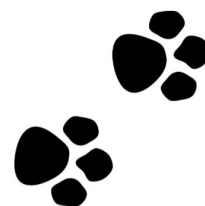




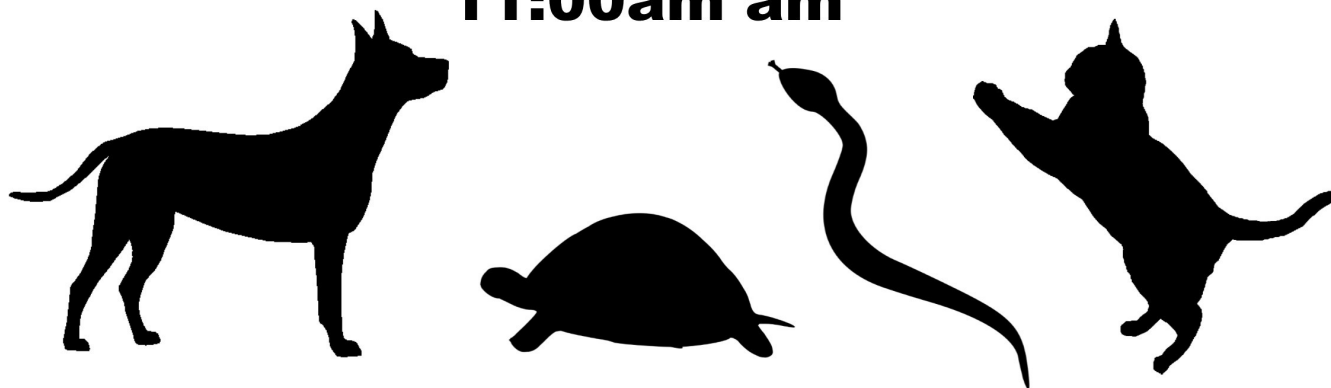
February 2019

The Spark

Riviera Presbyterian Church embracing all God's children



Blessing of the Animals Sunday, February 17 at 11:00am am



Riviera Presbyterian Church - 5275 Sunset Drive - Miami 33143
www.rivierachurch.org

The Blessing of the Animals Service is on February 17, 2019, a time for us to ask God for blessings on the animal companions who so richly bless our lives.

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

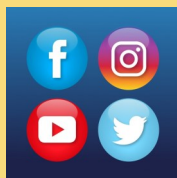
11:00am Sunday Worship Service

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



February, 2019

Dear Riviera Family,

One of the definitions of living is change. And a healthy living church lives through change and constantly adapts and moves in to its new realities. This past year several members of our church moved to new cities and as we grieved their departures we also wished them well and gave thanks for our time together. Staff members change as well. The past several years we have welcomed, re-welcomed, and said farewell to Music Directors and wonderful substitute musicians and each one of them brought skills and abilities that we have enjoyed. As Lent starts in March, we will say goodbye to Jade Kastel and welcome Walter Busse as the new Director of Music of Riviera Church. We will tell you more about Walter in the March newsletter, but I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Jade for being our interim and for helping us as we searched for a permanent staff person. Jade came right in (again) and took the helm of the choir and the newly formed ukulele ensemble. She brought a rich diversity in music and I will always remember the Sundays in this past Advent as the choir sang the Introit 'Prepare Ye The Way of the Lord' and it grew in sound, instruments, and vitality each Sunday as we neared Christmas. Jade, we thank you!

Unlike some years when it seems we jump right from Christmas into Lent at church, this year we have an especially long season of Epiphany. With eight Sundays after Epiphany before Lent it means that I have the opportunity this February to preach on a few lectionary texts we normally do not have in our three year cycle. We will wrestle with the concept of heaven, Jesus' charge to love our enemies, as well as have a service where we 'Bless the Animals'. I hope you will make worship a priority in your faith discipline as worshipping in a community is the foundation of who and what we are.

Continue on Page 3

Missy's Message continues...

People often ask what I love about being a pastor of a church. It is you. Riviera is a very special place. People feel it when they come here. There is a love and a spiritual energy that permeates our congregation. Yes, we are a mission driven church, and yes, we are a progressive Christian voice in South Florida, but more importantly we are a church where people are loved.

In Gratitude and in love,
Missy
The Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

Worship & Music News...

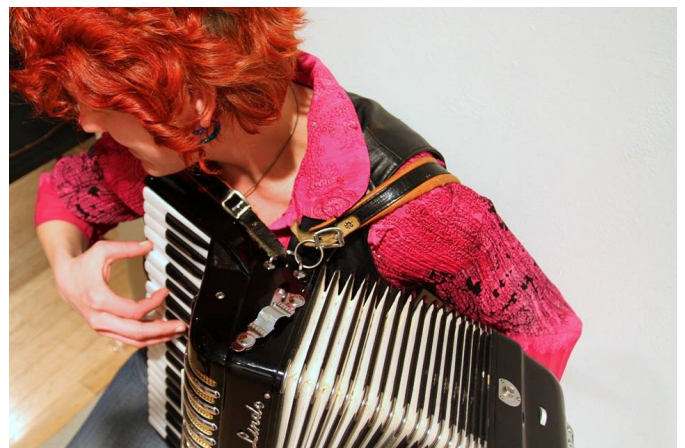
Message from Jade

From the Forest City String Band to the ukulele ensemble to the Christmas Eve party at Henry and Sandy's, this has been an exciting second Christmas season at Riviera! As I write this, I am looking forward to experiencing another Riviera tradition -- the blessing of the animals. We're still debating on wrangling our cat, dog, and turtle to make an appearance.

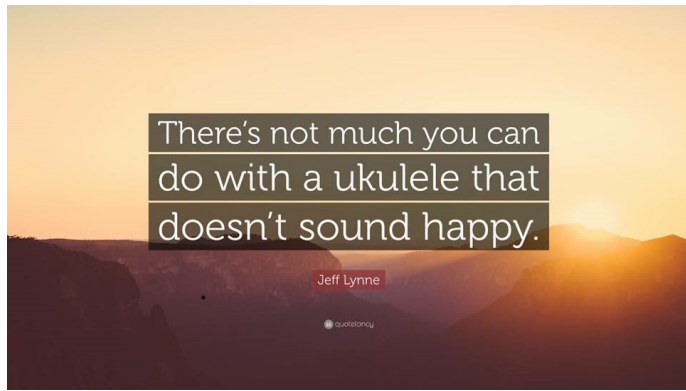
Thank you to the choir, soloists, and the ukulele ensemble for the music and joy you bring to worship. Thanks Barbie for all your expertise from bulletins to ordering ukuleles. And thank you Missy for your leadership and inviting me back to Riviera again this year. I've enjoyed working with all of you these past few months and you've encouraged me to look at getting a ukulele of my own.

Much happiness to all of you in 2019!

-Jade



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



Ukulele Ensemble Rehearsals in February

Sunday, February 10 at 12:30pm

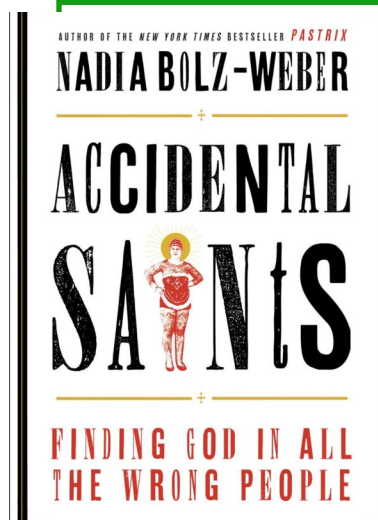
Sunday, February 24 at 12:30pm

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, February 21 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 meet on Sunday, February 10th 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!

Session News...

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**.

Looking Back at January 2019



Bluegrass Concert - Forest City String Band -