

# The Tidings

*the monthly newsletter of*

**Pineda Presbyterian  
Church** (PCUSA)



## Sunday, April 7th

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** (Sanctuary Room A)

**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service with Communion**  
(Sanctuary)

## Sunday, April 14th

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** (Sanctuary Room A)

**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service** (Sanctuary)

## Sunday, April 21st

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** (Sanctuary Room A)

**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service** (Sanctuary)

## Sunday, April 28th

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** (Sanctuary Room A)

**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service** (Sanctuary)

*(Five Cents per Meal Offering)*

## Lectionary Readings

### April 7th

Acts 4:32-35  
1 John 1:1-2:2  
John 20:19-31

### April 14th

Acts 3:12-19  
1 John 3:1-7  
Luke 24:36b-48

### April 21st

Acts 4:5-12  
1 John 3:16-24  
John 10:11-18

### April 28th

Acts 8:26-40  
1 John 4:7-21  
John 15:1-8



## Food Pantry Donations

This month, Pineda helped the Advent food pantry feed 51 families with 142 individuals. An average of 73 bags were distributed, with a maximum of 80 bags. 13 new families were served.

**Sunday, April 7th—Canned Corn**

**Sunday, April 14th—Pasta Sauce**

**Sunday, April 21st—Peanut Butter**

**Sunday, April 28th—Canned Seafood** (*Tuna, salmon, sardines, etc.*)

# “Resolute Hope”

by Rev. Juliann V. Whipple

*“The fool says in his heart there is no God”*

*Psalm 14:1*

*“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom”*

*Proverbs 1:7; 2:5; 8:13; 9:10; 15:33*

## “Embracing Wisdom This April Fool’s Day”

April 1st came directly after Easter this year, so it was difficult writing an article after all the writing I did last week. With that being said, I began to think about April Fool’s Day, which is April 1st and why that came to be. The Bible is rich with language about ‘the fool’ so I wondered if there was some kind of connection.

The quick answer is no. Some believe the history of April Fool’s Day goes back to sixteenth-century France when the nation changed from the Julian Calendar to the Gregorian. April 1st had been the end of a weeklong festival celebrating the coming of Spring and with it the new year. Now the new year had changed to January 1st. Some refused to make the switch, or lived in rural areas and didn’t get the word and were mocked as fools by those who made the change. There are other ideas regarding the history of April Fool’s Day, but no one really knows, and it is not really important.

In the rich tapestry of biblical wisdom literature, the themes of folly, faith, and fear are intricately woven together, offering profound insights into the human condition and our relationship with the divine. The Book of Psalms and the Book of Proverbs in particular, illuminate these themes, shaping our understanding of wisdom and our stance towards God.

The Psalms, both in Psalm 14:1 and Psalm 53:1, provide a stark contrast between wisdom and folly. The declaration that “the fool says in his heart there is no God” serves as a poignant reminder of the dangers of arrogance and denial of the divine presence. Folly, in this context, is not merely intellectual ignorance but a moral and spiritual blindness that leads one to reject the existence of God. It represents a rejection of wisdom and a failure to acknowledge the fundamental truths that underpin our existence.

The book of Proverbs also expands on this concept by emphasizing the importance of the fear of the Lord as the foundation of wisdom. The recurring refrain, “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,” underscores the essential relationship between reverence for God and true understanding. As I have mentioned time and time again, it doesn’t mean fear in the sense of terror, but submission before the Creator of everything that is, and was, and ever will be: the recognition of God’s sovereignty and our dependence on Him for guidance and direction.

*Resolute Hope continued*

So, the fool is one who denies God, ultimately leading to a life devoid of true wisdom and meaning. It is characterized by self-centeredness, pride, and a short-sighted pursuit of temporal pleasures. In contrast, embracing the fear of the Lord opens the door to a life of wisdom, righteousness, and reverence for God. For me, that means expanding your mind to the beauty in all things: nature, people, the universe. I imagine God as the great designer, the most prolific designer, scientist.

Wisdom is not merely intellectual knowledge or cleverness but a way of living that is grounded in faith and obedience to God. It is the path of humility, integrity, and discernment. When we align ourselves with the source of true wisdom and find guidance for navigating the complexities of life, perhaps we will eventually find purpose and fulfillment.

So, in the future, when April Fool's Day rolls around. I pray that you will think of aligning your heart with the Creator rather than getting caught up in the world's foolishness. May all our hearts be open to the transformative power of God's wisdom.



- 4/4** Don Hurley
- 4/5** Dick Noonan
- 4/7** Anne Buie
- 4/9** John Moynihan
- 4/10** Wendy Munn
- 4/13** Jennifer Gray
- 4/20** Pat Moynihan  
Cliff Smith
- 4/22** Donna Wilson
- 4/23** Ed Dieterle
- 4/30** Linda Quanstrom



**4/12**  
Bill & Anne Purtill



Church members, Rob & Mary Inkpen have recently moved. If you use our Church Directory app, you will see their new address updated in the app automatically.

If you have not yet downloaded the Instant Church Directory app please see the instructions below. You may also email the church office for their new address.

Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*  and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.

## *It was a Happy Easter at Pineda Presbyterian Church with our lovely lilies and the flowering of the cross!*



### Session Sound Bites

*(March 21st Meeting)*

- ◆ Elder Barbara Mathewson opened the meeting and presented a devotion on James 5:7. “What’s the rush?” reminds us of the need to stop, breathe, and reconnect to God, especially when life is hectic.
- ◆ The minutes of the February 21 stated meeting and the March 3 called meeting were approved.
- ◆ Interim Co-Executive Presbyters Olivia and Hoover Haney will train the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) on April 21.
- ◆ Pat Zinn and Haskel Walker were re-elected Clerk of Session and Treasurer for March 2024—February 2025.
- ◆ Session assignments for the year were announced and are listed in the bulletin and on the Our Team page of the church web site. Safety is now a subcommittee under Facilities. A new Land subcommittee was created under Facilities, with Sandy Curry as Chair.
- ◆ Karen Smith presented a report on the March 4th Spring Presbytery Meeting, which she attended as elder-commissioner.
- ◆ The deacons are updating the prayer chain. The May Tidings will include an article explaining the differences between the prayer chain and the prayer list (in the Sunday bulletin), and the process to place someone on the prayer chain or prayer list and provide updates.
- ◆ The meeting was closed with prayer by Moderator Juliann Whipple.

*NOTE: If you have questions about any of these items, or would like more information, please contact the clerk of session or the appropriate ministry team chair. A list of session members and team chairs is printed on the back of the Sunday bulletin and is on the “Our Team” page of the church website.*

## Mission Team News

For over 27 years, Serene Harbor has been providing safe, confidential services including a 24/7 hotline, safety planning, emergency shelter (including pet kennel) and outreach to victims of domestic violence.



For the month of April, we will collect items for welcome kits for those arriving at the facility. Requested donations include: hand towels, washcloths, lotion, hand soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste and socks for adults & children.

Members of the Pineda Presbyterian Women's Circles will sew drawstring bags to pack the smaller items. Your contributions are greatly appreciated! As the saying goes "if we all give a little, it adds up to a lot". Donation bins and a list of items needed will be placed in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Please contact Karen Smith or any of our Mission Team Members if you have any questions.

To whom it may concern,

We, the Board of Directors and the membership of the Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard Inc. would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your recent donation to our organization.

Whether it was to the Veterans Transitional Facility, our Annual All Veterans Reunion, or to the VVB itself, your support is greatly appreciated and will help in more ways than you will ever know.

Whether you are an individual or an organization, your generosity helps us to provide services to our area veterans. It is an immense honor to assist our veterans, and with your help we look forward to continue representing them in our community.

Yours in Community Service,

Richard Hickman  
President

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard Inc.



**Vietnam and all Veterans  
of Brevard**

*WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST  
APPRECIATION FOR YOUR MOST GENEROUS  
DONATION. THIS MONEY WILL GO A LONG  
WAY TO MAKE REPAIRS SO THAT WE CAN  
SUPPORT AT LEAST TWO MORE VETERANS.  
MAY GOD BLESS YOUR CONGREGATION.*

*Tom*

## March 2024 Cuba Trip Report

Thank you, THANK YOU for your donations for our partner churches in Meneses and Iguará, Cuba!! Your cash gifts bought more than \$400.00 of over the counter medicines and supplies. That, added to your physical gifts of yarn, school supplies, more OTC meds, left-over prescription meds, tuna, and mac & cheese filled 4 large suitcases, several weighing nearly 50 pounds. God's timing was perfect: the church in Iguará only had a few tablets of ibuprofen and acetaminophen left from the supplies you sent in September, 2023.

Life in Cuba is very hard right now and many people do not have enough money to purchase adequate food. Retirees receive a pension of 1,500 CPs (cuban pesos) a month, which doesn't go far: rice costs 230-300 pesos/lb, black beans 400/lb, coffee 300/lb, pork 500/lb, 1 liter of cooking oil costs 1,000 pesos! Both towns have a polyclinic, but no medicines or supplies; neither town has an ambulance, so people must pay 15,000 cp to hire a private car to take them to the hospital in Sancti Spiritus.

The churches are still beacons of light and hope for the people. One of the most important things is to bring children to church to work with them, teach them about God, and also give them some food. The Meneses church provides 1 lunch and 4 snacks per week. Iguará also holds children's programs with prayers, a Bible story, and a snack. I found the children not only more attentive this year, but also remembering clearly other Bible stories they have heard. The church gives the children a place to belong. They are very enthusiastic, and several drop by the church after school just to spend time with Mercy or Milagros, or to be with the other children. The adolescents help in Sunday School, sometimes in the worship service, and also deliver food to the elderly - talking to them, praying with them, feeding both spirit and body. Some of the elderly send money to the church as an offering of gratitude.

Another change I saw from last year is the way the people of both churches now work as teams, instead of relying solely on Mercy and Milagros (the clerks of session who serve as lay pastors for the churches). Both sessions told me that Edelberto (pastor of Caibarién and moderator of the sessions of both churches) taught them how to be united, and that church work must be teamwork, not just one person. I saw that in action, and it was a joy to behold!

I enjoyed spending time on a fun activity with the women of both churches - something new this visit, and definitely something to do again. They loved the cards made by some of our Presbyterian Women, and were thrilled to hear that PPW set aside part of our recent Least Coin offering to purchase food and meds for their churches. Many of them sent back notes of thanks, or their completed coloring page with a note; photos of a few are included on the following pages.

The people of our partner churches send their love and prayers - and they rejoice in your love. Your care for them means so much! I hope the attached notes give you a sense of that love.

Patricia Zinn



Children at Iguará and Meneses churches with the craft activity and enjoying lunch.



## Thank you notes from Church Members in Cuba

Hola mi nombre es Mariam tengo 15 años y es tres años que acito a mi Iglesia y recuerdo que el primer día en ella estaba Patria, para un rato maravilloso ese día. Le agradezco mucho por los medicamentos que nos mandaron, de parte de los niños también les doy gracias por sus esfuerzos y ayuda. Patricia es una persona maravillosa y por eso me gusta mucho estar con ella. Dios bendice a su Iglesia y a ustedes, esperamos con gran entusiasmo el regreso de Patricia atentamente

Mariam Claudia Britos Marichal

Hello, my name is Mariam. I am 15 years old and I've been at my church 3 years. I remember that Patri was there the first day I came and I had a marvelous time. I appreciate you very much for the medicines that you sent, and on behalf of the children I also thank you for your efforts and help. Patricia is a marvelous person and we have good times with her. May God bless your church and you. We wait with great enthusiasm for Patricia's return.

Sincerely, Mariam Claudia Britos Marichal



Thank you for your love. Our church always carries you in our heart. May God bless you always. We are a family in God and we love you.

17-3-24

Iglesia Pineda:

GRACIAS por ayudarnos.

Que Dios siempre los ilumine, los cuide y los ayude

Agradecemos Patricia, queremos volver a verte

Hermanas en Cristo que nos fortalece.

Maria de Jesús Cardoso

Pineda Church: Thanks for helping us. May God always illumine you, care for you, and help you. Thanks Patricia, we want you to return. Sisters in Christ, who strengthens us, Maria de Jesús Cardoso

# Join us for Lunch & a Movie!

Saturday, April 27th at Noon

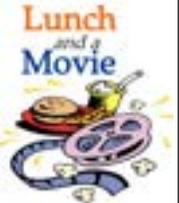
\$4 per person

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall.



## April Worship Volunteers

	April 7th	April 14th	April 21st	April 28th
	Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.	Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.	Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.	Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
	<i>Communion Sunday</i>			
<b>Deacon of the Week</b>	Betty Francis	Helga Wilson	Sue Lundgren	Phyllis Powers
<b>Liturgist</b>	Pat Zinn	Melissa Ketterman	Sue Lundgren	Barb Mathewson
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Herb Dankmyer Dian Walker Karen Smith Betty Francis			
<b>Ushers</b>	John & Elizabeth Bumgarner Ed Walker Cliff Smith	John & Elizabeth Bumgarner Ed Walker Cliff Smith	John & Elizabeth Bumgarner Ed Walker Cliff Smith	John & Elizabeth Bumgarner Ed Walker Cliff Smith

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1	2 11:00am LAFF - Lunch & Fun Fellowship <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 1:00pm "Heart Strings" Knitting & Crochet Group <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 7:00pm Mission Team Called Meeting <i>(Room A)</i>	3 10:00am Facilities Team <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 11:00am Book Study <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 2:00pm Deacons Meeting <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	4 4:00pm Land Development Committee <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 7:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i>	5	6 10:00am PW Coordinating Team <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	
	7 9:00am Upward & Onward Class <i>(Room A)</i> 10:00am Worship Service with Communion <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 11:30am Fellowship Team <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	8	9 11:00am LAFF - Lunch & Fun Fellowship <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 6:00pm Worship Team <i>(Room A)</i> 7:00pm Mission Team <i>(Room A)</i>	10 11:00am Book Study <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 4:00pm Finance Team <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 7:00pm Lydia Circle <i>(Pat Zinn's home)</i>	11 10:30am Dorcas Circle <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 7:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i>	12	13
	14 9:00am Upward & Onward Class <i>(Room A)</i> 10:00am Worship Service <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 11:30am Administration Team <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	15	16 11:00am LAFF - Lunch & Fun Fellowship <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	17 11:00am Book Study <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 6:30pm Session Meeting <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	18 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 7:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i>	19 5:30pm Game Night <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	20
	21 9:00am Upward & Onward Class <i>(Room A)</i> 10:00am Worship Service <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 2:00pm PNC Training <i>(Room A)</i>	22 6:00pm Technology Team <i>(Sanctuary)</i>	23 11:00am LAFF - Lunch & Fun Fellowship <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	24 11:00am Book Study <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	25 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 7:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i>	26	27 12:00pm <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 
28 9:00am Upward & Onward Class <i>(Room A)</i> 10:00am Worship Service <i>(Sanctuary)</i> <i>5 Cents per Meal Offering</i>	29	30 11:00am LAFF - Lunch & Fun Fellowship <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	<p align="center"><b><u>Pineda Presbyterian Church (USA)</u></b>  <b>5650 N. Wickham Road, Palm Shores, FL 32940</b>    pinedapc.org  Pinedapc.office@gmail.com  321-259-1330</p>				