



## Week of February 18 – February 21

### Scripture of the Week:

*<sup>15</sup> 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. <sup>18</sup> 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.*

*<sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you." - John 14: 15-19, 26 NRSV*

### **February 18, 2026**

It was the annual Christmas Pageant, and Anderson Gattozzi stepped up to the microphone and did his best John the Baptist portrayal. With all of his heart and full of enthusiasm, he quoted verses from the Book of Mark. He rang out the ending of the quote, "but he will baptize you with the HOLY SPIRIT" with great emphasis on the last two words. There is a lesson for all of us expressed by young Anderson. (Cal Holt)

### **February 19, 2026**

Once I requested that a friend of a friend (whom I had never met) be placed on our prayer list because she had been diagnosed with cancer, had to quit her job and, as a result, had no income. This lady was in a desperate situation. The next day, a church member contacted me and offered to support her during her treatment. The two never met each other. I only served as the intermediary between them to facilitate things. Undoubtedly, the Holy Spirit at work. (Laura Crissey)

### **February 20, 2026**

I never had a close relationship with my father. He was a complicated man who believed in self-reliance. Religion was not embraced. As a matter of fact, it was mocked. As he lay dying, I felt the Holy Spirit call me to offer him communion and pray for his sins. When I spoke with my pastor about it, I was hoping he would say no. Instead, he encouraged me to follow the calling. I went to my father terrified of what his response would be. To my surprise he said yes. Afterwards he thanked me and told me what a special moment that was for him. If I had not obeyed what was asked of me, I would have missed out on the deepest connection I would ever have with my father. (Jill Cilimberg)

### **February 21, 2026**

The first time I was ordained as an elder I was invited to go up front for the laying on of hands ceremony. I really did not think much about this experience until that day. I remember feeling overwhelmed with love and support, not only from the people around me, but also from the Holy Spirit. God truly goes with us as Michael states every week at the end of our service. (Charlotte Bowers)