



# JANUARY

2026

Modern-day mystic Richard Rohr observes that, “When religion is not about healing, it really doesn’t have much to offer people in *this* life. Many have called it ‘carrot on the stick’ theology or, as my friend Brian McLaren says, we made the gospel largely into ‘an evacuation plan for the next world.’ If we don’t understand the need and desire for healing, then salvation (*salus*, or healing) becomes a matter of hoping for some delayed gratification. We desperately need healing for groups, institutions, marriages, the wounds of war, violence, racism, and the endless social problems in which we are drowning today. But we won’t know how to heal if we don’t learn the skills at ground zero: the individual human heart.

As we begin a new year let us ponder the many ways in which God has been at work in our lives to heal us. And let us contemplate the ways that God still needs to work in our own lives. Jesus doesn’t call us to point fingers at anyone else. Instead, Jesus calls us to a new way of life that will bring peace and goodness right here, right now.

*Pastor Ray*



GWYD D3P  
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Office of the Principal Chief

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November 14, 2025

Re: Food Security Partners Emergency Funding Grant

Osiyo.

The Cherokee Nation appreciates the vital work of non-profit organizations supporting food security across the Cherokee Nation Reservation and contiguous counties. In this time of critical need, we commend your efforts to uplift and serve your communities.

In response to the federal government shutdown and its impact on food security, the Cherokee Nation has committed to offering targeted support to eligible non-profit food banks, pantries, and meal programs through the Food Security Partners Emergency Funding Grant. Deputy Principal Chief Warner and I are pleased to share that your organization is a recipient of the Food Security Partners Emergency Funding Grant.

We know that when we work together in the spirit of Gadugi, our efforts go further. Enclosed, please find a contribution check for \$2,000 for your organization. We extend our sincere gratitude for your unwavering commitment to the welfare of our community.

Should you have any questions, please reach out to [foodsecurity-grants@cherokee.org](mailto:foodsecurity-grants@cherokee.org).

Wado!

Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Cherokee Nation, Principal Chief

Bryan Warner  
Cherokee Nation, Deputy Principal Chief

This is the Letter we received from the Cherokee Nation announcing a \$2,000 grant for the FPC Miami Food Pantry.



<b>January 4</b>	Inviting the Outsiders	Isaiah 60:1-9, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12
<b>January 11</b>	Prayer of Exam	
<b>January 18</b>	God Saw	Isaiah 49:1-7, John 1:29-42
<b>January 25</b>	Seeing God's Light	Isaiah 9:1-4 Matthew 4:12-23

### **Kum Ba Yah aka Kum Ba Zoom**

**We meet every Wednesday on ZOOM for fellowship, study and prayer. 7:00 PM. The link to the Zoom Meeting is sent in the Wednesday Email each week.**

### **Kum Ba Yah topics:**

<b>January 7</b>	Commandments 1 & 2
<b>January 14</b>	Commandments 3 & 4
<b>January 21</b>	Commandments 5 & 6
<b>January 28</b>	Commandments 7 & 8

### **Adult Sunday School**

**Sundays at 9:30am on Zoom and in Person!**

<b>January 4</b>	Star Words
<b>January 11</b>	David
<b>January 18</b>	David
<b>January 25</b>	David

## BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are grateful for the leadership of Dave Foster and Janice Johnson, who organize our weekly food program with children at Roosevelt Elementary School. Since school started this year, we are averaging about **27** backpacks per week.

If you have not previously assisted with this ministry and would like information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Dave Foster or the office. We are grateful to all of you who volunteered to pack backpacks this year.



## MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission program is partly sustained by gifts from the Myers Sisters' bequest and gifts from members. You can designate gifts to "Local Mission" or "Global Mission." This month, the commission decided not to give to anyone because everyone they usually give to in a year had already received a donation.

**The Deacon's Shoe Ministry:** The Deacons have delivered **23** pairs of shoes in 2025.

**Food Pantry:** The food pantry served **46** households and **112** individuals from December 1<sup>st</sup> through December 23, 2025.

Thus far in 2025, we have served **651** bags (or homes) and 1608 people.



## FPC Miami Presbyterian Women's Luncheon

At December's luncheon, the ladies were treated to a Tator tot casserole from Linda. Everyone else brought a side and had a good conversation.



Next Luncheon: Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am





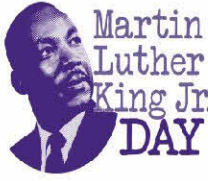

1st Presbyterian Christmas Decor 2025





# January

# 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Closed  Happy New Year!	2  10-12 Food Pantry	3
4 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	5  10-12 Food Pantry	6  Epiphany  10-12 Food Pantry	7  10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	8  10-12 Food Pantry  2:30 Backpack  7:00 GA	9  10-12 Food Pantry	10  Elder Training  In Broken Bow
11 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	12  10-12 Food Pantry	13  10-12 Food Pantry  11:00 Mission Mtg  11:30 Ladies Luncheon	14  10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	15  10-12 Food Pantry  2:30 Backpack  7:00 GA	16  10-12 Food Pantry	17
18 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	19  Closed  MLK Jr. Day	20  10-12 Food Pantry  7:00pm Session Mtg	21  10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	22  10-12 Food Pantry  2:30 Backpack  7:00 GA	23  10-12 Food Pantry	24  Elder Training In Tulsa Am— preaching  Pm— Sacraments
25 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship Congregation Mtg	26  10-12 Food Pantry	27  10-12 Food Pantry	28  10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	29  10-12 Food Pantry  2:30 Backpack  7:00 GA	30  10-12 Food Pantry	31
	1 	6 	19 	25 		



Clyde Shaffer ..... 1/3    Cari Allen ..... 1/18  
 Dianna Minick ..... 1/11    Helen Hutchison ..... 1/22  
 Henry Long ..... 1/14    Fortune Karleskint ..... 1/23  
 Achilles Shaffer..... 1/15    Chris Rabel ..... 1/29  
 Frank Denny ..... 1/15

Should your name be here?  
 Please let the office know your birth date so we can include you!



*Every year on Memorial Day and Christmas, we have Enchanted Florist in Seneca make a flower arrangement and place it on the Myers Sisters' grave.*



CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

On January 25th, we will hold our annual congregational meeting. Committee heads, please remember that the deadline to submit your information for the meeting is Friday, January 16th. This will allow Ross enough time to include everything in the report.

Thank you for all your hard work over the past year!

**JANUARY**



**January**



# Offertory Collection Schedule



January 4	Open& Open
January 11	Open & Open
January 18	Open& Open
January 25	Open & Open

## Servers in the Lord's House

	Coffee Host	Backpack Packers
<b>January 4</b>	Tim & Ross	Thu January 1 – Christmas Break
<b>January 11</b>	<b>B-Day Sunday</b> (Cari & Shawn)	Thu January 8 – The Schmiedekes
<b>January 18</b>	Open	Thu January 15 – Open & Open
<b>January 25</b>	Open	Thu January 22 – Open & Open
		Thu January 29 – Open & Open



January 4	Linda Gates
January 11	Diane Schmiedeke
January 18	John Lomax
January 25	Abbey Ankenman



#### LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

Last year we produced our own devotional guide for the season of Lent. It was such a blessing that we would like to do it again this year! Do you have a story about how God has been present in your life? Do you have a favorite scripture that you would like to share? Perhaps it's a poem or the words to a hymn that have touched you. Please plan to make a contribution this year!

Deadline will be February 8, 2026.

Scott and Linda Gates, we are thrilled to welcome you to the FPC Miami family! Your presence adds to the warmth and vibrancy of our community.

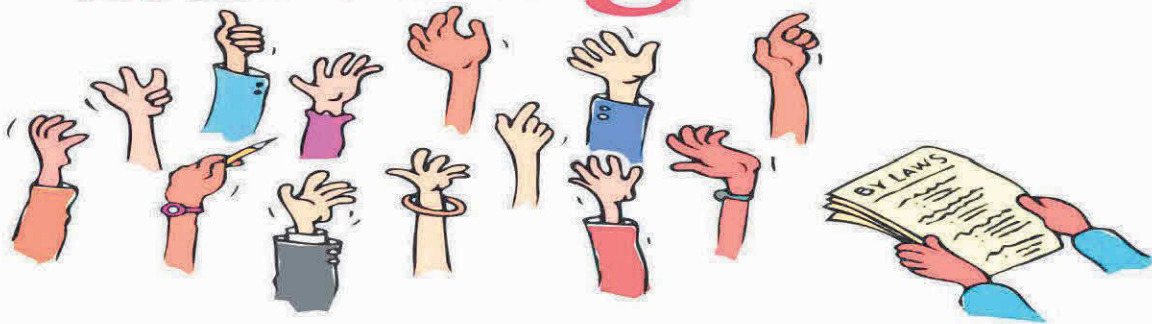
#### Wednesday at Windridge

Please plan to join us as we travel to Windridge Nursing Home in Miami on the first Wednesday of every month.

January 7, at 10:00 am, will be our next day to lead worship. The residents are thankful that we come. It's a good-sized group that comes to listen and join in with us as we worship.

*Congregational Meeting- January 25, 2026, after worship*

# Congregational Meeting



*Snow day will be February 1, 2026*

## Elder Training

The Hope and Spirit committee has added new meetings to continue training Elders in the Presbytery. They are offering the same Elder training class we had last year for new Elders or Elders who want to refresh their roles as Elders.

They are also offering two new training classes:

1. Morning class – how to preach
2. Afternoon class – how to administer Communion

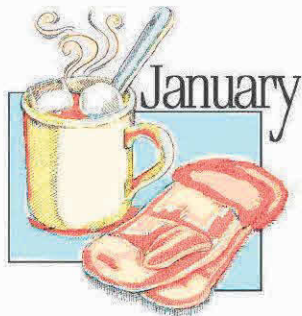
Meeting times:

Broken Bow – January 10<sup>th</sup>

Tulsa – January 24<sup>th</sup>



*The First Presbyterian Church  
1410 N.E. Veterans Blvd.  
Miami, OK 74354*



*"Fear not, for I am with you; be  
not dismayed, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help  
you, I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."*

***Isaiah 41:10***