



Embodying Love | Demanding Justice |
Transforming the World
With Your Help

Welcome! – Riviera Church is an unapologetically progressive community in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

We are a family church where families come in all compositions.

We are a thinking church that wrestles with faith issues confronting our society today and strives to make our faith personally relevant and meaningful.

We are a mission-driven church that, since the civil rights movement, has worked for justice and peace for all God's children.

In our worship, our education, and our mission we strive that all will know they all are loved unconditionally.



@RivieraChurch

5275 Sunset Drive | Miami FL 33143
www.rivierachurch.org
305-666-8586

Ministry Statement

- 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.

- *We celebrate The Lord's Supper the first Sunday of every month. All are welcome at the table.*

- *For those attending in person: Nursery Care –infant through toddlers- is available during worship. Our nursery attendant Josephine will be in the Welcome Area/Narthex to greet you.*

- *For those attending in person: Hearing devices, large print bulletins and hymnals are available, please ask an usher.*

- *For those attending in person: Restrooms are accessible by the ramp in the Sanctuary. Follow the signs. Changing tables are in both the restrooms.*

- *We want to serve you. If you have a ministry need please contact Pastoral Care Committee Co-Chair Karen at kc33134@aol.com.*

- *For prayer requests please email bfah@me.com*

- *Riviera Presbyterian Church is a proud member of these organizations and a Matthew 25 congregation.*



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



“Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities.”
(www.pcusa.org/matthew25)

**RIVIERA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KICK OFF SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
11:00 AM**

GATHERING

Please note that this service is being broadcasted via live stream and digitally recorded.

CHIMING THE HOUR & WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

PRELUDE America/My Country Tis of Thee

(Please use the prelude as a time to quiet your spirit and prepare for worship.)

GREETINGS

Ruling Elder Karen Collier

OPENING HYMN #338

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God;

and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech,

and night to night declares knowledge. (Psalms 19:1-2)

Let us worship God.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. (Psalms 19:14)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends let us confess the ways that we have failed to live up to God's bountiful invitation.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION unison

**God of Mercy and Steadfast Love,
You gave us our tongues that we may speak words
of love, wisdom, and grace. But often our tongues are
the vehicles of other things:**

**instead of love, hatred,
instead of wisdom, foolishness,
instead of grace, rage.**

**Like a small fire that sets a forest ablaze, too often a
word can set forth a flood of fear and anger.**

**Help us use our tongues to start other things:
kindness, compassion, and courage.**

**In the name of your son, Jesus Christ, we
pray. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

One: Can we handle it – the good news; the fact that God's grace can transform us; that God can teach us new songs; that God can fill us with hope and joy?

**All: It is hard to believe, which may be why it is hard
to accept it. But God loves us, God has mercy on us,
God is with us. Thanks be to God, we are
forgiven! Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Anna Rosas

ANNOUNCEMENTS KICK OFF SUNDAY

Be in the Know – read the bulletin and see what opportunities for ministry you are interested in making a connection with, events to participate in, and classes to expand your faith journey.

COMMISSIONING OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS & DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are called to a beautiful ministry, full of words, full of wisdom, and full of service.

Our Lord, who came among us to serve, calls us to faith and a life of gratitude.

You stand among us to render a particular service, a gift from God to equip us in the work of ministry. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: the teacher, in teaching; the planner, in planning; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

God has called you for such a time as this.

God equip your people to the tasks you have called them. Fill them with wisdom and knowledge as they serve in Christian Education and on the Discipleship Committee. Grant them insight and creativity. Listen to their prayers as they take on this task during this ongoing pandemic. Remind them constantly that you are with them, equipping them step by step.

Educators and Members of the Discipleship team receive this blessing.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ, knowing you are beloved children of God, and that God has called you to serve in this way. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SONG #853

We are Marching in the Light of God

Children may now follow Anna and Josephine to Sunday School.

THE WORD

MUSIC MINISTRY COMMISSIONING

Dr. Walter Busse

God of all creation...

Your servant, St. Augustine, wrote that when we sing (or play an instrument) for your glory, it is akin to "praying twice." Dear Lord, we sing to you a new song because you have done marvelous things. We are in awe of the works of your salvation! We proclaim this love as evident in every sound produced. We will sing your praises and worship you all the days of our lives. We shout because the joy you give is uncontainable! We praise you with the harp (and ukulele) and with the sound of singing. You are an awesome God. We choose to worship you in spirit and truth in all that we do.

Let us pray...

For all members of Riviera's music ministry, we ask that you, the God of glory, be always present with those whom you have called into this unique service. We pray that our efforts will bring your people closer to you through your profound gift of music. Be it through singing or playing of instruments, we ask that you help us to seek growth and perfection in our technique, and purity of heart in our intention, so that our praises proclaim your presence with power. With every sound that we make, grant us, and all who hear our song, a new awareness of your beauty and grace. We pray that all

music is to glorify your great name. Make us worthy to join our praises with the hosts of heaven. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM Blessed Be the Nation

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters,^[a] for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴ Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature,^[b] and is itself set on fire by hell.^[c] ⁷ For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸ but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters,^[d] this ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a

spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters,^[e] yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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SERMON

Ruling Elder Karen Collier 'Look Who's Talking!'

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of all that you have created, as a people gathered in hope, we are moved by the despair of others. As a people of love, we ache for those who are lonely, lost and fearful. As a people of life, we mourn with those who are touched by death. As people who struggle to trust more fully in you, help us to minister in the Spirit of Christ to all whom we meet, and to not lose heart as we try to live out the gospel.

We pray for the grieving—the hungry and homeless—the oppressed—the victims of war. We pray for our community and nation, and its president and leaders. We pray for those who are sick and recovering, and those whose sickness will lead to death. In life, in death, in life beyond death, you are with us, and for this we give you thanks. Empower this church and all your people to awaken to the reality of your presence, grace and love, and bring us at last with all your saints to the feast that has no end, which you have prepared for all who put their trust in you, through your Son Jesus

Christ our Lord. And now let us pray in the manner that Christ taught us praying:

For the Lord's Prayer we appreciate the diverse traditions and backgrounds that make up the Riviera community of faith and encourage you to use whatever words for this prayer are meaningful for you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER unison

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Loving God, Jesus taught us "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." We offer our gifts to you knowing they are part of our treasure, and we do so with the hope that our hearts, our actions, and the words of our tongues will likewise follow. We acknowledge that the tongues that praise you are often the ones that hurt you, when we use them to diminish or discount one of your precious children. Guide our hearts, minds, and tongues to the words that bring you joy. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

The Act of Gratitude

- 1. You may donate today with a credit/debit card at www.rivierachurch.org and click on the GIVE button or use the scan me code with your phone camera.**
- 2. You may leave your donation in the offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary. You may download the free Give+ app (Ios & Android)**
- 3. You may set up online payment via your bank bill pay program.**
- 4. You may also mail in your check to the church at Riviera Presbyterian Church at 5275 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143**



***DOXOLOGY #582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

***CLOSING HYMN #722**

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

POSTLUDE Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing



If you are worshipping with us on YouTube please leave us a comment.



Today we welcome to the Riviera Pulpit, Ruling Elder Karen Collier.

Karen has been a member of Riviera since 2010. She is an elder and is involved with Congregational Care, Education, Missions, and is a member of the choir. Karen has been a Miami resident for all her adult life. She has worked as a social worker and in health insurance.



PRAYER REQUESTS

You may share any prayer requests or joys below which will be sent to our pastoral care team. Please place your prayer requests in the offering plate as you exit or email it to: *bfah@me.com*

Name: _____

Prayer Requests _____

UKULELE REHEARSAL TODAY @ 12:00 NOON
IN-PERSON & ZOOM



ARE YOU READY TO LEARN A NEW SKILL THIS
SUMMER?
CONTACT DR. WALTER BUSSE



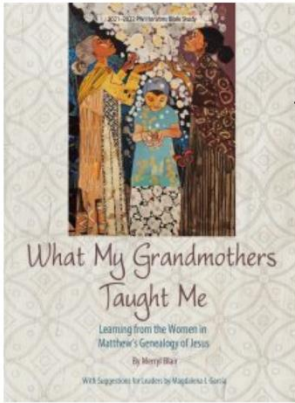
Youth Reading Group
Voyage of the Dawn Treader
Sundays at 4:00 pm

email Anna for Zoom
information
rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com



SEPTEMBER 12 @ 5PM
MEET UP @ TITANIC
FOR A THOUGHT PROVOKING
MEAL & LIBATION

THEOLOGY
uncorked



Presbyterian Women/Horizons Bible study

Join the Women of Riviera Bible Study Class
on the third Wednesday of the month at
7:30 pm.

Currently meeting on Zoom only.

Contact Karen kc33134@aol.com for Zoom
login.

See our September newsletter for details

Zoom Meeting ID 894-7650-2156
Passcode 333227
**Sunday Bible
Study Class**
10:00 am EST
Join in person or on Zoom

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Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing - Contributors: James Weldon Johnson
Text: © 2000, Roger Dean Publishing Co

PUBLIC DOMAIN

America/My Country Tis of Thee - Text: 66 4 666 4; Samuel F. Smith, 1808-1895. Music: Thesaurus Musicus, 1744.
Contributors: AMERICA

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies – Text: Katharine Lee Bates, 1893
Music: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

Blessed Be the Nation

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak Text: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872
Music: Robert Schumann, 1839



Riviera Presbyterian Church – PCUSA
*(A Member Congregation of the
 Presbytery of Tropical Florida)*

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Mission Statement

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

Ministers

Pastor

Parish Associate for Visitation

Parish Associate for Visitation

Director of Music

Youth Education & Outreach

Certified Church Administrator

Nursery Care Giver

Custodian

All the People

Vacant

Rev. Rosemary N. Welton

Rev. Dr. David Welton

Dr. Walter Busse

Anna Rosas

Barbara Prieto

Josephine Gurri

Mary Lopez

Session	Session	Session
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Kyle Dettloff	Karen Collier	Susan Admire
Vivian German	Barbara Overton	Amparo Hernandez
Rey Prieto	Susan Mazzola	Bryan Page
Cris Sweeny	Mimi Sutherland	Michele Ready

