



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 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 on the first Sunday of every month. All are welcome at the table.*

- *Nursery Care –infant through toddlers- is available during worship. In addition, our nursery attendant Josephine will be in the Welcome Area/Narthex to greet you.*

- *Hearing devices, large print bulletins, and hymnals are available. Please ask an usher.*

- *Restrooms are accessible by the ramp in the Sanctuary. Follow the signs. Changing tables are in both.*

- *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

"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
SEPTEMBER 26, 2021
11:00 am**

GATHERING

We ask all who attend "in person" worship to keep their mask on as a visible expression of "loving your neighbor as yourself."

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

CHIMING THE HOUR & WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

PRELUDE **Grace Alone**

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

WELCOME

Ruling Elder Bryan Page

****Please stand in body or spirit.***

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bryan Page

Leader: In the beginning was the Word. Spoken. Creating the world.

All: Jesus; you are the Word of God.

Leader: The Word gives life. That life is light.

All: Jesus; the darkness cannot put out your light.

Leader: At the beginning of our time: Speak. Shake our worlds.

All: Jesus, we're hungry for your words of life.

Leader: We cannot live by food alone,

All: we wait on the words that come from the mouth of God.

Leader: The Word became flesh and blood

All: and moved into our neighborhood.

Leader: It's time for us to put flesh on your word

All: That we might be your hands and feet, in our homes, jobs, and streets.

Leader: We will worship the Lord.

All: We will let our light shine in the darkness:

Leader: That the world might see and be transformed

All: And praise our Creator in heaven. Amen.

by Sam Hargreaves/engageworship.org

***OPENING HYMN#374 O Holy City Seen of John**

Please be seated

CALL TO CONFESSION

Kyle Dettloff

Let us confess our sins to our Creator and seek God's pardon and peace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION unison

Kyle Dettloff

Almighty and merciful God, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with all our hearts. We have not loved others as Christ loves us. We are truly sorry. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory and praise of your name. Amen.

—Church of Wales, Alternative Order for Morning Prayer

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Kyle Dettloff

Rejoice and be glad! Our God is full of mercy, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Dare to believe in the gift of a new beginning, and be at peace.

CHILDREN'S SONG #853

We are Marching in the Light of God

Children may now follow Josephine to Sunday School.

THE WORD

CHORAL ANTHEM Come Down, O Love Divine

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sandy Barrow

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

One: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

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SERMON

Ruling Elder Bryan Page

Where Did Compassion & Kindness Come From?

THE RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Bryan Page

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ, you taught us to pray and to offer our petitions to you in his name. Guide us by your Holy Spirit, that our prayers for others may serve your will and show your steadfast love; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us pray for the world: God our creator, you made all things in your wisdom, and in your love, you save us. We pray for the whole creation. Overthrow evil powers, right what is wrong, feed and satisfy those who thirst for justice, so that all your children may freely enjoy the earth you have made and joyfully sing your praises; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

--From the PCUSA Book of Common Worship

We pray all this in Christ's name, who also taught us to pray in this manner:

We appreciate the diverse traditions and backgrounds that make up the Riviera community of faith for the Lord's Prayer 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Butch Sorenson

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.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Butch Sorenson

Even the smallest inclination toward generosity saved Joseph's life when his brother Reuben talked the others into sparing him for the moment. Out of that small generosity, God brought great and mighty results. Out of our gifts, no matter how small, God yields an abundant harvest of joy and hope for each person touched by the ministry of this church. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise. Amen.

INVITATION TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, ye hosts in heaven above;
Praise God, the Trinity of Love. Amen*

***HYMN #821 My Life Flows On**

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Ruling Elder Bryan Page

POSTLUDE Lead Me, Guide Me

Today is our last Sunday taking this offering. Would you please give as you are able to help those beyond our doors?

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

PEACE is active,
not passive
PEACE is doing,
not waiting

As we work to share Christ's peace with one another, let's share that peace with those beyond our doors, beyond our communities, and beyond our borders. **The Peace & Global Witness Offering** provides the tools and resources for us as we join together as active peacemakers – at all times, in all ways.

Please use the special offering envelope inside the bulletin or donate online – see The Act of Gratitude in the bulletin for other methods to contribute.



Take a moment to fill out the Friendship Pad on your table.



Today we welcome to the Riviera pulpit Ruling Elder Bryan Page.

Bryan has been a member of Riviera Presbyterian Church since 1979 and an elder since 1981. This is his first effort to deliver a sermon, and it emanates from his anthropological studies. The variety of human lifeways studied in cultural anthropology reveals a natural tendency to treat other human beings

with respect and kindness. That basic tendency was expressed by Jesus of Nazareth in his life and teachings, but evidence of that tendency comes from much earlier in human history. He continues to see examples of kindness and compassion in the diversity present in the human condition.



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 them to: *bfah@me.com*

Name: _____

Prayer Requests _____

Today After Worship – Let's Play and Learn



**Ukulele Rehearsal
Sunday @ 12 noon
In-Person & Zoom**

**Dear Youth,
We are nearing the end of the Dawn Treader
Adventure. See you at 4 pm on Zoom.**



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

email Anna for Zoom
information
rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com



**Next Sunday morning, join us for
Bible Study Class**

Zoom Meeting ID 894-7650-2156

Passcode 333227

**Sunday Bible
Study Class**

10:00 am EST

Join in person or on Zoom



Our worship at 11:00 am on Sunday, October 3, will incorporate a celebration of the Sacrament of Communion, both on-site and online.

- Those who attend this service on-site may choose to bring their elements from home; alternatively, pre-packaged elements will be available.
- Those who do not attend worship in the Sanctuary may celebrate Communion virtually through our worship live stream. In this time, when we are separated by space yet united in the Spirit, we remember that Christ is always at work, gathering us in unique ways.

Just like we take care of our bodies by eating right and exercising to keep us healthy, we have to take care of our oceans' health by keeping them clean and trash-free, so

We are heading back to the beach!

Riviera Intergenerational Beach Clean-Up

Join your Riviera Family as we help clean up Bill Baggs State Park on Key Biscayne on October 16 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

Let them know at the front gate you are there for the cleanup.

It's going to be a wonderful time of fellowship and caring for God's creation!



Image by Anna Rosas



Spiritual Disciplines

Join your Riviera Family on the 4th Wednesday of every month for a new class on the spiritual disciplines.

Each month Anna will lead everyone in a different way of prayer that you'll be able to practice on your own.

You don't need to come to every class since each spiritual practice is self-contained!

These practices are suited for kiddos and adults with different modifications.

We will be meeting over Zoom, so RSVP by emailing Anna at [**rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com**](mailto:rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com)

The first class begins on October 27 at 7:00 pm.

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- **Holy City, Seen of John** #92295
- **Siyahamba / We Are Marching In the Light of God** – Anders Nyberg Words and Music - ©1984 Walton Music. All Rights Reserved
- **Lead Me, Guide Me** #195322 Contributors: Doris Akers, Doris Akers

PUBLIC DOMAIN:

- **Come Down, O Love Divine** Text: Bianco da Siena, 1367; trans. Richard Frederick Littledate, 1867; Music: Ralph Vaugh Williams, 1906
- **Doxology** #78989 Contributors: adapt. William B. Abernethy
- **My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing?)** Text and Music: Robert Lowry 1869



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 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>
Karen Collier	Susan Admire	Laura Fothergill
Barbara Overton	Amparo Hernandez	Elaine Lanaris
Susan Mazzola	Bryan Page	Rey Prieto
Mimi Sutherland	Michele Ready	Alejandra Rondon
		Butch Sorenson