



# BEULAH & MONTEREY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH e-Newsletter

**FEBRUARY 2025**

## February Celebrations

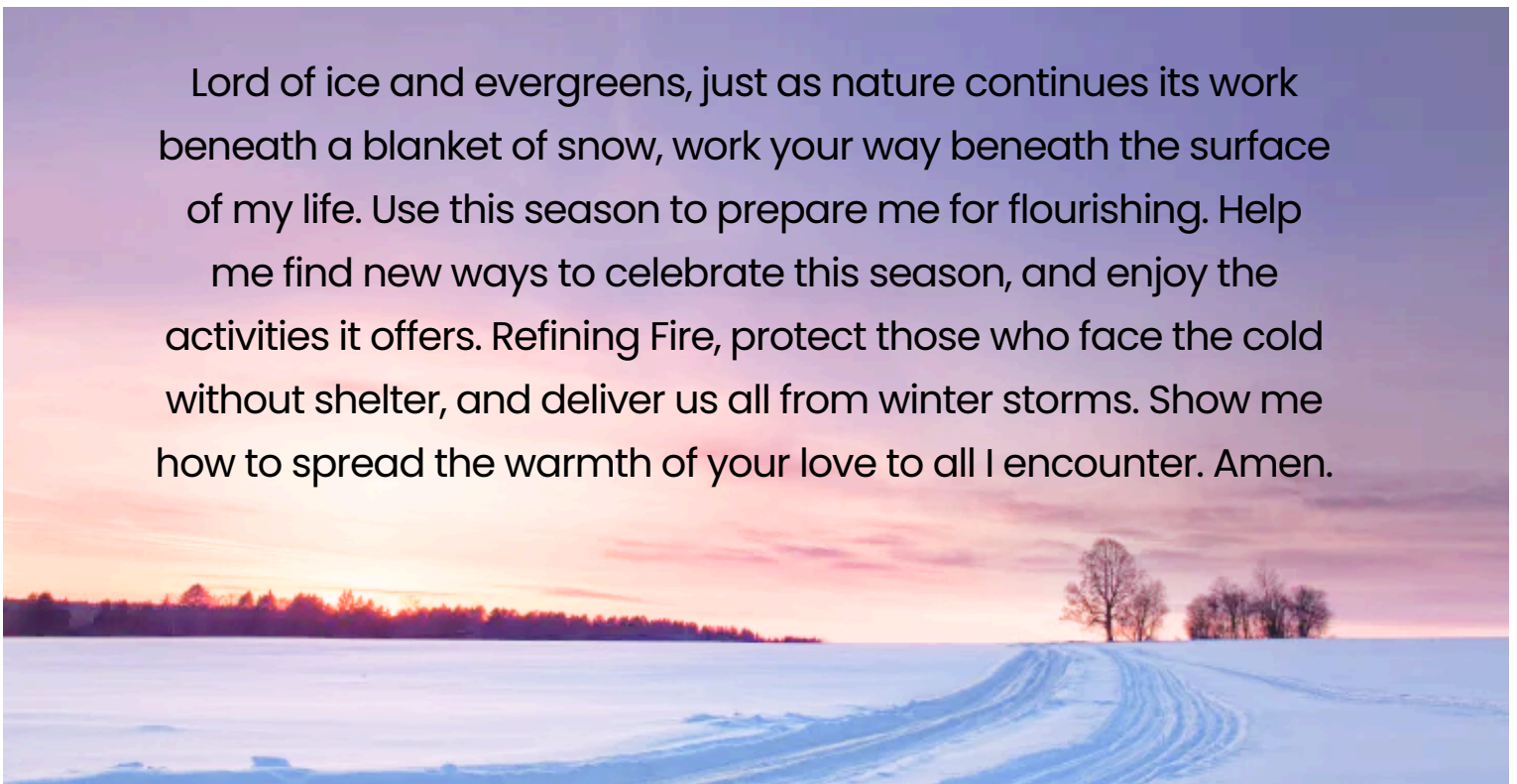
### **Birthdays**

February 4 - Tate Dunn  
February 8 - Jessa Fowler  
February 15 - Michael Herold  
February 17 - Cash Chambers  
February 23 - David Blanchard  
February 25 - Wren Cox

### **Anniversaries**

February 1- Dail & Christy Fields

Lord of ice and evergreens, just as nature continues its work beneath a blanket of snow, work your way beneath the surface of my life. Use this season to prepare me for flourishing. Help me find new ways to celebrate this season, and enjoy the activities it offers. Refining Fire, protect those who face the cold without shelter, and deliver us all from winter storms. Show me how to spread the warmth of your love to all I encounter. Amen.



## Prayer List

Bobbie Jo Gardner, Terry Caruthers (Donna Bedwell's sister), Wayne and Teresa Bradley (friends of Bill and Mary Lou Cox), Jim White, Sarah Collins-Simmons, Patricia Donaldson, Chris Weaver (Christy Fields' mother), Keith Beumer, Tim Duff, Claudia Bedwell, Miles Johnston, Becky Magee, Romona Arbogast, Marlene Reynolds, Barbara Hevener, Ray Mueller, Bill and Mary Lou Cox, Mike and Lisa Jamison, Amy Vaus, Mike Armstrong, Gary and Carol Swecker.

### Leading Our Worship in February

February 2: Rev. Chris Scott

February 9: Will Cox, Lay Leader

February 16: Rev. Adam White

February 23: Rev. David Hindman



### Highland County Girl Scouts Sponsorship

Monterey Presbyterian Church is proud to announce the decision to be a sponsor of the Highland County Girl Scouts throughout 2025. This decision is a sign of our appreciation for the commitment to youth leadership and community engagement that our local troop exemplifies. We are grateful for the opportunity to show our investment in the future of our youth and to help reinforce the values of kindness, service, and responsibility that both the church and the Girl Scouts hold dear.

Everyone is invited to visit the Highland Girl Scouts at Monterey Presbyterian Church during this year's Maple Festival (March 8-9 and 15-16) where they will be selling baked potatoes, chili, hot dogs, pizza, drinks and girl scout cookies to benefit the activities of the troop.

In **PCUSA News**, the Advocacy Committee for Women and Gender Justice issued the following statement on January 27, 2025. It serves as a critical reminder that, no matter what our politics are, as Christians we are all called to follow the example of Jesus and the biblical mandate to show one another love and mercy.

## **A Statement of Support for The Right Reverend Mariann Budde, Bishop of Washington, The Episcopal Church from the Advocacy Committee for Women and Gender Justice of the PCUSA**

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Throughout the history of the Presbyterian Church (USA), women have faced adversity with courage and perseverance, breaking barriers to pave the way for future generations. Margaret Towner was ordained in 1956 as the first woman Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA). Despite never receiving a call as an Associate Pastor or Pastor, she faithfully served as a Christian Educator, exemplifying steadfast determination.

In 1974, Katie Geneva Cannon became the first African-American woman ordained in the PC(USA). Against all odds, she not only earned a postgraduate degree but also became a trailblazer in both the congregational and academic spheres. Rebecca Reyes was ordained in 1979 as the first Hispanic woman in the southern branch of the church, the Presbyterian Church of the United States, knowing the road ahead would be difficult. That same year, Elizabeth Kwon became the first Korean-American woman Minister of Word and Sacrament after transferring her ordination to the UPCUSA. In 1987, Holly Haile Smith Davis made history as the first Indigenous woman ordained in the PC(USA).

These women, and countless others, faced challenges on the floors of presbyteries, within local congregations, and in the broader church. Their perseverance has created a legacy upon which generations of women now stand. Recently, their strength was echoed on the floor of the 226th General Assembly, where women spoke boldly against injustice, ensuring that their voices were heard.

This legacy of courage and truth-telling is mirrored in the actions of Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde, who preached a message of mercy from the pulpit of the National Cathedral. For proclaiming the Gospel, she has faced ridicule, threats, and attacks. Yet, like the women who have come before her, she remains steadfast in her calling.

The Advocacy Committee for Women and Gender Justice, a standing committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), stands in solidarity with Bishop Budde. We condemn the hate-filled rhetoric directed at her and call for an end to such threats. Her witness reminds us of the courage of the women at the tomb who, when the disciples were huddled in fear, were the first to encounter the risen Christ. Christ entrusted them with the message of the Resurrection, charging them to go and tell the good news.

It is this tradition of perseverance, bold proclamation, and unwavering faith that sustains us today. We honor those who have gone before us, and we stand firm in the Gospel's call for justice, mercy, and love.



*Congratulations to our young church members recently elected to Highland's Homecoming Court! From left to right, they are: Homecoming Queen, Hannah Meyerhoeffer, Sophomore Prince, Jack Herold, and Freshman Princess, Lauren Mason. Not pictured is Freshman Prince, Levi Warner.*



*Church members participated in the 'Rise Against Hunger' food packaging event organized by Blue Grass United Methodist..*



*Stone Chambers settled into his dorm at Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center where he will study child care and development.*