



I have a Jewish friend who likes to boast that he only observes the “eating” holidays of his faith, but not the fasting holy days. He is all in when it comes to Hanukkah and Passover, but doesn’t observe Yom Kippur or Rosh Hashana.

That is so very like most of us. We like the celebrations. We aren’t so keen on the ideas of sacrifice, fasting, or self-denial.

On February 18<sup>th</sup> we begin the season of Lent. This was originally a time for new converts to the faith to study and prepare baptism on Easter Sunday. It has become a time for all of us to contemplate our relationships with God, turn away from temptation and sin, and return to God.

I invite you to join us for Sunday worship, Sunday School, and Wednesday nights as the beginning of deepening your faith. I also invite you to read the daily devotional prepared by the people of this congregation.

A few minutes of contemplation, a look at ourselves instead of others, and a commitment to a better way of life is exactly the way to begin to love God and recognize God’s love for us.

*Pastor Ray*

Nancy Gee and Karin Shaffer decorated the heritage case and included portraits of the Myers Sisters.  
Please stop by and take a look.



If you haven't heard the story about these sisters, please go talk to Nancy Gee; she'll tell you about them.



<b>February 1</b>	“Seeing God’s Light”	Isaiah 9:1-4, Matthew 4:12-23
<b>February 8</b>	“The Way of Jesus”	Matthew 5:1-12
<b>February 15</b>	“The Light of the World”	Matthew 5:13-20
<b>February 22</b>	“The Call to Service”	Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Luke 4:1-13

**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>February 4</b>	Commandments 7 & 8
<b>February 11</b>	Commandments 9 & 10
<b>February 18</b>	Ash Wednesday
<b>February 25</b>	Matthew 5:13-20
	The Human Search for Peace

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

<b>February 1</b>	David
<b>February 8</b>	David
<b>February 15</b>	David
<b>February 22</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 **29** 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." In January, the committee gave to Local Missions: **\$200**, National Fire Safety Council. For Global Missions they gave to: **\$300** American Red Cross, and **\$300** PDA (Malawi Floods)

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

**Food Pantry:** The food pantry served **46 households** and **100** individuals from January 1<sup>st</sup> through January 23, 2026.



## FPC Miami Presbyterian Women's Luncheon

The January luncheon featured chili and spaghetti brought by Cari. The ladies enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship, filled with laughter and great conversation. Cindy Holt will bring lasagna for the next luncheon.



**Next Luncheon:** Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am



In the quiet expanse where time began to spin,  
The Potter shaped a vessel, letting light within.  
From the dust of the stars and the breath of the dawn,  
A living soul was sculpted, a being newly born.  
God saw potential in the intricate design,  
A unique, unfolding story, divine in every line.

Through fields of childhood, where new wonders burst,  
God saw the raw curiosity, the noble thirst.  
The fumbles, the stumbles, the lessons yet unlearned,  
A spirit in motion, courageously turned.  
He saw not the failures, but the effort, the try,  
A child of the universe beneath His watchful eye.

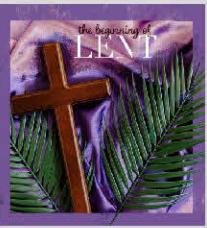
As seasons matured and life's path grew steep,  
Through valleys of sorrow and mountains so deep,  
God saw the resilience, the strength to endure,  
The heart that kept striving, imperfect yet pure.  
Each tear was a pearl, each scar a tale to tell,  
Of battles hard-fought, where the spirit fared well.

In moments of grace and in shadows of night,  
God's gaze remained steady, a perpetual light.  
He saw the intent that lived beyond the deed,  
The sprout of compassion, the genuine need.  
He saw past the surface, the masks we would wear,  
To the core of our being, vulnerable and bare.

To the finish line drawing, the final, soft exhale,  
When earthly limitations begin to fail,  
God sees a journey completed, a spirit set free,  
Returning to the source of all that will be.  
He sees the full circle, from dust to the sky,  
A testament of living, as the ages roll by.

From creation to finish, the view is complete,  
A life full of music, both bitter and sweet.  
Not judged by the flawless, but by the whole sum,  
The journey of a soul, from where it has come.

# FEBRUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Congregational Mtg 11:30 Fellowship	<b>2</b> 10-12 Food Pantry  <b>GROUNDHOG DAY</b>	<b>3</b> 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30 Backpack 7:00 GA	<b>6</b> 10-12 Food Pantry <b>10-2 Indian Taco Fundraiser</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Souper Bowl 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Soup Dinner	<b>9</b> 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>10</b> 10-12 Food Pantry <b>11:00 Mission Mtg</b> <b>11:30 Ladies Luncheon</b>	<b>11</b> 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30 Backpack 7:00 KumBaZoom	<b>12</b> 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 GA	<b>13</b> 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>14</b> 
<b>15</b> Transfiguration Day 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	<b>16</b> Presidents Day 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>17</b> 10-12 Food Pantry <b>7:00 Session Mtg</b>	<b>18</b> Ash Wednesday 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Service	<b>19</b> 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30 Backpack 7:00 GA	<b>20</b> 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Lent Begins 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	<b>23</b> 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>24</b> 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>25</b> 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	<b>26</b> 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30 Backpack 7:00 GA	<b>27</b> 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>28</b>
<b>1</b>  <b>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>Indian Tacos</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>Happy Valentine's Day</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY</b>	<b>16</b>  <b>PRESIDENTS Day</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>ASH Wednesday</b>	<b>22</b>  <b>the beginning of LENT</b>



Jim Long ..... 2/1 Barbara Reeves ..... 2/15  
Bill Good ..... 2/7 Scott Edwards ..... 2/21

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

## It's Winter Weather Time Again

If we have bad winter weather

Pastor Ray & Ross will keep you updated if we decide to cancel worship.

*Please make sure you stay safe and warm*



## Offertory Collection Schedule



February 1	Open & Open
February 8	Open & Open
February 15	Open & Open
February 22	Open & Open

## Servers in the Lord's House

	Coffee Host	Backpack Packers
February 1	Tim & Ross	Thu Feb 5th – The Schmiedekes
February 8	<b>B-Day Sunday</b> (Cari & Shawn)	Thu Feb 11th – Open & Open
February 15	Open	Thu Feb 19th – Open & Open
February 22	Open	Thu Feb 26th – Open & Open



February 1	Abbey Ankenman
February 8	Grace Goodeagle
February 15	Tim Keith
February 22	Ross Tomlinson

### LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

Last year, we produced our own devotional for 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!

The deadline will be Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

*Ash Wednesday Service February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm*



### Wednesday at Windridge

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

February 4th, 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.



**February 8, 2026**

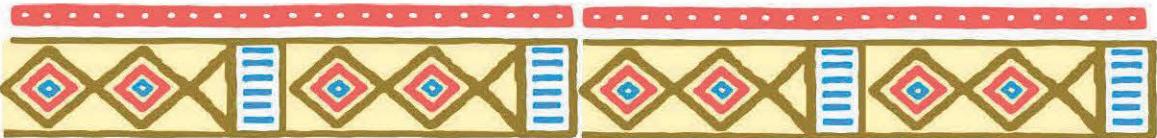
All Proceeds raised will stay here at the church, with the funds divided and allocated to the Food Pantry & Backpack ministries.

We will have a nice soup dinner after worship.

## Elder Training

Meeting times:

The January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting in Bixby has been cancelled due to winter weather. It has been rescheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup>.



**AFRICAN-AMERICAN  
HISTORY MONTH**

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



### **Isaiah 40:31**

but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.