

The Spark

March 2023

Embodying Love | Demanding Justice | Transforming the World

Lent & Holy Week at Riviera

2023 Lenten Devotional

If you've enjoyed our Spiritual Disciplines worship series in the lead-up to Lent this year, you might like the new devotion resource from Presbyterian Outlook on the Spiritual Discipline of the Examen.

In Examen: Inward work for outward living, Terry McDowell Ott explores the ancient spiritual practice of *examen* that focuses on honest assessment and reflection. With a different theme for each week of Lent, readers are invited to explore the connection between internal contemplation and outward action. **Visit the home page on our website www.rivierachurch.org and click on the Lenten Devotional button.**



We look forward to seeing you during **Holy Week**:

Palm Sunday, April 2nd – Worship and Free Community Meal and Blood Drive.

Maundy Thursday, April 6th - Meal at 6:30, Tenebrae Service with Communion at 7:00 pm.

Easter Sunday, April 9th - Worship at 11:00 am.

We invite families of all ages to join us for an **Easter Egg Hunt** immediately following worship in our courtyard!

Mission Statement



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

We are a Matthew 25 Church

Pastor's Reflection...

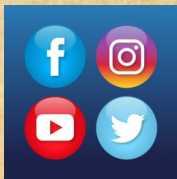
Riviera Presbyterian Church
5275 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143
(305) 666-8586

11:00am Sunday Worship Service

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

www.rivierachurch.org

Connect with us on social media



@RivieraChurch

All The People
Ministers

Rev. Melanie Marsh
Pastor

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

Anna E. Rosas
Youth Education and Outreach Assistant
rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com

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Session Members

Susan Mazzola
Clerk of Session

Karen Collier
Laura Fothergill
Amparo Hernandez
Bryan Page
Rey Prieto
Michele Ready
Alejandra Rondon
Butch Sorenson

Pastor's Reflection

Beloved Community,

How are you adjusting to the first few weeks of Lent? Have you chosen to fast, or adopt a spiritual practice for the season? What discoveries have you made? What challenges have you faced...?

This is a season of confronting our own mortality, our own humanity. We might not always like what we find when we do. Yet we are constantly called by the Spirit of God to love what we find within ourselves, no matter how brutal, or broken, or unrecognizable.

You are a beloved child of God.

This is always true, in every season. But we need to hear this message even more in these weeks as we watch the drama of Jesus's life and ministry unfold, as we marvel at humanity's indifference and cruelty, as we struggle with whatever challenge we might be facing in this particular season of our life.

Look for ways to be gentle with yourself.

Look for ways to be gentle with others.

I look forward to being with you in our worship, study, and fellowship throughout this month.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Melanie



Mission News...

Food Pantry Volunteers Needed



Mondays & Wednesdays
9:00 am - 12 noon

Help people facing *food* insecurity
by *volunteering*.

Sign up sheet is available in the
Welcome Area in the sanctuary or
call the Church Office at
305-666-8586 x3 for available
dates.

Congregational Care News...

Anna R. March 2
Jim C. March 3
Carol T. March 5
Alejandra R. March 5
Robbie A. March 6
Matthew S. March 6
Lisa T. March 7
Lena B. March 9
Rosemary W. March 11
Robert F. March 13
Fabian C. March 15
Raymond K. March 23



Christian Education News...

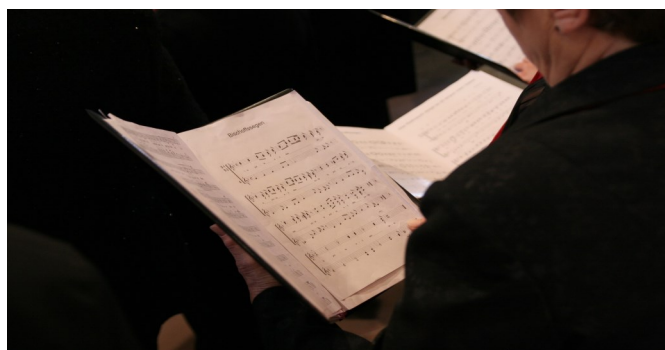
Hybrid Adult Bible Study Sundays at 10 am Zoom Meeting ID: 894-7650-2156 Passcode: 333227

Children's Sunday School at 11:15 am in person

Women's Bible Study Class will be on March 15 at 7:30 pm via Zoom Meeting ID: 886-2278-6373
Passcode: 757192. Contact Karen C for details

Theology Uncorked —see you on March 12th at 5:00pm at Titanic Restaurant & Brewery.

Worship News...



The Riviera Choir meets for a fellowship meal and rehearsal on Thursdays. Come for appetizers at 6:30pm, dinner at 7:00pm and rehearsal at 7:30pm.

Bring a dish to share if you are able. Email our Music Director, Walter if you are interested in finding out more details.
rivierapresmusic@gmail.com



April 16, 2023 @ 11am will be a special Community Service where we will be featuring our little ones singing from the Child Care Center's "Butterfly" Choir!! If you have a child PreK-3rd grade who would like to participate, we will be having TWO after school 4:00-4:45pm practices on Wednesday March 29 AND Wednesday April 12. Please speak to Dr. Walter Busse for information.

Sign Up to be a Liturgist

Worship is something we do together. It requires an active role of each of us—praying, singing, listening, and more. If you would like to help lead the congregation in worship by reading the liturgy, sign up using this QR Code. All ages are welcome

