

# The Spark

JULY 2021

Embodying Love | Demanding Justice | Transforming the World

Super Sunday Spectacular  
Cards & Caring  
July 18th after worship  
Italian Theme Potluck

Christmas in July  
Worship Service  
Sunday, July 25  
@ 11 am

## 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

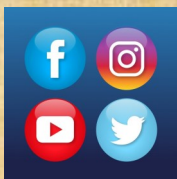
Riviera Presbyterian Church  
5275 Sunset Drive  
Miami, FL 33143  
(305) 666-8586

11:00am Sunday Worship Service

Office Hours M - F 9:00-5:00

[www.rivierachurch.org](http://www.rivierachurch.org)

Connect with us on social media



@RivieraChurch

Rev. Martha Shiverick  
Pastor  
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Dr. Walter Busse  
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[rivierapresmusic@gmail.com](mailto:rivierapresmusic@gmail.com)

Anna E. Rosas  
Youth Education and Outreach Assistant  
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Barbara Prieto, CCA  
Certified Church Administrator  
[rivierachurch@gmail.com](mailto:rivierachurch@gmail.com)

## Session Members

Susan Mazzola  
Clerk of Session

Susan Admire  
Karen Collier  
Kyle Dettloff  
Vivian German  
Amparo Hernandez  
Barbara Overton  
Bryan Page  
Rey Prieto  
Michele Ready  
Mimi Sutherland  
Cris Sweeny



July 2021

Dear Riviera Family,

God is doing new and exciting things at Riviera Church!

We are a few weeks into our hybrid model of being the church.... Meetings and educational events are offered online and in person and you can worship in person, on ZOOM, and live streamed on

YouTube Sunday morning's at 11. The live streamed video is also available after Sunday morning's for people who would like to worship at another time or day.

And.... well there has been a HUGE learning curve with this. Some-things are easier than others. The hybrid in person and ZOOM Bible Study on Sunday mornings is going well and no one has complained about evening meetings being held via ZOOM. With Miami traffic and our congregation's busy schedules, these online meetings are here to stay.

We are learning how to live stream the worship and eventually this will become a seamless choice for people who are all over the world to worship. But for now, please be patient with the technical difficulties as we learn to live into this.

That being said, we also want feedback. If you are on line and there is no sound coming through, let us know. And if you have ideas for how this could be improved, we would love to hear from you about that as well. And if you would like to help out, well, that would be the best. And any time you see Elder Rey Prieto, Butch Sorenson, and Robbie Adams, give them a BIG thank you!!!!

And we are a few weeks into our Summer Worship Series on the Epistles. Each summer we have chosen a book or theme from the Bible and gone into the topic in more depth. This summer's study on the Epistles allows us to look at the development of early Christian Theology and Ethics and to realize that the many problems within churches today are not new, but have been around since the very first Christian churches. One of my favorite things about this summer is that we have been able to weave pastoral care, mission, and fun into action items each week by sending out our own epistles in letters on mission topics to government officials, have sent birthday epistles (cards) to our members, and have tried to write with the same reed pens that were used in Biblical times and still are used in writing Hebrew, Arabic, and Greek today.

It is a special summer.... And all the more special and poignant to me as I look towards my retirement. But we will talk more about that next month. For now.... God calls us to be the community of people called Riviera, to love all unconditionally as Jesus did, and to be a light to our community. And we are and we will do just that.

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



# Worship News...

## The Epistles Riviera's Summer Sermon Series



We continue Riviera's Summer Sermon Series on The Epistles with Paul's letters to the Philippians, the Colossians, the Thessalonians and his letters to Timothy. Paul was not one of the original 12 Apostles of Jesus, but he was one of the most prolific contributors to the New Testament. We continue our exploration of his writings Sundays at 11:00am.

## From Dr. Walter Busse...



Love to sing? Come join the choir!! We meet in person every Thursday in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm for potluck dinner, followed by rehearsal. No experience necessary.



Do you love music and want to learn an instrument? Join the ukulele ensemble!! No experience necessary. We will even provide an instrument for you. We meet in person (AND by ZOOM!!) every 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday of the month right after 11am worship. As pastor Missy always says, "Once you can play a C chord, you can join in the fun!!"

For more info, contact Dr. Walter Busse, [rivierapresmusic@gmail.com](mailto:rivierapresmusic@gmail.com)



# Mission News...

## Frances Tucker Elementary 5th



On June 9th Ellen and Rosemary represented Riviera at the Frances Tucker Elementary School 5th grade drive up graduation.

Each student received a present that we were able to purchase with funds from our generous congregation.

Everyone had a great time and it was wonderful to interact with the staff and students.

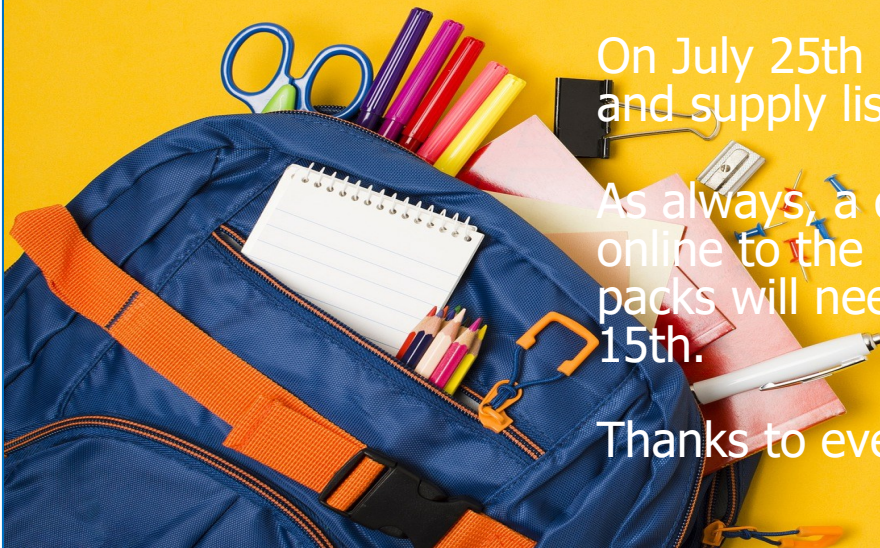


Our next project will be backpacks for the incoming first grade class.

On July 25th we will hand out backpacks and supply lists.

As always, a donation can also be made online to the backpack fund. All the backpacks will need to be returned by August 15th.

Thanks to everyone for all your help.





# Discipleship News...

## Join us for our first-ever Super Sunday Spectacular!

This summer, in lieu of having a traditional VBS program we are going to host a monthly Intergenerational potluck after worship.

The programming will connect to our summer series on the Epistles and each potluck will have a theme based on a location from the letters.

During our time together, we will learn more about the Epistles and we will translate that knowledge into care and art for our community!

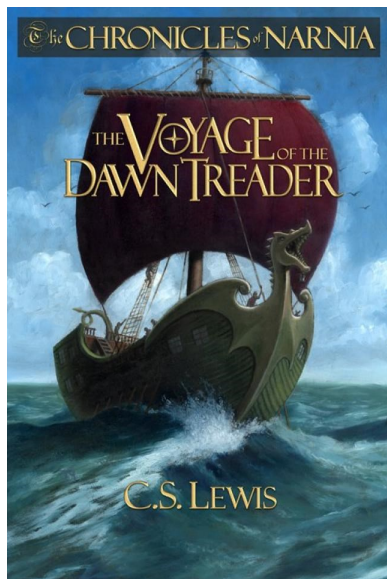
Kids of all ages can enjoy the yummy food and participate in all the activities. If you have any questions contact Anna at [rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com](mailto:rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com)

July 18th (Cards and Care) Potluck spotlight Italy.

August 15th (Community Art Project) Potluck spotlight Spain.

## Sunday Book Club @3:45 pm

Email Anna [rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com](mailto:rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com)  
for the Zoom link.



**The Adult  
Bible Study Class  
provides you with a  
deeper understanding of  
each Sunday's Epistles  
in our  
Summer Sermon Series**

**Join on Zoom or  
In Person  
10:00 am - 10:30 am  
Meeting 860-148-3445  
Password 2708**



## Discipleship News...



### Beach Breakfast is Back!

Come join the church family at Riviera for an Intergenerational Beach-Breakfast on July 10th at 9:00 A.M.

We will meet on "North Beach" in Crandon Park under some lush palm trees and hang out! Parking is \$7 for the whole day.

Please bring sunscreen, water, and a breakfast item to share! OJ and some fruit will be provided.

If you have any questions contact Anna at [rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com](mailto:rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com).

**See you then!**

## Pastoral Care News...

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Leah P—10

David G—25

Dylan D—27

In response to Christ's call to love one another, the Pastoral Care Team seeks to extend Christian caring, concern, and support to members and friends of our congregation through coordination of various ministries: prayer chain, meal preparation and delivery to those with short term special needs, transportation, cards to express our caring thoughts, and special projects as they arise. We are united in our commitment to love God, love our neighbors, and follow Christ in faithful service.

Interested in joining the Pastoral Care Team?

Contact Pastor Missy at [@marthashiverick@gmail.com](mailto:@marthashiverick@gmail.com) or 305-666-8586 x2



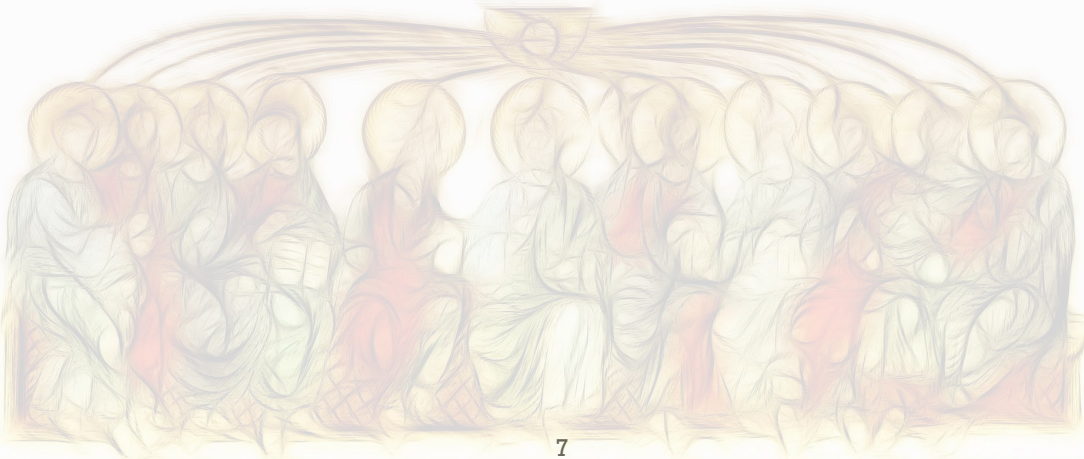
## Stewardship News...

Be on the look out this month for your giving statement covering donations from January 1—June 30th. Please review and if you find a discrepancy please notify Freddy.

## Session News...

### June Session Meeting Highlights

- August 30th will be Missy's 40th anniversary of her ordination as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament and her well deserved retirement will begin on September 1.
- Barbara Overton gave a presentation on the Book of Order.
- All committees reported on their programs and responsibilities.
- 2021 Per Capita is \$37 per member : This year the amount we contribute toward the work of the denomination at the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly level will total \$37 per member. Per capita is one way our members annually support the work of the whole church as that church also supports us in our ministry in this place. Your separate contribution of this amount is appreciated, as it keeps this expense from impacting our spending plan for 2021.



One More Thing...

Save the Date  
July 19  
4:00—7:30pm



## Recycle Yourself—Donate Blood

Roll up your sleeve and donate your precious renewable resource - your blood!

Each pint of donated blood may help as many as three people.

Riviera is hosting a blood drive, Monday July 19 from 4:00pm—7:30pm in front of the church on Sunset Drive.

Feel free to bring electronics like your outdated PC, TV, printers, etc. to recycle them and keep them out of landfills!