



The Spark

OCTOBER 2020

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

Socktober 2020



Picture taken at Riviera's Trunk or Treat 2015

**In honor of
Dr. Chuck Hannemann,
one of Riviera's greatest
champions for the
Socktober Challenge:**

We need your help!

Throughout the month of October, the Mission Committee of Riviera Presbyterian Church challenges its congregation and Mission Partners to collect 400 pairs of white cotton socks by October 31st.

Miami Dade's homeless community has made it clear that socks are one of their greatest needs. So, we will be of service to our neighbors by providing them with socks! These socks will be distributed to individuals without stable shelter in Miami-Dade County via the Camillus House.

Please, encourage your family members, friends, and co-workers to each donate at least one pair.

Socks may be shipped to the church at 5275 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143



Mission Statement

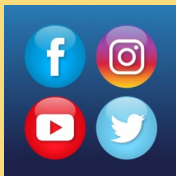
Riviera Presbyterian Church is a spiritual community that accepts and embraces all God's children.

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

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Pastor
marthashiverick@gmail.com

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

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Clerk of Session
Session Members
Susan Admire
Karen Collier
Kyle Dettloff
Vivian German
Amparo Hernandez
Susan Mazzola
Barbara Overton
Bryan Page
Rey Prieto
Michele Ready
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.



October 2020

Dear Riviera Family,

At the church staff meeting this week, we were discussing all the wonderful things happening at the church this month. We might be physically distancing, but the church is alive and vibrant and answering God's call to be the body of Christ to the world and each other. We are planning an outdoor vesper service on October 21st! Although masks will be worn and physical distancing practiced, we will worship in the prayer garden on the east side of the church. We will also provide a way for those who are not in the Miami area or who are practicing strict physical distance guidelines to worship with us online. We have waited until late October to have an outdoor service, hoping it might cool down a bit and plan on having an evening outdoor service once a month.

The Fellowship/CE Committee has planned an intergenerational Trivia Night on October 24th. Anna Rosas and the children are also leading us in worship on October 18th. This will be an incredible worship experience as the youth and children of our church lead us. I am so looking forward to it!

The Mission Committee has planned for a Socktober Collection of white socks to be given to the homeless people. (The socks I donate will be given in memory of Chuck Hannemann, who once asked people to donate socks for this annual collection for his birthday present.) We are also hosting a Decode the Ballot conversation with the League of Women Voters on the 13th at 6:00 and another Mission at the Movies evening on the 28th around the topic of hunger.

Yes.... we are physically distancing and yes, things are different. But the work and excitement of doing God's work continues. In October we will begin our Stewardship Campaign for 2021. 7 months ago if you had told me we would have to have our annual campaign during a pandemic, I would have broken out in hives. But, God has been with us through this and will be with us as we move into 2021. We are healthy... we are vibrant.... we are the people of God who make up the Riviera Church Community.

Thanks be to God!

In Faith and in Love,
Missy
The Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

[Donate](#)

Worship News...

WEDNESDAY EVENING VESPER • 6 PM • Prayer Garden

An informal vespers service will be held on Wednesday, October 21. This gathering will require a mask, social distancing and seating to be brought from home.

This small, physically distanced, outdoor evening Vespers service will be led by Rev. Martha Shiverick and Dr. Walter Busse.

Registration will be opened the week of October 5th via EventBrite. Space is limited. Please arrive early to check in and enjoy a meditative space of welcome. We look forward to seeing you.



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



Sunday Service at 11:00am

Subscribe to our
YouTube Channel today
[https://
www.youtube.com/
rivierachurch](https://www.youtube.com/rivierachurch)



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission



Children's Sabbath Worship Service Sunday, Oct. 18

Photo by [Pexen Design](#) from [Pexels](#)

Come! Live in the Light!



Decode the Ballot Event

October 13 @ 6:00pm

Via Zoom — [.http://bit.ly/faithinvoting](http://bit.ly/faithinvoting)



October 28 @
6:30pm

Mission@TheMovies

Click on the Link for
Registration and
Viewing Information

[https://
bit.ly/36pzXfE](https://bit.ly/36pzXfE)



Food Pantry Needs

Canned soup, veggies and fruit; tuna; peanut butter; pasta sauce; granola bars
and 1 lb. bags of rice

NO PAPER BAGS AT THIS TIME —thank you

Mission News...



Dr. Astudillo was our guest preacher for Earth Day 2020 and also participated in our Mission@TheMovies – Oceans to Everglades.

CONGRATULATIONS



"To Protect and Serve"

Dear Riviera Members,

On behalf of the entire South Miami Police Department our sincere thanks to your entire team for providing 50 youth bicycle helmets. We appreciate your help in providing them to children who otherwise would not be properly protected.

This is a photo of 14-year-old Wyatt, who was the first recipient of a helmet.

A special thank you, to Elaine and her son Matthew, for coordinating this donation.

Your eagerness to demonstrate your support is a testament of your commitment to our city. Your team's generosity is greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Rene G. Landa, Chief of Police

Discipleship News...

News from Anna



Save the date! Intergenerational Beach Cleanup Fellowship!

on

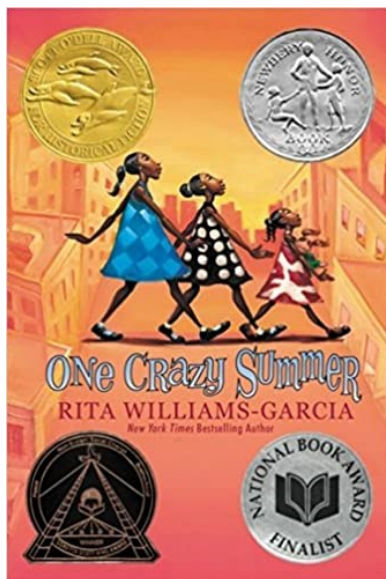
Saturday November 21st at
1:00 P.M. join us
Bill Baggs State Park.
ONLY 10 spots are available
due to Corona virus
restrictions.
More details to come!

RIVIERA TRIVIA NIGHT! Come join us for an intergenerational Trivia Night on **Saturday, October 24 at 6 pm.** Kids and adults, feel free to dress up and show off your Halloween costume to your church family! Crazy fun prizes will be awarded. The ZOOM link will be available closer to the event.

CHILDREN SABBATH SUNDAY

Come join us for a special worship service
on

October 18th. The service has been planned by the youth and will include kid liturgists. Join us as we worship God with the help of our youngest members.



Amy Bogardus-Valdivia is leading a 'Book Club' of Riviera youth: Emilee, Matthew, and Sofia. They are reading, *One Crazy Summer*, a historical fiction novel by American author, Rita Williams-Garcia.

This 'Book Club' started meeting on Saturday, September 19 via Zoom

and will continue to meet on Saturdays. The youth are asked to read a few chapters before meeting so they can discuss the story and characters, read aloud importance passages, and review any challenging words encountered.

Please contact Amy if you have any questions. She can be reached at 786-563-5289 or at abogardus@gmail.com.

Discipleship News...

Women's Study Group Goes Physical Distancing



The Women's Study Group is meeting in person after the 6:00 pm, October 21st Vespers service. If you are interested in finding out about this group this is a good



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



Sunday after worship

HOLY GROUNDS

<https://bit.ly/rpcsunday>

Session News...

The Session of Riviera met on September 15, 2020—following are the highlights

- Received into membership—Nancy Stults, mother of Kathy Stults. This was a historic event in the life of Riviera—receiving into membership via Zoom during a world wide pandemic.
- Session approved to apply for a Vibrant Together Grant from the Presbytery of Tropical Florida to help continue and improve online and begin outdoor worship.
- Approved a new Clerk of Session—Ruling Elder Susan Mazzola.

Congregational Care News...



Stephanie G. - Oct 1
Cris S.— Oct. 3
Rey P.— Oct. 6
Pam A.— Oct. 12
Karen C.— Oct. 15

John G.— Oct. 16
Vivian G.— Oct. 23
Ruth A.—Oct. 25
Bryan P.— Oct. 27

Stewardship News...

Stewardship 2021

We are healthy... we are vibrant.... we are the people of God who make up the Riviera Church Community.

Our 2021 Stewardship Campaign begins on October 11th with Stewardship Sunday on November 8th. During this 'Stewardship Month' we will talk about how the church has been there for us during this unusual year and the exciting plans underway for next year as we move forward. We ask you to personally pray about how the church has been a precious gift to you these past six months and its importance to our community. Then, prayerfully consider your pledge to support the wonderful things going on at Riviera! We need your support to continue be all that God calls us to be.

Stewardship Mailing will be sent out soon