



January 2019

The Spark

Riviera Presbyterian Church embracing all God's children



Mission Statement

Riviera Presbyterian Church is a spiritual community that accepts and embraces all God's children.

Missy's Message

Riviera Presbyterian Church
5275 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143
(305) 666-8586

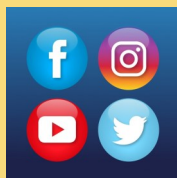
11:00am Sunday Worship Service

Office Hours M - F 9:00-5:00

www.rivierachurch.org

Connect with us on social media

@RivieraChurch



Rev. Martha Shiverick
Pastor
marthashiverick@gmail.com

Jade Kastel
Interim Director of Music
rivierapresmusic@gmail.com

Barbara Prieto
Certified Church Administrator
rivierachurch@bellsouth.net

Kathy Stults
Clerk of Session
Session Members

Allison Anderson

Kyle Dettloff

Vivian German

Christian Mazzola

Barbara Overton

Bryan Page

Rey Prieto

Kathy Stults

Cris Sweeny

In This Issue:
Missy's Message
Worship & Music
Fellowship
And much more

Donate

WWW.RIVIERACHURCH.ORG

January 2019

Dear Riviera Family,

For 2019.... my New Year's Resolution is....



A new year begins....

With new hopes, promises, and possibility. When I lived up north, January was a time to hunker down with a couple good books and a quilt on the sofa in front of a blaring fireplace. All those New Year's resolutions of exercise and good life skill practices were put on hold until there were more daylight hours and warmer temperatures. It might be a new year.... but a bit of hibernation came first!

But January in Miami is wonderful! We have the best weather in the nation... and at church, there are many ways you can connect with God in a meaningful Spirit-filled way and make a difference as a disciple of Jesus. There is no reason not to live into that resolution to make church a priority in this new year.

Make your resolution to include 'hands on mission' in your spiritual practice and attend the Mission Committee which will be held after church on January 20th. Barbara Overton, who chairs the mission committee is working hard to find ways each month our congregation can put our faith into action in working for justice and shalom. Make your resolution to get involved in the music program of the church. Join the choir or the Ukulele Ensemble and make a joyful noise unto the Lord! No experience is needed... Just show up!

Or, make your resolve to get more active in worship. Sign up to be a liturgist, give the Children's Sermons, help with the sound system, or usher on a Sunday morning. And, if your resolve was to join in more fellowship... we have that covered as well. Make sure you come to the First Sunday Luncheon on January 6th and the Hootenanny and Square Dance with the Forest City String Band on January 19th.

Continue page 3

Missy's Message continues

and Square Dance with the Forest City String Band on January 19th.

However you do it....Make your resolution to enter into a closer relationship with God in 2019 and to share God's unconditional love with others. We live in a pivotal time in our history and our faith and discipleship will guide us as we move forward. Come to church and invite others to make it a priority in their lives. God has calls us together into this loving community called Riviera and God calls us to make a difference in the world, being God's heart and hands so that all will know that they are God's beloved child.

In Christ and With Love,

Worship & Music News...

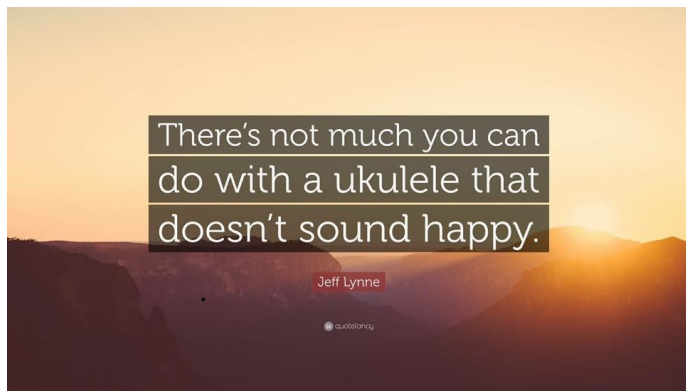
11:00am Sunday, January 6 - Epiphany

Epiphany means manifestation or revelation. At the Epiphany of the Lord we celebrate the manifestation of God's saving purpose to all the nations of the world. Just as the Magi came from a distant land to worship the Christ child, God's covenant of grace is extended to all people. The symbolism of light is important - not only because of the star that guided the magi, but it suggests the bright dawning of a new age. It is our calling to take the light of God's love out in the world.

11:00am Sunday, January 13 - Baptism of our Lord

At the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus presents himself to John to be baptized in the Jordan. This is a trinitarian event: as Jesus emerges from the water the Holy Spirit descends from heaven as a dove, and we hear a voice naming Jesus as God's beloved Son. In ancient Christian tradition, the Baptism of the Lord is closely connected with the Epiphany as both are manifestations of God's saving purpose through Jesus Christ; accordingly these festivals are adjacent to one another in the Christian calendar. Jesus' baptism foreshadows the season of Lent (which does not start until March 6th this year) as the Gospels tell us that Jesus was driven into the wilderness for forty days after his baptism.

Our hearts and church doors are open to all as we celebrate this season of Epiphany. Come and engage in joyful and vibrant worship this Epiphany season Sundays at 11:00am.



Ukulele Ensemble Rehearsals in January

Sunday, January 13 at 12:30pm

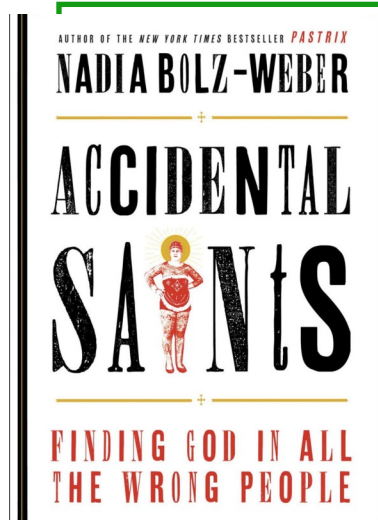
Sunday, January 27 at 12:30pm

If you would like to join the ensemble please speak to Jade.

Christian Education News...



You are invited to
**Theology Over
Morning Java**
Sundays at 9:30 am
in the church library.
Elder Chuck
Hannemann leads
this class for all
adult ages and all
spiritual stages.



Women's Study Group

Will meet on
Thursday, January 24th at
7:00 pm in the
church library.

Christian Education for children

The Deep Blue Mission:

Reaching, empowering, and equipping children, and those who care for them, with grace-based resources that help them on the journey.

Deep Blue Kids will...

Be with God
Love God and neighbor
Understand themselves as children of God
Explore faith and the Bible

Deep Blue offers meaningful and engaging curriculum, encouraging children to “dive deeper” into the Bible and

explore their faith in fun and age-appropriate ways. Sunday school will be the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. The 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month children are invited to attend worship.



THEOLOGY UNCORKED

Theology Uncorked will resume meeting on Sunday, January 13th at 5:00 pm at Titanic Restaurant and Brewery, for thought-provoking conversation on current events, libations and food. Titanic is located at 5813 Ponce de Leon Blvd, Coral Gables, FL 33146. All are invited!

Congregational Care News ...

JANUARY BIRTHDAY

Mary H - 12

Blessings On Your Birthday

If we forgot to list your birthday please notify Barbie in the church office.



Fellowship & Community News...



Sunday, January 6
Kicking off the New Year with
Riviera's traditional
First Sunday Potluck Lunch
after worship.
Food - Fellowship - Fun
Please bring a dish to share if
you are able.

Please leave a note with your food if it needs reheating, or cutting before serving.

Welcome Back
Forest City String Band
Concert Saturday, January 19 at 4pm



Get ready to hear some bluegrass music and do
the Virginia Reel!
Fun for all ages!



Love our neighbors intentionally and authentically

Session News...

Office of the General Assembly -- Importance of Per Capita Funding

Presbyterians are connected in many ways, including our church government. ...Per capita makes it possible for Presbyterians to govern ourselves the way we do. ...Per capita dollars help to undergird our governance system. Our Constitution provides a moral and theological compass that builds community and calls us to Christian faithfulness in gratitude to God. Per Capita makes possible our effort for visible unity of the Church of Jesus Christ.


Per Capita consists of funding to the three levels of governance beyond the session - The Presbytery of Tropical Florida, the Synod of the South Atlantic, and the General Assembly.

Riviera's Per Capita for 2019 is \$36 per member.

Your contribution of this amount is appreciated, as it keeps this expense from impacting our ministry plan for **2019**.

Stewardship & Finance News...

If you have not yet turned in your pledge card for 2019, we encourage you to do so by placing it in the offering plate, mailing it to the church office or emailing it to the church office.



CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Contribution statements will be sent out by January 31, 2019.

Please do not file your taxes until you receive your contribution statements from the church.

Looking Back at December 2018



Looking forward to a vibrant 2019