

The Spark

JUNE 2023

Embodying Love | Demanding Justice | Transforming the World

I've been
meaning
to ask...

a series for curiosity,
courage, & connection

Join us Sundays in June at 11:00 am for
creative worship & courageous conversations

Some of the best conversations start with good questions—questions we've been meaning to ask, questions that keep us curious, and questions that lead us deeper into courage and connection.

Our upcoming worship series from @sanctifiedart centers around four guiding questions:

"I've been meaning to ask...

Where are you from?...

Where does it hurt?...

What do you need?...

Where do we go from here?"

As you can see, these questions aren't surface-level; they invite us to tell our stories, share our pain, care for one another, and dream about a new way forward together. Through vulnerability and authenticity, may our courageous conversations lead us to glimpse hope, joy, and beauty—and to become the community God created us to be.

Join us in person, [on Zoom](#), or [live stream on our YouTube Channel](#).

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...

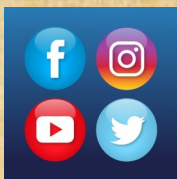
Riviera Presbyterian Church
5275 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143
(305) 666-8586

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

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Susan Mazzola
Clerk of Session

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

Pastor's Reflection

"But how are you, really?"

A friend and colleague asked me this question recently and it got me thinking. It often feels like there are so few times and places where we can dive into the honest answer to that question, within our circles of friends and family, or even with ourselves.

This June we are changing the pace and format of worship, just a little, to make space for deeper questions and community conversations. All month long we will be exploring the worship series, **"I've Been Meaning to Ask You..."** by A Sanctified Art ministries.

Ever Sunday in the month of June, we will gather around tables for worship. Instead of one big potluck meal on the first Sunday of the month, we will incorporate food and fellowship into each of the four week in our worship series. Every week, we will engage with one specific question:

Week one - Where are you from?

Week two - Where does it hurt?

Week three - What do you need?

Week four - Where do we go from here?

Through our scriptures, sermons, fellowship, and conversations we will see glimpses of real life - joy and sorry, triumph and challenge - here in our worshiping community and beyond. We hope you will invite your neighbors and friends to join us for this series. We hope you will bring food and stories to share! We look forward to hearing all you have to tell us, and to walking beside you on this journey.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Melanie



THEOLOGY
uncorked

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

ON SUNDAY, JUNE 11

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM



4178 SW 74th Ct, Miami,

This month at Theology Uncorked we are asking the hard question – How has the church hurt our communities or us personally?

Reminder: You will never get an email from me asking you to purchase gift cards or any other such request. Please always verify that the sending email is my official email.
Rev.melanie.marsh@gmail.com

Mission News...



challenge

Stop wasting food—take the challenge at home!

Thank you to all participating in the Food Too Good to Waste Challenge. As you can see from the numbers below, within four weeks, we collectively reduced our food waste by being mindful and putting the tips that were shared into practice. As the challenge is over our hope is that you will continue to be mindful to stop wasting food and the impact it has on our planet.

First Week: 27 pounds

Second Week: 13 pounds

Third Week: 8.5 pounds

Fourth Week: 2 pounds



Riviera's next beach cleanup day will be Saturday, June 10th, at 10:00 A.M. at Matheson Hammock Park.

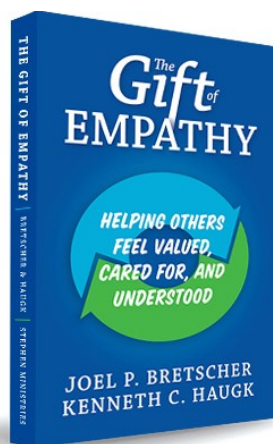
Meet at the picnic tables under the trees by the Atoll pool!

Church will provide the needed items for the cleanup.

RSVP to Anna at rivierapreschristianed@gmail.com

Congregational Care News...

Violet M—June 14
Dylan V—14
Kyle D—15
Ruth G—18
Abigail T—19
James T—24



The Congregation Care Committee will offer a class on empathy using the book “The Gift of Empathy.”

Stay tuned for further details but mark your calendars for the following dates:

September 17 & 24, October 8 & 22. The class will be after worship, with a light lunch and child care provided

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 June 21 at 7:30 pm via Zoom Meeting ID: 886-2278-6373 Passcode: 757192. Contact Karen C for details

Theology Uncorked —June 11— Unseen Creatures - at 5:30, 4178 SW 74th Ct, Miami, FL 33155

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The Good and Beautiful

Bible Study



Experiencing God: From the Bible & What It Means for Our Lives Today

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Women’s Bible Study Class

Now that we have all our books, we will be covering the first two chapters... The 5,000 and Abigail. The readings are really short so I would suggest going back to the scriptures and getting a little more background before we meet.

Looking forward to starting this new study!

If you need a book please let me know.

Karen C.— kc33134@aol.com