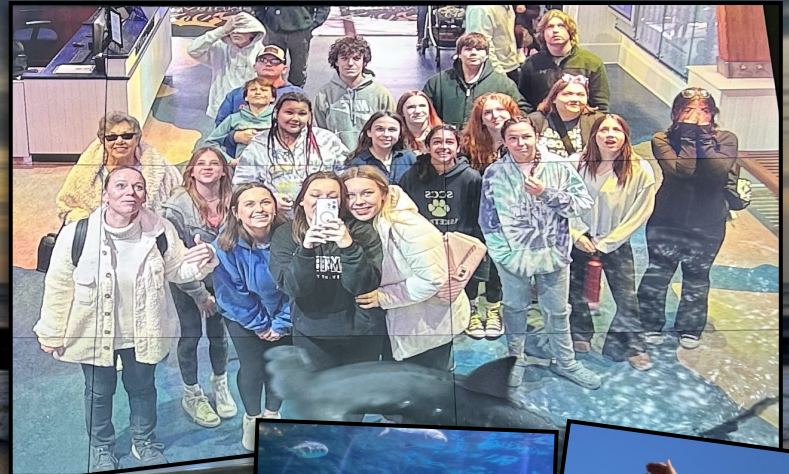
A Visit from the Easter Bunny

Easter Story

Tons of eggs to hunt and lots of smiles.



All Welcome! For more information on The Village Chapel



LOOKING FOR  
**FAITH  
SERVICE & FUN**  
FOR YOUR DAUGHTER?



My daughter has met some sweet girls, and gained some valuable friendships. The AHG Program has also given her great opportunities to speak in front of others and practice leadership skills. - Katie A.

**COMING SOON!!**

American Heritage  
Girls Troop NC-  
1898 & Trail Life  
USA NC-1898

Starting April 12, 2023  
we will meet every 2<sup>nd</sup>  
and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at  
The Village Chapel of  
Pinehurst, NC from 5:45-  
7:30pm

For more information or  
volunteer opportunities  
please visit [www.  
tvcpinehurst.com](http://www.tvcpinehurst.com)  
or contact:  
[TVCNC1898@gmail.com](mailto:TVCNC1898@gmail.com)

### This is the Trail Life.

**TRAIL LIFE USA** is a Christ-centered outdoor adventure and character development program for boys (starting at age 5). Parents love the commitment to a Christian worldview and moral consistency. Boys enjoy the fun and adventure!

Trail Life USA partners with churches to grow godly young men. Boys connect with friends, dads, and mentors in a safe, encouraging, Christian environment.

**Come join the Trail.**

Find a Troop or start one at [www.TrailLifeUSA.com](http://www.TrailLifeUSA.com).



## TRAIL LIFE USA

Adventure > Character > Leadership

Our mission is to guide generations of courageous young men to honor God, lead with integrity, serve others, and experience outdoor adventure.



**AMERICAN  
HERITAGE GIRLS®**  
FAITH | SERVICE | FUN

## Thank you

Our Committee made this year's decisions for distribution of the \$85,000 budgeted funds for missions and outreach as given in our mission statement:

*"We prayerfully considered which agencies to support as well as how much to provide each agency. These included the missions and focus of the supported organizations; how they contribute to God's directive to provide for the poor, the homeless, widows, orphans and aliens among us; as well as what were the most urgent requirements.*

*The agencies (and their websites) are listed under Outreach on the Chapel's website. In addition to monetary donations, congregants of The Village Chapel have given hundreds of volunteer hours in support of these agencies, which includes mentoring youth, providing one on one literacy training, building beds for children, supporting abused families and expectant mothers, as well as providing meals and visiting shut-ins. TVC has been truly blessed to be able to give back out of our abundance. We challenge our community to carry on with this outpouring of Christ's love. Let us continue to be known as giving back to the community, actually being the hands and feet of Christ. God has blessed us so that we can bless others.*

*The Village Chapel will continue to support charities in need with your tithes, offerings, time and talents as the Holy Spirit leads us. Our prayer is that we continue to be a conduit with the guidance of the Holy Spirit to connect our members with agencies and individuals using our God given talents."*

Thank you

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 5, 12-2:00 pm**

### ***Empty Bowls 2023***

Whispering Pines Country Club, enjoy a sampling of soups and desserts from area chefs to benefit the Sandhills/Moore Coalition for Human Care; call (910)693-1600 for tickets, visit [www.sandhillscalition.org](http://www.sandhillscalition.org) or scan QR code.

**March 18**

TVC Youth to assist ***God Sent Angels*** at the Robbins Food Pantry. Times? (Pastor Vickie).

**Apr 1, 6:00 pm**

Habitat for Humanity of the Sandhills annual fundraiser Gala, Pinehurst Members Club, call (910)295-1934, Opt. 4 or [www.habitatgala.org](http://www.habitatgala.org) to purchase tickets.

**April 27, 28, 29, 8 am - 1:00 pm**

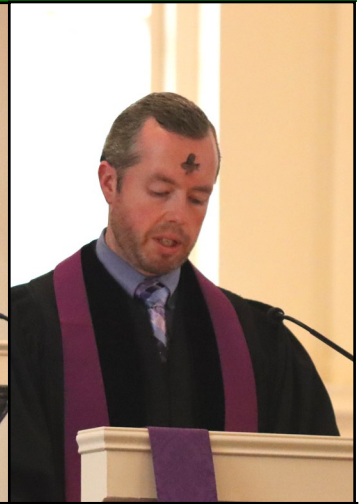
***Apostles Build*** construction days for TVC, Habitat for Humanity of the Sandhills, 200 Hatley Street, Aberdeen sign up at the Volunteer Hub: [www.sandhillshabitat.org](http://www.sandhillshabitat.org).

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE VILLAGE CHAPEL: As an independent, interdenominational Church, we unify all Christians through the Word of God, worship God in spirit and truth; teach and encourage the Christian faith; support the spiritual needs of our congregation, and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through community outreach.

MISSION STATEMENT OF YOUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE: "Prayerfully and earnestly distribute budgeted funds of the Village Chapel to vetted entities through rational giving, while encouraging congregational participation with organizations we support."

*Ash Wednesday, February 22, noon service*

Begins the season of Lent leading up to Holy week and Easter



# HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES



**The Village Chapel**  
Pinehurst, NC



*Palm Sunday – April 2*  
*Meditative Music – Thursday, Friday – 11:00 am*  
*Maundy Thursday Service – April 6, 12:00 pm*  
*Good Friday Service – April 7, 12:00 pm*  
*Easter Egg Hunt – April 8, 1:00 pm*  
*Easter Services*  
*8:00 am – Holy Communion Service*  
*9:30 am – Family Service*  
*11:00 am – Traditional Service*

10 Azalea Road | Pinehurst, NC | [www.tucpinehurst.com](http://www.tucpinehurst.com)



# First Wednesday Fellowship

First Wednesday of the month  
6:00pm in Chapel Hall  
Next up- April 5, 2023

Call the church office for reservations



The **Pinehurst Village Chapel knitting group** is starting up for the year! Everyone is welcome to attend; church members and non-member alike. Knitters, crocheters and non-knitters are all invited. I will gladly teach the art of knitting to anyone willing and wanting to learn. We will start at 10:00 am on Friday, March 3rd. Meetings will be held in the rear conference room of the Church. We plan to knit baby hats for newborn and preemies as well as prayer shawls and things that our hospitals and elder care facilities need.



If you are interested, please send me an email.-  
Yvonne Milakovic (geordie47@gmail.com)

## SERVICE TIME CHANGE

STARTING SUNDAY,  
MARCH 5, 2023

The 8:15 Holy Eucharist  
Service is

CHANGING TO 8:00



### Welcome Stanley Perkins

We are pleased to announce that **Stanley Perkins** joined our staff as **Maintenance Facilitator** on Wednesday, March 1. For over twenty years, Stanley has worked in facilities maintenance (landscaping, custodial, plumbing, electrical, carpentry) and we are fortunate to have him join The Village Chapel team. Stanley will report to the Senior Pastor.

Stanley, his wife, and two children live in Seven Lakes.

# Women of the Chapel

All Women of the Chapel  
are invited to the 13th annual

## Spring Tea

April 18, 2023

2:00 - 4:00 pm

Chapel Hall

Guest Speaker: Cheryl Gilmore

“Let God’s Love Blossom”

*Individual Reservation*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*The cost is \$27 per person. Payment due with reservation.*

Check \_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_ Online payment \_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to TVC with “Spring Tea” in the memo line*

*Drop off reservations in the box outside Heather’s office*

*If you would like to host a table, please contact*

*Eleanora Voelkel at voelkelje@gmail.com (910) 295-4664 or*

*Janice Bezanson at janicebezanson@gmail.com (909) 229-3028*

*Reservations are due by April 4, 2023. Please contact*

*Janis Sholtis for more information at janissholtis@gmail.com*

*High tea catered by Elliots, including a gluten-free option  
available upon request*

# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

...we must always cherish the words of our Lord Jesus, who taught,  
*"Giving brings a far greater blessing than receiving."* ~Acts 20:35

**Children and Youth Sunday School** teachers are needed. As well as Nursery volunteers.

Please contact: **Pastor Vickie 910-992-8309** if you are willing to serve.

**Ushers/Greeters**, please contact Fred Fox: **pfred-fox23@icloud.com**

**Small Group Leaders**, and hosts needed. Please contact John Rowerdink: **jrowerdink@aol.com**

**Tables of Eight** -meal fellowship. Please contact Julie Huggins: **hugginsj4@gmail**

**Volunteers needed** to blow off church steps and surrounding walkways before 8:15 service. Please contact **Joe De Rosa at jedros15@gmail.com**

**Care of Congregation Committee** needs volunteers who can write cards to our shut-ins, widows, and infirmed, and volunteers to make periodic phone calls to the same population.

Please contact:

**Pastor Ashley 910-992-8308** or **ash-leyneilsmith@aol.com**

**Parents' Night Out** needs chaperones for January 13 from 6:00 -8:00 p.m. Please contact Pastor Vickie 910 -992-8309 if you are willing to serve.

**Visitor Table Volunteers** are needed at each service to hand out visitor packets to first-time visitors while manning the welcome table in the narthex. To volunteer, please contact **Mike Poplin at rmikepoplin@gmail.com.**

**Prayer Ministry volunteers** needed to pray for prayer requests. Please contact Nancy Clayton: **nclay1@nc.rr.com**

**Altar Guild** needs volunteers to assist with the altar at all three services. Please contact **Jennifer Imperial at jenz9er@gmail.com.**

## March Birthdays

4 Amy Crabtree Landen Smith Brook Totten- Lancaster	17 Gwen St. Clair Walter Blackwell
5 Phil Martinello Gary Mullis Dianne Cole-Hall	18 Sybil Del Bueno Ford Grimshaw Millard Welch
7 Anne Fox Arlene Knapp	19 Henry Bahr 20 Roy Register Abigail Smith Eva Shumski David Oppen
8 Mary Delauter Char Rohr	21 Chandler Adams Andrew Wilson
9 Lawson Barrett	22 Janis Nestor
12 Russell Zumwalt Jeff Fox	24 Barbara Barnes 26 Buck Adams Maribel Pena
13 Cam Cantelou	29 Jackie Garris Jennifer Imperial Mary Barranti
14 Ferrell Ann Harper	
15 Amy Corcoran Nathaniel Walker	
16 Harriett Riley	

*Happy Anniversary*

3 Nick & Cheryl Nickerson
4 Dave & Lin Cook Greg & Mandy Grimshaw
5 Jerry & Yvonne Taylor
13 Mike & Irene Bradley
24 Robert & Ellen Weaver-Bailey
26 Steve & Bonnie Jo Wurzbacher David & Lynette Crosby
31 Marjorie & Jan Ludwig

**Please contact the office (910) 295-6003 if your birthday or anniversary information is incorrect, or if you need to be added to the list.**

## ***We Need Graduation Guardian Angels***

For the next few weeks, through May 7, we are inviting you to become a “Graduation Guardian Angel.” You can make your check out to The Village Chapel and in the MEMO mark it “graduation” before depositing it in the Chapel office/offering plate OR you can go to the Chapel’s website and under “Giving” make a credit card donation. In the drop-down menu select General Fund and in optional menu type “graduation.”

All contributions need to be made no later than **May 8**. The scholarship VISA cards will be purchased and delivered to the High School social workers for distribution. Additional information will be available in the Friday eblast and Chapel Herald.

Bless you and thank you,

***Pastors Ashley, Trey, and Vickie***



The *Chapel Herald* is a publication of The Village Chapel, 10 Azalea Rd., Village of Pinehurst, NC 28374; [www.TVCPinehurst.com](http://www.TVCPinehurst.com)  
Telephone: 910-295-6003; Fax 910-295-3729; The Care Cottage: 910-295-8026 ; Email [info@TVCPinehurst.com](mailto:info@TVCPinehurst.com)

*The Village Chapel*

The Village Green  
10 Azalea Road  
Pinehurst, North Carolina 28374  
[www.TVCPinehurst.com](http://www.TVCPinehurst.com)

910-295-6003

**Return Service Requested**

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