



March 2019

The Spark

Riviera Presbyterian Church embracing all God's children



Ash
Wednesday

March 6 starting at 6:00pm

**Begin Lent with
Ash Wednesday**

&

Labyrinth Walk

We invite you to symbolically begin the Lenten journey through a Labyrinth walk on Ash Wednesday, March 6 starting at 6:00pm. Followed at 7:00 pm by a meditative service of music done by candlelight with contemporary, inclusive language and imposition of ashes.



After the service the labyrinth will be available for another 30 minutes.

RSVP via Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/events/2274563549483124/>

Or call the church office 305-666-8586 x3

Lenten Study Faithful Living



Chariots of Fire tells the story of two very different men who compete as runners in the 1924 Paris Olympics: Eric Liddell is a devout Christian who believes that his athletic abilities are a gift from God, and that using that gift to its fullest extent - to win the gold medal - will be his way of repaying that gift. Harold Abrahams is an English Jew, a student at Cambridge, who dreams of fame and of proving to his anti-Semitic fellow students, and to the world, that Jews are in no respect inferior.

Their motives are noble. Their commitment is total.

Their integrity is unquestionable. They will both make personal sacrifices to achieve their goals. In the process, through all the obstacles and personal issues they conquer, they prove that striving for victory in their own terms is, perhaps, its own reward - its faithful living

Refreshments will be served.

RSVP via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/303772336989485/>
Or call the church office 305-666-8586 x3

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

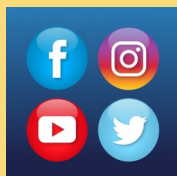
11:00am Sunday Worship Service

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

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WWW.RIVIERACHURCH.ORG



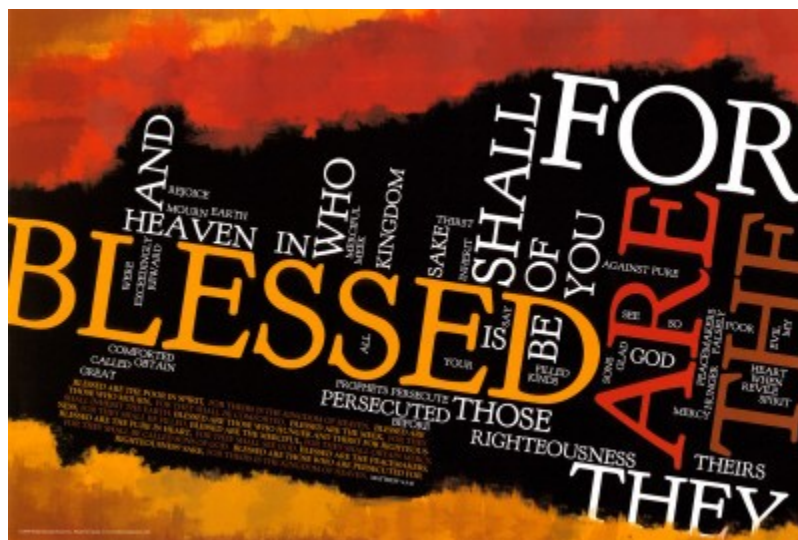
March, 2019

Dear Riviera Family,

Lent is referred to as a journey. It is when we are to reflect on our faith and relation to God as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter.

This year there are many ways in which you can walk the Lenten journey. We invite you to ask your friends and loved ones to join with us.

Lent starts with [Ash Wednesday](#) with the invitation to observe a Holy Lent, a Litany of Penitence, and the Imposition of Ashes. The church labyrinth will be available from 6 - 7 pm and 30 minutes after the service. This year's 7pm service will be a meditative, candlelight service of music done by the Riviera Choir and soloists Rosemary N. Welton and David Welton under the leadership of Jade Kastel.



Worship Sunday mornings through Lent will center on the Beatitudes found in the Sermon on the Mount. Each Sunday will focus on a different Beatitude culminating with Blessed are The Peacemakers on Palm Sunday.

Continue on page 3

Missy's Message continues...

Our Lenten Study centers on Faithful Living. On Friday evening March 8th the movie 'Chariots of Fire' will be shown and simple lunches and discussions on the theme will occur on March 17th and April 7th.

Included in your journey also is:

*Our Church participates in the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**. Your gifts will support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, food for the hungry and community development that helps people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. **Our goal for 2019 is \$300. You may donate by going to our website <https://www.rivierachurch.org/give/>**

*Members are also invited to use the Tread Lightly for Lent daily reflection and action calendar which is found in your bulletins on Sunday or click this link.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/tread-lightly-for-lent-lenten-calendar/>

*Another practice that can be observed is to give away forty articles of clothing or household goods and donate them to a charity of your choice.

***HOWEVER**.....Probably the Lenten Discipline I am most excited about is that we will be praying twice a day for our church and its members. Continue reading to find out more.

Our Presbytery of Tropical Florida is embarking in a three year plan of Mapping The Way Forward. For the first seven months of 2019 all churches in the Presbytery will be working on Clarity of Identity by participating in various practices like, a bible study on congregational identity, participating in workshops provided by the Presbytery, spiritual practice just to name a few. For Lent all churches are asked to participate in the same Spiritual Practice: Prayer. - Pray for 2 minutes, 2 times daily at the same time.

Here's what to do:

- Choose the specific times of day (remember twice a day),
- Put an alarm on your cell phone,
- Pray for two minutes for Riviera Church and our community.

I think this will be a powerful and transformational experience.

My hope is that through participation in these programs, we will put our **faith into action** and see what **love** can do.

In Christ and in Love,
Missy

Mission News...



Riviera is excited to announce that it has again been recognized by the PCUSA as an Earth Care Congregation. First certified in 2011, Riviera embraces an environmentally friendly approach to caring for God's creation ranging from using reusable plates and glassware for church dinners to eco-friendly building operations. We even "drink our values" (no bottled water, use of Fair Trade Coffee, gift water bottles to our guests and members to take home).

Join our work for Eco-Justice by serving on the Earth Care Committee or by participating in our upcoming educational activities on Sustainable Foods (May 2, 2019) and Mindful Eating(TBA). Contact Missy for more information.



Riviera is proud to be recognized as a new Hunger Action Congregation by the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

If you would like to assist in our hunger relief programs, please send the Church a message or speak to the pastor.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/food-faith/hac01-19/...>

Hunger Action Congregations Covenant:

As disciples of a loving God who inspires us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God, we commit to faithful action to end hunger and address its root causes.



Riviera is a strong supporter of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and their efforts to create safe and fair work conditions for farm workers. On March 7, we encourage you to join in the boycott of Wendy's by praying for the workers, writing a postcard, posting a message or taking the other actions in this article.

<http://www.boycott-wendys.org/faith-call-to-action-on-march...>

RIVIERA'S FOOD PANTRY CURRENT NEEDS

1 pound box crackers, tuna, peanut butter, canned soups, fruits and vegetables, family size cereal, pasta sauce, pasta, 1 pound rice, 1 pound dried beans, Vienna sausages, 100% juice boxes or bottles, individual fruit cups, pudding cups and white socks.

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



Women's Study Group

NEW MEETING SCHEDULE

Please join us on the 3rd
Wednesday of the month
March 20th at 7:00pm



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.

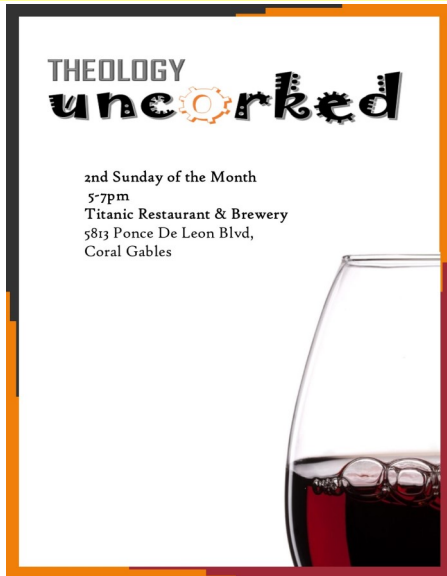
Lenten Study Faithful Living

Simple lunches and discussions on the theme will
occur on March 17th and April 7th after worship.

Worship at 11:00 am - Lenten Study at 12:15 pm



Fellowship & Community News...



THEOLOGY UNCORKED

Theology Uncorked will meet on Sunday, March 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!



Join your fellow Riviera Presbyterian Church member baseball fans to watch the Miami Hurricanes baseball team against the North Carolina State Wolfpack! General Admission tickets are only \$8.00! Link provided for tickets. We will meet at the front gate. General admission seating is in the bleachers and there should be plenty of space available! There will be food available at the game, but if you want one of their famous yummy shakes, that is *cash* only!

Please RSVP to this event so we know how many to expect. Hope to see you there! Go Canes!

<https://hurricanesports.venue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetEventInfo?ticketCode=GS:MIAMI:B19:B17:&linkID=miami&RSRC=SIDEARM&RDAT=sgl>

Session News...

- **Welcome: Elaine Lanaris and Matthew Shields, both joining by reaffirmation of faith.**
- We will say Thank You and Godspeed to Jade Kastel, Interim Director of Music on March 3rd.
- Walter Busse will begin as Director of Music on March 10th.
- Choir rehearsals are moving to Thursdays night starting in March.
- 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**.



Welcome Walter Busse Riviera's New Director of Music

A native of Chicago, Walter Busse began his professional career at the age of 14. He was awarded a scholarship to Berklee College of Music where he earned a dual bachelors degree in Music Education and Electronic Music. He continued his graduate work at the University of Miami with a Masters of Music in Media Writing and Production as well as Doctorate in Music Education. He has taught, directed, performed and been involved in music ministry for over 35 years. For the past 12 years he has been the high school music director at Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart in Coconut Grove, FL. He feels blessed to have the opportunity to share God's amazing gift of music leading groups throughout the US and Europe with numerous appearances at

Disney World, Carnegie Hall, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the Vatican, to name a few. He is excited and honored to be serving with such a warm and inviting church family at Riviera Presbyterian where his sole intention is to bring people closer to God and each other.

2019 Lenten Disciplines

1. Pray for two minutes twice a day for Riviera Presbyterian Church:

Please set your phone alarms for twice a day (The church staff is setting theirs for 8am and 6pm). Then pray for our church and its members twice a day for two minutes.

2. 40 Days of Giving Something Up

Instead of giving up chocolate or swearing.... give up possessions!

Get a large garbage bag and go through your closets and get rid of a possession each day that you are not using or no longer spark joy! After Easter, donate the clothes and household goods to a charity of your choice.

3. Make church a priority!

Remember when you would get an award for perfect attendance in Sunday School. Reward yourself by perfect attendance in worship throughout Lent!

Looking Back at February 2019

Blessing of the Animals

