



The Spark

SEPTEMBER 2020 Celebrating 75 Years of Answering God's Call to Minister to All

Mission@TheMovies

WE WATCH SEPARATELY. WE REFLECT TOGETHER.



TO BREATHE FREE

Join a Community Discussion on September 23.

We Watch Separately

<https://vimeo.com/225871896>

We Reflect Together - Register Here

<https://bit.ly/3ltS21h>

on EventBrite

Upon registration a Zoom Link will be sent.

Then We Act

Actions will be driven by the reflection meeting



Mission Statement

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

We are a Matthew 25 Church

Missy's Message

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

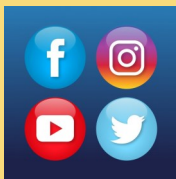
11:00am Sunday Worship Service

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

Dr. Walter Busse
Director of Music
rivierapresmusic@gmail.com

Anna E. Rosas
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Kathy Stults
Clerk of Session
Session Members

Karen Collier
Kyle Dettloff
Vivian German
Susan Mazzola
Barbara Overton

Karen Picciano
Rey Prieto
Michele Ready
Kathy Stults
Mimi Sutherland
Cris Sweeney

Riviera's Mission Statement

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

Therefore;

- We engage with each other in joyful worship and thoughtful education.
- We dedicate our resources and talents to God's work.
- And we open our hearts in active mission to others.

Donate



September, 2020

Dear Rivera family,

A friend texted me the following quote last week.

"Our cups are not half empty or half full, but instead they are overflowing and often we simply fail to recognize it." - Perla

We are in a pandemic...

We are in an economic depression...

We are in a time where we must shout out that Black Lives Matter in a world of bigotry, violence, white privilege, and hatred.

And, yes, here in South Florida, we are also in the middle of a very active hurricane season

But I still agree with the quote and with the Psalmist in the 23rd Psalm.

Our cups runneth over.

The pandemic has forced us to physically distance but our church is together, alive, and healthy. Yes, we miss the building, our fellowship meals together, but we have found that we are still called to be Christ's body and have enjoyed finding meaningful ways to worship, to have music, to be together online, and to continue our Christian Education for all ages. This summer we even found a meaningful way to celebrate the sacrament of communion together.

Our cups runneth over.

There is great unemployment and underemployment and the gap between the haves and the have-nots seems to be widening. But we have found that having a Food Pantry gives families and individuals a little relief. We have helped children start school with the supplies that are needed and have tackled social justice issues head on. Our missions have never been more active and relevant. We are being Christ's body doing Christ's work and building God's realm on earth.

Our cups runneth over.

September is the month when we begin our program year. On the 13th we will commission our CE leaders. We have added new programs for the children of our church. We have a new Youth Director. On the 13th we will also commission our wonderful choir who has adapted to online singing and brings joy to our worship. And, our pastoral care team is at work making sure no one feels alone or abandoned. God is with us and calling us to move forward. I believe we will continue to find that God has new and exciting plans for our community this year.

Our cups do indeed runneth over!

In faith and love,

Missy

The Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

Worship News...

Summer Sermon Series

Join us Sunday, September 6 at 11:00 for the
last Summer Sermon Series on
the Book of Acts

Join us online Sundays at 11:00am

www.rivierachurch.org or [www.Facebook@RivieraChurch](https://www.facebook.com/RivieraChurch)

Gathering with the Choir-
Thursdays at 6:30pm

If you would like to
participate please email
rivierapresmusic@gmail.com

Ukulele Rehearsals
2nd & 4th Sundays of the
month

If you want to be added to
the Zoom rehearsals
Please email
rivierapresmusic@gmail.com

**We Are
Riviera Church:
Join us on Sunday
September 13 for
Kick Off Sunday -
Looking Forward to
what's ahead**



Mission News...



The Riviera Food Pantry

Will be open for distribution of food
ONLY on
Mondays and Wednesdays
from 9:00am - 12:00 noon

Will be open for receiving food donations ONLY on
Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 9:00am - 12:00 noon

You may leave your donated items outside the Fellowship
Hall doors. They will be picked up by a staff member.

Current Needs

Canned Veggies, fruits, soups, and tuna, pasta sauce, peanut butter and granola bars

You may also send monetary donations via our [online service](#), via your bank's bill pay, or mail a check to the church.

--Thank you.



BACKPACKS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTION DAY



Church Volunteers

By: Morgan, Dustin, Dylan

The three of us, (Morgan, Dustin, Dylan), volunteer at our church every Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 12 pm; giving out food, making book bags, and decorating the church. We give out bags of food to the people who need it; when they come by we will slide the bag across the table outside, so we stay a safe distance away. There are two types of bags we give out; a family bag and a single bag. The family bags contain some foods that need to be cooked, such as rice and rom noodles . However, single bags contain snack-like food that doesn't need to be cooked, for people that don't have a kitchen. Giving out food makes us feel like we are making a difference instead of just staying home and watching others make a difference. We've also made 52 book bags for fifth graders containing all the school supplies they need. These book bags will go to a school called Francis Tucker elementary school, this is a title one school so the book bags will really make a difference. We also, hand wrote 52 encouraging cards for each student because we can all use a bit of encouragement during this time. When we are at church we like to decorate, for example we decorated the front windows of the church, so when people pass by it will make them smile. Volunteering helps us make a difference even if it is small one, and anyone can make a difference it is as easy as making a sign in the front of your house that says "stay safe and keep smiling" or taping a paper on your mail box saying "thank you", so the mailman will see it and feel appreciated.

This is the sign in the front of the church.



This is the three of us and the one standing is Ellen she is in charge of the pantry.



This is the food pantry; the paper bags are family bags and the plastic bags in the shelf are single bags.

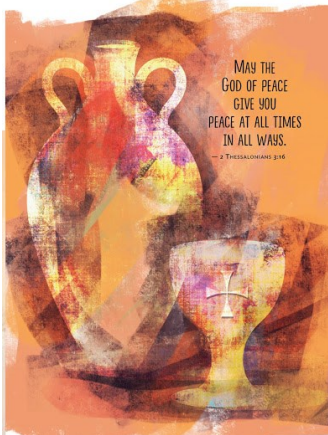
Mission News...

September kicks off the church program year and it brings us to a special season of Mission and putting our faith in action. Below are several ways that you can participate in Kicking off the Season of FAITH, PEACE, WITNESS and CREATION.



Check out our [Instagram Page](#) daily in September for FAITH IN ACTION activities.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



Through participation in the [Peace and Global Witness Offering](#), our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table on Sunday, September 6, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. 25% of the offering received will be donated for hurricane relief. 25% goes to mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in our region, 50% of the offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.



Sunday, September 6 starts [A Season of Peace](#). This season is a time of encouragement, challenge, inspiration, and education.



SEASON OF CREATION

Join with Christians on six continents in celebrating ["The Season of Creation,"](#) an annual celebration of prayer and action for creation.



Congregational Care News...



Kevin F - Sept. 8

Juliana O - Sept. 14

Christian M - Sept. 19

Marysabel L - Sept. 20

Ellie R & Sage S. Sept. 28



Image by [Peter H](#) from [Pixabay](#)

We've re-started our Daily Meditations/Affirmations. Our hope is to encourage our church family to share their stories of faith, fear, hope. Email your story to boverton@gmail.com.

If you include a photo, it must be your own. Copyright posting regulations prevail. This is not a contest or school. Spelling, grammar and punctuation don't count.

Session News...

The Session and Staff of Riviera met via Zoom for their annual retreat and session meeting. Below are some highlights:

- Voted on continuing online and/or modified outdoor worship, and Communion through December 31, 2020. MSP
- Special needs young adults reading group led by Amy Bogardus to start this month. Book is : One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia.
- The Food Pantry received a large donation from the Pink Church in Pompano. We are most grateful.
- Calling a Congregational meeting for the purpose of hearing the Nominating Committee report and to vote on the Session Class of 2023, and the Nominating Committee of 2021. MSP
- Nomination of Barbara Overton to the Presbytery Coral Gables Fund Committee, MSP

Discipleship News...



Join us Sunday Mornings for Zoom Online Adult Bible Study Class

10:00 am - 10:30 am

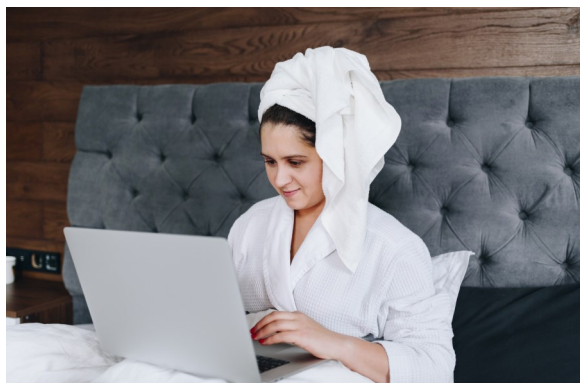
This is a great opportunity to study Sunday's sermon passage with Pastor Missy.

Meeting 860-148-3445

Password 2708



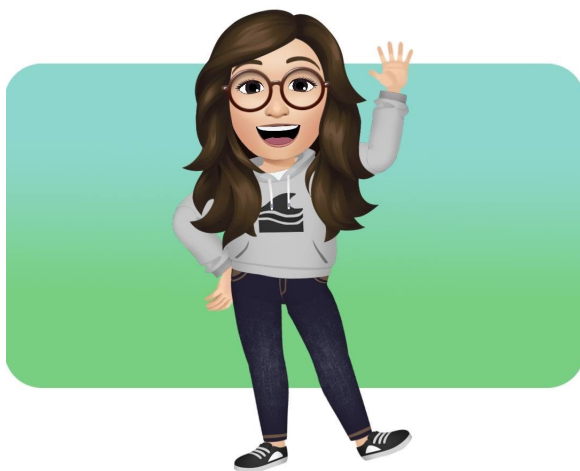
**Join in for Fellowship Time during Zoom Holy Grounds
after worship at 11:45am.**



Women of Riviera Bible Study Group Wednesday, September 16 @ 7:00pm

This month you are invited to share your favorite male and female character of the bible and why?

Contact Karen at kc33134@aol.com for Zoom Meeting details.



Be on the lookout for our Fall Children' and Youth ministry bags. They will be distributed with the communion bread. Don't worry if you aren't in town, Anna will have extras in her office ready for the kiddos when you get back.

Included in the bags will be:

Sunday bulletins

Sunday school activity sheets

A copy of the Blessing of the backpacks

And some special surprises.