



PINEVILLE UMC

Rooted in Christ and Community



DECEMBER 10, 2023

110 South Polk Street
PO Box 3
Pineville, NC 28134
704.889.2022
pinevilleumc.org
churchoffice@pinevilleumc.org

9:00 WORSHIP

Prelude		Diane Carrouth
Greeting		Pastor Mark
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Nat & Sherri Read
Hymn	Come Thou Long Expected Jesus	#196 (1, 2)
Affirmation of Faith		#881
Scripture	Isaiah 40:1-11	Pastor Jessica
Prayer		Pastor Jessica
Offering	Emmanuel, Expected Jesus	Choir Liz Alexander, Cello
Doxology		#95
Scripture	Mark 1:1-8	Pastor Mark
Sermon	God is Willing to Prepare the Way	
Hymn	It Came Upon a Midnight Clear	#218 (1-4)
Benediction		Pastor Mark
Postlude		Diane Carrouth

11:00 WORSHIP

Prelude	What a Glorious Night	House Band
Greeting		Pastor Jessica
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Mark & Debbie Gafney
Music	Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)	House Band
Scripture	Isaiah 40:1-11	Stoo Potts
Call to Prayer		House Band
Prayer		Pastor Jessica
Offering	Mary, Did You Know?	House Band
Scripture	Mark 1:1-8	Pastor Mark
Sermon	God Is Willing to Prepare the Way	
Music	O Holy Night	House Band
Benediction		Pastor Mark
Postlude		House Band

Flowers

The flowers on the altar this week were donated by the Calbreath Family in honor of Hannah Claire's 1st Birthday and by Robert and Mary Nark in memory of Sharon and Holger.

Children's Church

*Mrs. Kelly will escort children to Children's Church every week at the 9:00 a.m. service and every 1st and 3rd Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

Welcome!

Welcome to this celebration of worship! We are glad you are here. Here at PUMC, we practice Jesus' call to love our neighbors.



Please sign in on the attendance pads and wear a name tag so we can better connect with each person here.



If it is your first time joining us, we hope you will leave us an address, email, and phone number so that we can connect you with more information about our church.



The tables in the worship area are for children and their families and have activities so that the children might engage in worship with the whole church family. We know children can be wiggly and noisy; both are welcome here!



Hearing devices are available at the soundboard.



CURRENT SERMON SERIES: GOD IS WILLING

Our God is willing. Never doubt. If there is one aspect of God's character that is made abundantly clear throughout the salvation story revealed in scripture, God's consistent nature shows a willingness to make the impossible possible for you and me. Our journey during this season of Advent, this season of anticipation, is one in which we remember the God who is willing to call us beloved, by the miracle of becoming one of us.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Advent Bible Study on Sundays

On Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, join Pastor Mark for an Advent study - *An Unlikely Advent: Extraordinary People of the Christmas Story*. Rachel Billups invites us to encounter the unexpected events of that first Christmas along with the most unexpected, overlooked people.

Youth Christmas Events

- December 10, 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Caroling at the Dorchester and then meet back at the church at 6:00 p.m. for a Christmas party of our own with a white elephant Christmas gift.
- December 16, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. - Parent night out Service Event
- December 17, 6:30 p.m. - Christmas Church Family Night
- December 20, 4:30 p.m. - Carowinds Winterfest Youth Outing
- December 21, 4:30 p.m. - Longest Night Service
- December 24, 7:00 p.m. - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

Questions? Contact Marissa Ruland at mruland@pinevilleumc.org.

Parents' Night Out on Saturday, December 16

Children and Family Ministries are sponsoring a parents' night out on Saturday, December 16 in the children's rooms in the Crossroads Center from 6:00-10:00 p.m. Families are invited to drop off children for any or all of the evening for special activities, ornament making, games, songs and snacks. Questions? Contact Kelly Chiseck at kchiseck@pinevilleumc.org

Christmas Family Night on Sunday, December 17

Join our church family in a time of joyous fellowship and celebration at our Christmas Family Night. Covered dish dinner begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by entertainment at 7:30 p.m. The meat will be provided. Please bring a salad, side, or dessert to share!

The Longest Night on December 21

On Thursday, December 21, at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary, join our Stephen Ministry in a worship service that welcomes and acknowledges the grief this season can bring.

Staff Christmas Gift

As we move into the holiday season and begin shopping for gifts, we shouldn't forget our WONDERFUL church staff! The Staff Parish Relations Committee is collecting cash/check/online donations to Staff Gifts until Sunday, December 17. Please be sure to note "Staff Gifts" on your envelope/check or by selecting Staff Gifts fund online. Questions? Contact Paul Claiborne at pclaiborne2@gmail.com.

ROOTED IN CHRIST AND COMMUNITY

Tutors for Pineville Elementary School

Support Pineville elementary students with just 1 hour per week. Sign up at heartmathtutoring.org. Heart provides a fun, game-based curriculum and a program coordinator onsite to ensure you and your student are successful. Pineville Elementary needs 10 more tutors to pair each nominated student with a weekly tutor.

International Mission in April 2024

A trip is being planned to Honduras with Living Water International to provide clean water for a community in need. This will be our third trip with Living Water, and promises to be a life changing experience. Dates of the trip are April 21-27, 2024. Questions? Contact Jeff Mills (jeffm@hoopaughgrading.com) or Paul Claiborne (pclaiborne2@gmail.com).

Thank you to Hanging of the Greens Volunteers

Many thanks to the following volunteers for giving their time and talents on Saturday, December 2 nd to help “Hang the Greens” in and around the Sanctuary, Fellowship Building and Crossroads Center! They are Gilda Bass, Billy Chiseck, Kelly Chiseck, PaulClaiborne, Chuck Cook, Karen Cook, Bonnie Crandall, Mark Curtis, Jessica Edwards, Mark Gafney, Suzanne Gold, Darlis Gross, Henry Gross, Betty Gunter, Betty Luetkemeier, Dave Ogden, Sarah Jane Read, Sherri Read, Susan Rose, Alana Ruland, Amber Ruland, Marissa Ruland, and Donna Swahlan. Special thanks to my Co-Chair, Marcy Eaker, for designing and decorating the Advent altar in the Crossroads Center! And for providing the hot chocolate and cookies!

-Debbie Gafney, Worship Ministry Team Co-Chair

PRAYERS

NEW PRAYERS: Delphine Rose (Rob Rose’s aunt); Gary (Doris Carter’s son-in-law); Betty McManaway (Debbie River’s mother); Elizabeth Read Levant (Tom and Linda Read’s daughter); Oliver Davis (Janice Walker’s sister); Sam Whaley (Michelle Babin’s friend); Bruce Heldman; Danielle Adams (Debbie and Mark Gafney;s daughter); Theresa Parris-Garcia; Jimmy Carter.

Prayers for Comfort: The family of Oleeta Aspinwall (Debbie River’s friend) and the family of Bill Rose (Rob Rose’s uncle).

Share a prayer request by calling or emailing the church office.

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE & GIVING

November Attendance

DATE	9	11	WEB	TOTAL
11/5	54*	56	15	125
11/12	46	78	16	140
11/19	42	71	16	129
11/26	38	61	20	119

*Including Dorchester Worship

November Offering

Budget Needed	\$44,679.75
Budget Received	\$26,020.67
Difference	(\$18,659.08)
Shop With A Cop	\$485.00
Other Non-Budgeted Giving	\$1,843.00
Total Funds Received	\$28,348.67

December Love Offering

The love offering for the month of December supports “Gift for Christ” Sunday, December 17, will be the day of observance, but you may contribute this special gift at any other time this month. The gift will signify that in the midst of giving to everyone else in your family and in your life, you did not leave Jesus out. Please make checks out to Pineville UMC.

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

Sunday, December 10

9:00 a.m. | Worship Service | Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. | Journey Sunday School | Hybrid (online and room 105)
10:00 a.m. | Sunday School | Multiple Locations
11:00 a.m. | Worship Service | Crossroads Center
3:30 p.m. | Crochet & Knitting Group | Crossroads Center Room 6
5:00 p.m. | Youth Caroling | The Dorchester
6:00 p.m. | Youth Christmas Party | Crossroads Center

Monday, December 11

11:00 a.m. | Prayer Group | Stacy Hall

Tuesday, December 12

9:30 a.m. | English as a Second Language (ESL) Class | Crossroads Center
10:30 a.m. | Congregational Care Meeting | Fellowship Building

Wednesday, December 13

6:30 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. | Praise Band Rehearsal | Crossroads Center

Thursday, December 14

3:00 p.m. | Golden Pines Christmas | Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 10

9:00 a.m. | Worship Service | Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. | Journey Sunday School | Hybrid (online and room 105)
10:00 a.m. | Sunday School | Multiple Locations
11:00 a.m. | Worship Service | Crossroads Center
3:30 p.m. | Crochet & Knitting Group | Crossroads Center Room 6
6:00 p.m. | Youth | Crossroads Center

CONTACT US

Rev. Dr. Mark Curtis, Senior Pastor – mcurtis@pinevilleumc.org
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