

# The Tidings

*the monthly newsletter of*

**Pineda Presbyterian  
Church (PCUSA)**



## Sunday, February 1st

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** *(Sanctuary Room A)*  
**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service with Communion** *(Sanctuary)*

## Sunday, February 8th *(Scout Sunday)*

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** *(Sanctuary Room A)*  
**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service** *(Sanctuary)*  
**11:00 a.m. — Chili Cook-Off Lunch** *(Fellowship Hall)*

## Sunday, February 15th

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** *(Sanctuary Room A)*  
**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service** *(Sanctuary)*

## Wednesday, February 18th

**12:00 p.m. — Ash Wednesday Worship Service** *(Sanctuary)*

## Sunday, February 22nd

**9:00 a.m. — Upward & Onward Class** *(Sanctuary Room A)*  
**10:00 a.m. — Worship Service** *(Sanctuary)*  
*Five Cents per Meal Offering*

## Lectionary Readings



### February 1st

Micah 6:1-8  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

### February 8th

Isaiah 58:1-12  
1 Corinthians 2:1-16  
Matthew 5:13-20

### February 15th

Exodus 24:12-18  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### February 22nd

Genesis 2:15-17 & 3:1-7  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

## Pineda Presbyterian Church

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***February 8th is Super Bowl Sunday!  
We invite you to wear your favorite  
team apparel to church and join us for  
the Chili Cook-Off Lunch!***

You will have the opportunity to sample a variety of chilis and vote for the one you like best. Each table will have an empty soup can available to collect donations which will benefit the Advent Food Pantry.

February 8th is also Scout Sunday, so we have invited the scouts from Pack 285 and their families to join us for worship and the Chili Cook-Off Lunch.

***Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you would like to bring a pot of chili or a pan of cornbread.***

*In honor of Black History Month, during each Sunday worship service in February, our Organist Bonnie Griffith will play an African American Spiritual. We hope you enjoy them!*



## **MEMBERSHIP CLASSES**

**Have you been considering membership at Pineda Church?**  
A New Members Class is currently being planned and we want to accommodate the schedules of those interested in attending.

**Do you prefer a Sunday class or a Weekday class?**  
**Do you prefer a morning, afternoon or evening class?**

Please contact the church office at: [pinedapc.office@gmail.com](mailto:pinedapc.office@gmail.com)  
to let us know which options will work best for you.

## PASTOR'S NOTE

*Rev. Emily Wasser*

Pineda Children of God,

When I was little, and the internet was still in its infancy, my father found a website that claimed to predict the height of children based on their parents heights. I can remember him walking around the house one day proclaiming to my brother and I just how tall we were going to be when we grew up and getting out the tape measure to see just how much taller we were going to grow. I remember my father excitedly telling me that one day I'd be five feet and four inches tall and then looking up at that tape measure, utterly disappointed. Short. I was going to be short. Or, as my father put it, "vertically challenged." I recall being almost entirely inconsolable. I wanted to be tall! I wanted to be able to ride all the rides! I wanted to be able to look people in the eye and not up at them! It wasn't until my father reminded me that my mother was five feet and two inches that I started to see things in a different light. My mother was beautiful and smart, she was outgoing and a joy to be around. She had "shortitude" my father used to joke, and I was always envious of that trait. My mother taught me that sometimes great things come in small packages.

Sometimes I feel like February is a forgotten month. It has Valentine's Day as its claim to fame but I never hear people say they are looking forward to much in February. People look forward to January because it's the new year, March because of the change of season, July is perfect beach weather, and September is when routines for the school year fall into place, but no one ever says "I'm looking forward to February." Unless of course, you are me!

I like February. It's shorter than all the other months, even with Leap Day. But have you ever thought of just how much gets packed into February. Groundhog Day (ask your friends up north, it's a biggie!), Super Bowl and its counterpart Souper Bowl of Caring, Valentine's Day, Presidents Day Weekend, Black History Month, and, of course, Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. February is not a month that has a holiday celebrated all month long like October and December. Instead, February is made up of small moments of happiness; a few days here and there that ask us to show just how human we are.

February gives us an opportunity to collect cans for the Souper Bowl; with even the smallest cans having two servings, it makes more of an impact than you think! February gives us an opportunity to acknowledge our country's history, the places we've been, the place we're at, and where we want to go. February reminds us that love comes in many forms, not only romantic but familial, sacrificial, and platonic.

*Continued on next page*

February asks us to look inside ourselves, to acknowledge what is broken within us and make a commitment to change as we reorient ourselves back to Christ. Individually, none of these things seem worth noting, but when you add them all up and put them together, February reminds us that sometimes great things come in small packages.

I'm looking forward to this February, just as I am every February. (After all, those of us with "shortitude" have to stick together!) Let us dare to prove to others that this short, sometimes forgotten month, is one of great importance.

Peace to you,  
Emily



## **LENTEN DEVOTIONALS**

This Lent we will use the free online Lenten Devotional from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. We will also email a PDF copy of the devotionals to all of our church members and regular attendees. If you would prefer to receive the daily devotional to your email inbox, please see the instructions below.

Visit: <https://www.pts.edu/email>. Complete the required information and select the third box (Devotionals Advent and Lent) then click "Subscribe".

If you don't like reading on your computer and would prefer a printed copy of the devotional, please email the church office with your request at: [pinedapc.office@gmail.com](mailto:pinedapc.office@gmail.com).

## SESSION SOUND BITES

*(January 21st Stated Meeting)*

- ◆ Pastor Emily Wasser opened the meeting with prayer and a devotion titled “Get Up and Walk” from John 5:1-9.
- ◆ The minutes of the November 19, 2025 stated session meeting was approved.
- ◆ Pineda Presbyterian Women will host the Annual Central Florida PW Bible Study on Saturday, August 8.
- ◆ The 2026 budget was approved in December, 2025.
- ◆ The mileage rate for 2026 is \$0.725.
- ◆ A relationship has been established with Hometown News. Let Pastor Emily or Rhenae know of items for the calendar or articles at least 3 weeks before the event, and they will arrange submission.
- ◆ Pastor Emily will be on vacation February 11-16 and will take some time off the following week to move. Pulpit supply will be arranged for February 15.
- ◆ Elder Commissioner Dian Walker reported on the December 2, 2025 Presbytery Meeting.
- ◆ The Admin team explained how we can provide online registration for events via a link posted to the website, TikTok, or Facebook.
- ◆ The Facilities Team will install a hand dryer in the ladies’ room in Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ Session approved a request from Life Line to hold another screening event at Pineda at a date TBD.
- ◆ Session approved withdrawing \$9787.78 from the Endowment Fund. These funds can be used for future projects that will enhance the worship service or for missions.
- ◆ Session approved a \$145.00 scholarship for a cub scout whose family is unable to pay the national registration fee.
- ◆ Session approved a proposal from St. Pauly Textile, Inc. to install a shed on our property to collect unwanted clothing. St. Pauly will pick up clothing and clean out and empty the shed at least once a week. Clothing will be distributed to the needy and homeless. Pineda will receive 4 cents per pound of clothing. Session voted to deposit the funds in General Mission Designated Fund.
- ◆ Elder Barbara Mathewson closed the meeting with prayer.

*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.*

*2/4 Pat Zinn*

*2/5 Ed Walker*

*2/18 Meg Hoffman*

*2/22 Rhenae Sikdar*



*2/5  
Melissa & Doc  
Ketterman*

*2/14  
John & Claire Ellis*

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES



Our last Sunday of February is also our first Sunday of Lent. Paralleling Jesus's forty days in the desert, Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, reflection, and penitence. It's also a time for what many call "sad songs". Our hymns and anthems will emphasize these themes not to make everyone depressed, but to highlight these themes and bring introspection and understanding. But we should also remember that this is a season of preparation for Easter, much as Advent is for Christmas. We are preparing our spirits to celebrate Christ's triumph over death, which means we must acknowledge, reflect on, and even embrace the sacrifice that leads to our renewal and transformation. Only then will we be fully prepared to celebrate the Resurrection come Easter morning.

We invite you to familiarize yourself with any new hymns by joining us as the choir practices each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.

Justin Walker

Music Director

Our Fidelity Investment account increased from **\$152,233** to **\$152,662**, in January and the Endowment account realized a gain of **\$4,106** for the month.

The operating fund donations were \$16,876 which is on target for the pledges this year. We also had a special offering for Blanket Sunday. \$603 was collected and will be sent to Church World Service. Thank you for your generosity.

We also collected \$45 for 5 Cents per Meal.

For February, don't forget to give your per capita donation of \$30 per person. Per Capita is paid to Central Florida Presbytery based on the number of people we have on the rolls. The church will pay need to pay the difference between what is collected and what we owe. Please help out if you can and contribute your \$30. Thank you.

Barb Mathewson

Finance, Stewardship & Endowment Chair



## UPDATE ON CUBA

The Presbytery Cuba Partnership trip that was planned for mid-February was cancelled due to the current uncertain situation in the Caribbean. We hope to try again in the fall, if the situation stabilizes. In the meantime, the Cuba Partnership Team is currently planning how to ship the medicines and other donations which were already collected for the trip to Cuba through Cubamax in Orlando. Pineda would like to ship the equivalent of at least one large suitcase to each church (Iguará and Meneses). We will continue to collect items and monetary donations through Sunday, February 15th. Please contact Pat Zinn if you have any questions.

### The most needed items are:

- ◆ Pain Relievers (aspirin, ibuprofen, acetaminophen, naproxen),
- ◆ Antihistamine pills and creams (Benadryl, Zyrtec, Meclizine),
- ◆ Multivitamins (child and adult - no gummies please!),
- ◆ Antacids (bicarb of soda, Alka-Seltzer, Prilosec),
- ◆ Anti-diarrheal (Pepto-Bismol, Immodium),
- ◆ Skin ointments (triple antibiotic, Clobetasol, Triamcinolone),
- ◆ Analgesic creams (Voltaren, Ben-Gay).
- ◆ Leftover prescriptions meds, especially antibiotics and high blood pressure meds. (*No controlled substances or anti-depressants*)



### Additional items you can donate are:

- ◆ Craft and Sewing supplies (needles, thread, bobbins, scissors, yarn, crochet thread, knitting needles, crochet hooks, etc.)
- ◆ Children's school supplies (pencils, markers, crayons, paper, coloring books)

If you prefer to make a cash donation, please write a check payable to Pineda with "Cuba supplies" in the memo line, or put cash in an envelope designated for "Cuba".

Thank you for your generosity!

## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Thank you for your continued support of the Advent Food Pantry. Your donations are used each week to feed hungry families in our area. In this new year (the first three weeks) the food pantry has assisted 76 families consisting of 268 individuals. An average of 128 bags were distributed with a maximum of 131. 13 new families were served. You have been faithful in keeping your resolve in the New Year.

**Sunday, February 1st—Canned Green Beans**

**Sunday, February 8th—Canned Meat** (*SPAM, chicken, hash, etc.*)

**Sunday, February 15th—Canned Soup** (*Chicken or beef based*)

**Sunday, February 22nd—Canned Beans** (*Kidney, pinto, black, etc.*)





## February Worship Volunteers

	February 1st	February 8th	February 15th	February 22nd
	<i>Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.</i>
Deacon of the Week	Freda Baker	Karen Smith	Leslie Lyman	Sue Lundgren
Liturgist	Betty Francis	Elizabeth Bumgarner	Pat Zinn	Sue Lundgren
Communion Servers	Melissa Ketterman Barb Mathewson Dian Walker Pat Zinn Freda Baker			
Ushers	Ed Walker Cliff Smith Mike & Sandy Curry	Ed Walker Cliff Smith Mike & Sandy Curry	Ed Walker Cliff Smith Mike & Sandy Curry	Ed Walker Cliff Smith Mike & Sandy Curry

Have you ever considered serving as a liturgist, usher, or communion server but didn't know how?

If so, please join us for a brief training

**Saturday, March 21st at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.**



All who currently serve as communion servers, liturgists, or ushers, are also encouraged to attend, so everyone will have the latest training on current procedures.



*Stay tuned for information on an exciting new mission partnership with St. Pauly's Textile!*

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>9:00am Upward &amp; Onward Class (Room A) 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:30am Fellowship Team (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>GROUNDHOG DAY</b></p> 	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>10:30am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 11:00am LAFF - Lunch &amp; Fun Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Heart Strings Knitting &amp; Crochet (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>11:00am Book Study (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Worship &amp; Tech Team Meeting (Room A)</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>10:00am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Choir &amp; Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>10:00am PPW Coordinating Team (Fellowship Hall)</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>SCOUT SUNDAY</b></p> <p>9:00am Upward &amp; Onward Class (Room A) 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00am Souper Bowl of Caring Chili Cook-Off Lunch (Fellowship Hall)</p> 	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>10:30am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 11:00am LAFF - Lunch &amp; Fun Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Faith Formation (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Mission Team (Room A)</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>11:00am Book Study (Fellowship Hall) 4:00pm Finance Team (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm Lydia Circle (Pat Zinn's home)</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>10:00am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 10:30am Dorcas Circle (Fellowship Hall) 3:00pm Facilities Team (Fellowship Hall) 4:00pm Land Development (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Choir &amp; Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>9:00am Upward &amp; Onward Class (Room A) 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>PRESIDENTS DAY</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>10:30am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 11:00am LAFF - Lunch &amp; Fun Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><i>Ash Wednesday</i></p> <p>11:00am Book Study (Fellowship Hall) <b>12:00pm</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>Worship Service</b> (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>10:00am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Choir &amp; Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>5:30pm Game Night (Fellowship Hall)</p> 	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p>  <p>9:00am Upward &amp; Onward Class (Room A) 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary) <b>5 Cents per Meal Offering</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>10:30am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 11:00am LAFF - Lunch &amp; Fun Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>11:00am Book Study (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Session Meeting (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>10:00am Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Choir &amp; Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> 