



**PINEVILLE UMC**  
Rooted in Christ and Community



**DECEMBER 17, 2023**

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

---

**9:00 & 11:00 WORSHIP**

Prelude	The First Noel	Handbells (9) Brass Ensemble (11)
Greeting		Pastor Mark (9) Pastor Jessica (11)
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Mike Cowan (9) Steve & Jan Jankowski (11)
Children's Choir		Kelly Chiseck
Hymn	O Come All Ye Faithful	#234
Affirmation of Faith (9)		#881

Scripture	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11	Pastor Jessica (9) Beth Maher (11)
Duet (11)	Sweet, Little Jesus Boy	Ralph Rea and Siánneth Sánchez
Prayer		Pastor Jessica
Offering	Carol for Christmas	Choir
Doxology (9)		#95
Scripture	John 1: 6-8, 19-28	Pastor Mark
Sermon	God is Willing to Shine the Light	
Hymn	Angels From the Realms of Glory	#220
Benediction		Pastor Jessica (9) Pastor Mark (11)
Postlude		Diane Carrouth (9) Brass Ensemble (11)

### **Flowers**

The flowers on the altar this week were donated  
by the Heelan Family in memory of Carol Heelan

# 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.



## **CHRISTMAS EVE AND NYE SCHEDULES**

We invite you to join us for worship on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Please note the change in timing and location of our regular schedule.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

11:00 a.m. - One Morning Service in the Crossroads Center

3:00 p.m. - Worship at the Dorchester

7:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

11:00 a.m. - One Service in the Crossroads Center



### **Christmas Family Night TONIGHT**

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 acknowledges the grief this season can bring. The name comes from the season — during this season in December, we experience the shortest day and the longest night of the year. Our spirits sink, as the days grow shorter. We feel the darkness growing deeper around us. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us. In this service, we trust that you will find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone.

### **Youth Christmas Events**

- 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](mailto:mruland@pinevilleumc.org).

### **Staff Christmas Gift**

As we shop for gifts this holiday season, 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](mailto:pclaiborne2@gmail.com).

### **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.

# ROOTED IN CHRIST AND COMMUNITY

## Pineville Elementary Wish List

Help support Pineville Elementary refill their Student Treasure Box! Visit the QR code for their Amazon wishlist of goodies needing to be purchased. All items are set up to ship to the school directly.



## 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](mailto:jeffm@hoopaughgrading.com)) or Paul Claiborne ([pclaiborne2@gmail.com](mailto:pclaiborne2@gmail.com)).

## PRAYERS

**NEW PRAYERS:** Saretta Burns, Harry Dwyer and David Morrison (Velvet Gaines family and friend); Beverly Causey (Suzanne Gold's sister); Kate Goodman (Debbie and Mark Gafney's daughter); Sonnie Kale; Linda Read; 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); 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 17**

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  
6:30 p.m. | Church Family Night | Crossroads Center

### **Monday, December 18**

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

### **Tuesday, December 19**

9:30 a.m. | English as a Second Language (ESL) Class | Crossroads Center

### **Wednesday, December 20**

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

### **Thursday, December 21**

4:30 p.m. | The Longest Night Worship | Sanctuary  
6:30 p.m. | Stephen Ministry | Fellowship Building

### **Sunday, December 24**

10:00 a.m. | Church Family Christmas Breakfast | Fellowship Hall  
11:00 a.m. | Worship Service | Crossroads Center  
3:00 p.m. | Dorchester Worship | Dorchester  
7:00 p.m. | Christmas Eve Worship | Sanctuary

## **CONTACT US**

Rev. Dr. Mark Curtis, Senior Pastor – [mcurtis@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:mcurtis@pinevilleumc.org)  
Jessica Edwards, Assistant Pastor – [jedwards@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:jedwards@pinevilleumc.org)  
Kelly Chiseck, Family and Children's Ministry – [kchiseck@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:kchiseck@pinevilleumc.org)  
Jim Edwards, Interim Music - [musicministries@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:musicministries@pinevilleumc.org)  
Melissa McGill, Communications – [mmcgill@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:mmcgill@pinevilleumc.org)  
Meriwether Minnix, Audio Visual Media – [mminnix@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:mminnix@pinevilleumc.org)  
Marissa Ruland, Youth Ministry - [mruland@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:mruland@pinevilleumc.org)  
Sarah Willis, Administration – [churchoffice@pinevilleumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@pinevilleumc.org)  
Pastor On Call – 704-889-2022 ext #9