

Embodying Love - Demanding Justice - Transforming the World

NEW YEAR

Join us for Worship at 11am followed by First Sunday Lunch on January 7

Bring a dish to share!



**Embodying Love** 

**Demanding Justice - Transforming the World** 

Riviera Presbyterian Church 5275 Sunset Drive Miami, FL 33143 (305) 666-8586 11:00am Sunday Worship Service Office Hours M - R 9:30-6:30 www.rivierachurch.org Connect with us on social media @RivieraChurch

All The People

Rev. Melanie Marsh Pastor Rev.melanie.marsh@gmail.com

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

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

> Barbara Prieto, CCA Certified Church Administrator rivierachurch@gmail.com

> > **Session Members** Susan Mazzola Clerk of Session

Karen Collier Laura Fotheraill Amparo Hernandez **Rey Prieto** Alejandra Rondon **Butch Sorenson Kathy Stults Cris Sweeny** Lisa Torchut

of faith hand out star words.

You may have noticed this tradition in our church or others over the past several years. Sometime in the first week or two of January, during worship, the year to come.

phrases that have come to me on a star in recent years:

Adventure - the year we moved from Ohio back to Florida Let Go - The first year of the pandemic - what a year of letting go that was.. Intuition - COVID year two, and life was changing so fast around us. Inspiration - Our first full year in Miami, and inspiration has been everywhere!

Sometimes we don't even realize how the star words we receive have shaped our lives, until we look back and realize how much we really have grown, or stretched, or learned, or read, or traveled... all because somewhere in the back of our minds, that little word was there reminding us that no matter what the year before has brought us, no matter how old, or young, or tired, or distracted we may feel, there is always more to be loved and explored in this life.

Wishing you all a beautiful start to the New Year, and I hope you will join us in worship on Sunday, January 7th, when we'll be receiving our new Star Words for

Many Blessings, Rev. Melanie

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# January Birthdays

Karen M. - 6

Carolina F. - 18

Melanie M. - 22

Luke F. - 29

If we missed your birthday this year, please let us know by emailing the church office at rivierachurch@gmail.com

## Bible study @ 10 am

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study is the best way to explore the day's scripture, ask questions, and connect with new and old friends. You do not have to be a member of the church to join this small group class. We offer the class in person and via Zoom. Child care is also available.

Meeting ID: 894-7650-2156 Passcode: 333227

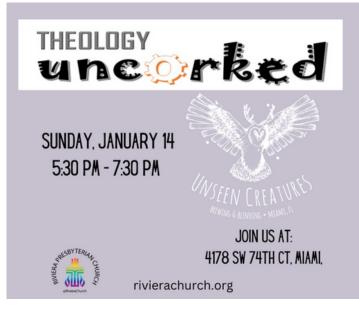
## **Women's Study Group**

"The group resumes this month, on January 17th at 7:30 pm via Zoom.

Meeting ID: 886-2278-6373 Passcode: 757192

## **Theology Uncorked**

Is back on Sunday, January 15 at 5:30 pm same location - Unseen Creatures.





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Dear Riviera Kiddos!

I hope this note finds you all full of joy!

I wanted to share with you a little about Epiphany! Epiphany is a time when Christians remember the visit of the three Wise Men (Los 3 Reyes Magos). According to the Bible, these Wise Men followed a bright star that led them to the place where Jesus was born. They brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to honor and celebrate the birth of Jesus. Christians all over the world celebrate this day on January 6th!

One way Christians celebrate Epiphany is by blessing their homes. So I have a blessing by the Reverend Jan Richardson that you can use to bless your home on January 6th! You can read it together as a family on that day! I am going to bless my home too and then we can talk about it at our following Sunday School class!

Have a great January!

Anna



The Year as a House: A Blessing Think of the year as a house: door flung wide in welcome, threshold swept and waiting, a graced spaciousness opening and offering itself to you. Let it be blessed in every room. Let it be hallowed in every corner. Let every nook be a refuge and every object set to holy use. Let it be here that safety will rest. Let it be here that health will make its home. Let it be here that peace will show its face. Let it be here that love will find its way. Here let the weary come let the aching come let the lost come let the sorrowing come. Here let them find their rest and let them find their soothing and let them find their place and let them find their delight. And may it be in this house of a year that the seasons will spin in beauty, and may it be in these turning days that time will spiral with joy. And may it be that its rooms will fill with ordinary grace and light spill from every window to welcome the stranger home. Wherever you make your home, may it be blessed, and may you enter this Epiphany and the coming year in peace.

https://www.janrichardson.comrivi

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## First Sunday Lunch Sunday, January 7th.

Let's kick off the new year with a potluck lunch immediately following the worship service. Please bring a dish to share, if you are able. We are looking forward to catching up with everyone.



# F. STEWARDS

January 2024

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### PER CAPITA 2024

Reminder: Per Capita for 2024 is \$37 per active adult member. To donate, please go to our website, <u>www.rivierachurch.org/give</u> or use the blue Per Capita Envelopes located on the Welcome Area/Nathex table.

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN - WH

Thanks to all who have submitted their pledge for 2024. It's never too late to pledge or drop your spare change in the offering plate.

The SPF(Stewardship, Property, Finance) meets every 2nd Wednesday via zoom at 5:30. Please join us any time. Zoom link available by contacting the church office or Kathy Stults, Chair.





