



The Spark

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

All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God's justice and peace in every nation.

Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time. In this context, it is appropriate for us on All Saints' Day to commemorate the lives of those who died during the previous year. We invite you to join us on [Sunday, November 1st at 11:00 am, for virtual worship service](#), as we remember our loved ones.

excerpts from the [Companion to the Book of Common Worship](#) (Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151)



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

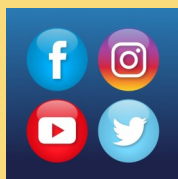
Riviera Presbyterian Church
5275 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143
(305) 666-8586

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
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Session Members
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Karen Collier
Kyle Dettloff
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Susan Mazzola
Barbara Overton
Bryan Page
Rey Prieto
Michele Ready
Mimi Sutherland
Cris Sweeny

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](#)



November, 2020

Dear Riviera Family,

Oh my, the best part about it being the month of November is that the election is almost over! All the negative name calling and campaign ads will finally be a thing of the past.

But, I am also aware that this year the anticipation of the holidays are also a source of emotional turmoil and anxiety for many of us. Things will indeed be different as we move into Thanksgiving and then begin Advent on the last Sunday of this month.

The Pastoral Care Committee of the church has been talking about how to minister to all of us during this civic and religious holiday season which begins with Thanksgiving and ends on New Year's Day. Many of us will experience different holidays than our usual ones. Some will not be able to travel and some loved ones who travel to see us will be staying home. And some of us will be alone. We have planned worship services and activities knowing that the church can provide a community of love which really is the meaning of the season. There will be fellowship opportunities where we can be together online. A bag of Advent worship tools and activities will be delivered to each church household during the week of Thanksgiving.

But... Let's not just jump to Advent and Christmas. Even though we were disappointed our first outdoor vesper service was rained out, we have already planned an outdoor and online Thanksgiving service on November 18th. All our favorite Thanksgiving Hymns will be played.

And before that there will be another Mission at the Movies Night November 11th on the subject of sexual violence. The Film 'Scales' was written and produced by my daughter Nonie. This short film is now premiering and winning awards in Film Festivals around our country and internationally. Nonie will show the film in the ZOOM meeting and facilitate our conversation.

We are a community of faith. We are a church family. Seven months ago I was so worried how we would keep together our wonderful community while being physically distanced from each other. But God is with us and God's Spirit is around us. We have learned to care for and love each other in new ways. Our worship is exciting and our church missions and ministries are alive and well. And we will continue to care for and be together through this unusual holiday season that is approaching.

In Christ and with Love,
Missy
The Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

Worship News...

WEDNESDAY EVENING VESPER • 6 PM • Prayer Garden

An informal vespers service will be held on Wednesday, November 18. This gathering will require a mask, physical 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 first week of November 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



Volunteer Drivers Needed!!



Drivers are needed for Advent/Communion

deliveries. Pick up will be at
Riviera anytime between 9am -
6pm for your specific route **from**
Monday, November 23 -
Wednesday November 25th.

Please email the church office at
rivierachurch@bellsouth.net or
leave a message at 305-666-8586x3
if you would like to be a volunteer
driver.

--Thank you.

Different pickup times can be
arranged if needed.

MISSION@THEMOVIES

A rape victim finds she now has scars that only she and other survivors can see.



The aim of this project is to inspire a more educated and empathetic discussion about consent and sexual assault. This is an issue that affects many people of all ages and genders, and is often swept under the rug. It is neither easy nor convenient to address, but the filmmakers feel it is crucial to shine a light on it. We hope that the film will help people to understand the fluid nature of consent and to feel empowered to discuss it and address it in their own lives.

Wednesday, November 11@6:30pm via Zoom

You are invited to attend this special screening with the Screen Writer of the film, Nonie Shiverick.

Please RSVP to rivierachurch@bellsouth.net
Subject: **Scales**



Food Pantry Needs

Canned soup, veggies and fruit; tuna; peanut butter; pasta sauce; granola bars
and 1 lb. bags of rice, dried beans, pasta
NO PAPER BAGS AT THIS TIME —thank you



Who's WHO in Environmental Work and the PC(USA)

Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)

The PC(USA)'s environmental work (Sustainable Living & Earth Care Concerns) is currently a part of the Presbyterian Hunger Program. PHP works to inspire and equip congregations and presbyteries to work for eco-justice for all of God's earth. PHP produces, promotes and distributes faith-based environmental resources for individuals, congregations and presbyteries. This office also oversees the Earth Care Congregations program (see more below) as part of the denomination's Sustainable Living & Earth Care Concerns work. Learn more at www.pcusa.org/environment.

Earth Care Congregation (ECC) Certification

Earth Care Congregations are congregations that have committed to the "Earth Care Pledge" and have accomplished a specific number of actions toward caring for God's earth in four categories: worship, education, facilities and outreach. Congregations earning 25 points in each of the four categories are certified as Earth Care Congregations through the Presbyterian Hunger Program. A Guide to Greening Presbyterian Churches

provides congregations with worksheets, resources and instructions for becoming an Earth Care Congregation. To download the guide and learn more about the ECC certification, visit www.pcusa.org/earthcarecongregations.

Presbyterians for Earth Care (PEC)

Presbyterians for Earth Care invites individuals and congregations to participate in the growing earth care movement within the PC(USA). PEC is a national eco-justice network that is dedicated to environmental wholeness with social justice, seeking to be a prophetic voice for substantive change in the Church and in the world. Since 1995, PEC has equipped Presbyterians with worship and devotional information, connections through biannual conferences, and support of young adults in the Eco-Stewards program. They've produced numerous overtures for the General Assembly to create Presbyterian policies that care for Creation. They've also produced monthly and seasonal newsletters with book reviews, art and other resources. More information about PEC is available at www.presbyearthcare.org, and you can become a member there too.

The Eco-Stewards Program

The Eco-Stewards Program seeks to educate, train and inspire young adults (ages 20–30) in the ways of eco-stewardship within the wider context of Christian faith. The program shares roots in and draws partial support from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Presbyterians for Earth Care, and the Presbyterian Camp and Conference Association. The overarching goal of this grassroots initiative is to help young adults connect and share their passions for faith and environmental stewardship through participation in place-based learning programs that explore how faith communities are responding to environmental challenges. Learn more at <https://ecostewardsprogram.wordpress.com/>

Fossil Free PCUSA (FFPCUSA)

Fossil Free PCUSA is a grassroots organization in the PC(USA) made up of members and friends of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Their work is specifically rooted in a moral response to the urgency of climate change through activism and organizing. Since 2012, they have responded to a biblical call to care for God's good Creation by calling on the denomination

Discipleship News...

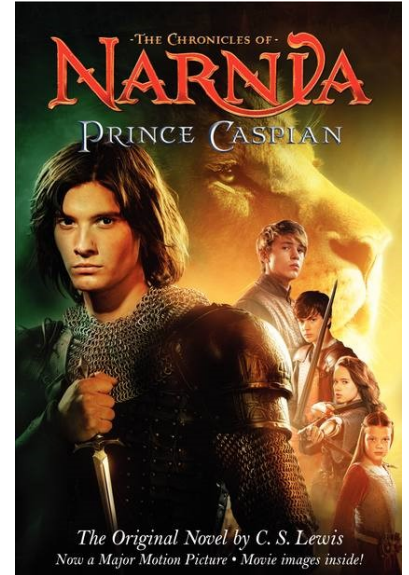
News from Anna



Children's Sunday School New Book Prince Caspian by C.S. Lewis

Come join us on Sunday Nov 8th at 4:00 PM as we continue this journey of magic and Wonder. We will read the 1st Chapter of the Second book in the Narnia Series, Prince Caspian.

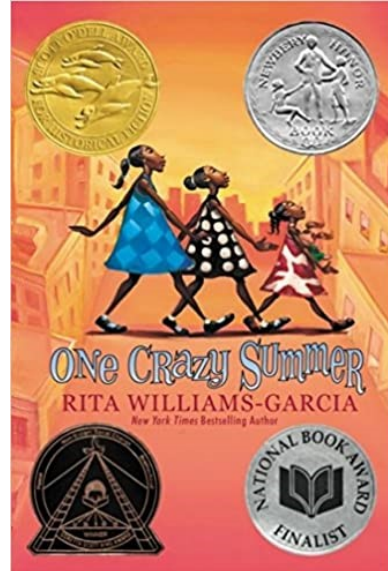
Email Anna rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com for the Zoom link and Password!



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!



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 meets on Saturdays via Zoom.

The youth are asked to read a few chapters before meeting so they can discuss the story and characters, read aloud important 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.

What are you *thankful* for?

Is the theme for the November Women's Study Group on Wednesday, November 18th at 7:00pm. Please contact Karen at kc33134@aol.com to receive the Zoom information to join this event.



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



Sundays after worship

HOLY GROUNDS

<https://bit.ly/rpcsunday>

Session News...

The Session met on October 20th below are the highlights:

- A grant was received from The Miami Foundation for the Riviera Food Pantry
- Socktober is going great - at time of printing we have received 680 pairs!!
- Session approved a grant proposal to our Presbytery to continue to expand our online presence.

Pastoral Care News...



Corey L. 11/1
Sarah G. 11/6
Ellen A. 11/8
Jakk S. 11/10

Graham G. 11/16
Lorella K. 11/20
Tracey S. 11/12
Barbie P. 11/28

Stewardship News...

Our 2021 Stewardship Campaign began on October 11th. During this Stewardship Month we have talked about how the church has been there for us during this unusual year and the exciting plans underway for 2021. You have also heard from some of the committee chairs on what they have been able to accomplish this year and some of the plans for next year.

Thank you to those who have already sent in their 2021 pledge. If you have not sent yours in yet, we ask you prayerfully consider your pledge to support the wonderful things going on at Riviera! We need your support to continue to be all that God calls us to be.

Please return your pledge form by November 8th. If you need a form please contact the church office at rivierachurch@bellsouth.net