

THE SPARK

March 2026 Embodying Love – Demanding Justice – Transforming the World

Riviera Presbyterian Church
5275 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143
(305) 666-8586
9:00am Sunday Worship Service
Office Hours M – R 9:30–5:30 pm
www.rivierachurch.org
Connect with us on social media
@RivieraChurch

All The People
Ministers

Rev. Kim Robles
Temporary Bridge Pastor
pastor@ppcusa.org

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

Emma Cottrell
Faith Formation & Outreach Director
rivierapresfaithformation@gmail.com

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

Clerk of Session
Kathy Stults

Session Members
Gerardo Avitia
Kyle Dettloff
Laura Fothergill
Angela Galbreath
Amparo Hernandez
Michele Ready
Cris Sweeny
Carol Thompson

PRESENTED BY FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

PLAY and LAUGH

Family Game Night

Eat snacks, play old favorites, learn a new game, or bring one to share!

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

MARCH 7, 2026
6:00 - 8:00 pm

from 8:00 - 9:00 pm, dive into Games After Dark—an adult-oriented game session featuring more challenging and lively games

In the Fellowship Hall
5275 Sunset Dr. Miami 33143

RSVP to Karen Collier kc33134@aol.com

SPECIAL EVENT



**Labyrinth
Prayer Walks**

Tell me something good,
grounding ourselves in the good news this Lent

Feb 22 — **4 PM**
Sunday

University of Miami Labyrinth
on Lake Osceola,
Architecture Research Center,
Theo Dickinson Drive

Mar 15
Sunday

Morningstar Renewal Center
7275 SW 124th Street
Pinecrest, FL 33156

The poster features a green and white labyrinth design in the top right corner and a stylized green tree logo in the bottom left corner. The background is a dark green, textured surface.

You are invited to a peaceful Labyrinth Walk on Sunday, March 15, at 4:00 p.m., led by Rev. Kim Robles and Elder Laura Fothergill.

The labyrinth offers a quiet, intentional path for prayer and reflection—a space to slow down, listen deeply, and be present to God’s movement in your life. Whether you have walked a labyrinth before or are experiencing it for the first time, all are welcome to participate in this meaningful time together.

SPF – STEWARDSHIP, PROPERTY, FINANCE

New Meeting Time and Date change:

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 9, at 6:30 via Zoom. The change to the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 will be more convenient for some members.

After a year in the works, the new Fire Alarm System is fully installed and working. Many thanks to Rey for overseeing this project and all its big and little details!!!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

Hi friends!

There is a new at-home devotional option for Lent in the Riviera Google Classroom! This devotional is a little more hands-on, with visual aids that may help our preschool-age friends connect! If you do not have access to a printer and would like a physical copy, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Thanks to the generosity of the Synod of the South Atlantic, we have been able to grow our church library! We have new adult studies available, including books by authors such as Rachel Held Evans, Jeff Chu, Bruce Reyes-Chow, and more!

We have lots of banned books for kids, including board books and picture books like "Antiracist Baby" by Ibram X. Kendi and "Julián is a Mermaid" by Jessica Love. We also have a shelf of banned novels and graphic novels for our youth, including "When Stars Are Scattered" by Omar Mohamed and Victoria Jamieson and "The House in the Cerulean Sea" by T.J. Klune.

We would love for you to visit our library and take a book or two home! If you or someone you know would like to visit the church library during the week, please contact the church office, and we will be happy to accommodate you!

In Peace,

Emma

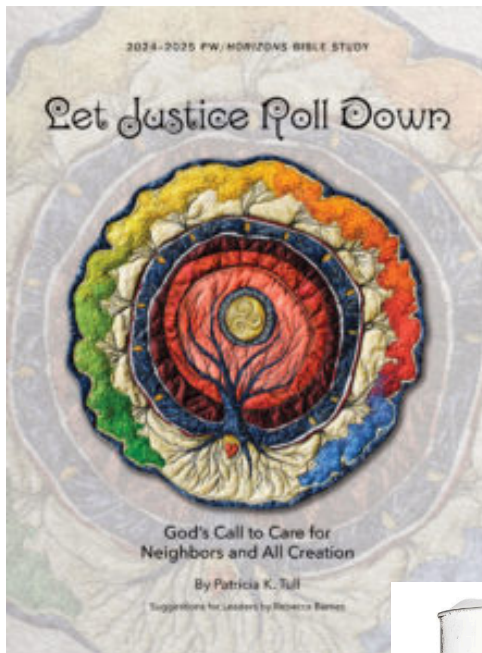
rivierapresfaithformation@gmail.com



Zoom Information
Meeting ID: 894-7650-2156
Passcode: 333227

SUNDAY MORNING

HYBRID BIBLE STUDY @ 10:15 AM



Join Riviera's Women's Study Group on March 19 at 7:30pm via Zoom.

Contact Karen at kc33134@aol.com for details.



THEOLOGY
uncorked

Sunday, March 8, at 5:30 pm
at

Berries in The Grove
2884 SW 27th AVE 33133

LIVING OUR MISSION .. HUNGER

\$600
Goal

\$854
raised

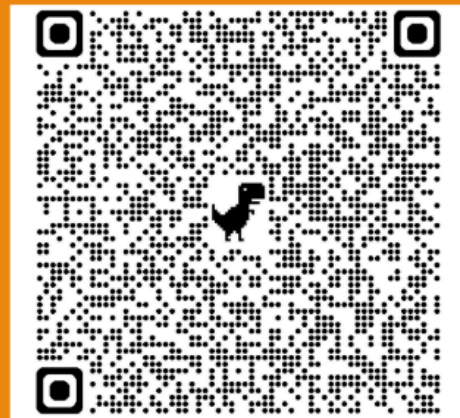
Souper Bowl Soup To-Go Fundraiser Update

Souper Bowl of Caring!

Thanks to your generosity, our Souper Bowl Soup To-Go Fundraiser was a wonderful success. Our goal was \$600, and together we raised \$854 in support of our Hunger Program.

These funds will help provide food and essential supplies for our neighbors in need, continuing Riviera's long-standing commitment to caring for our local community. Thank you to everyone who cooked, served, donated, and showed up with such generosity.

When we come together, the impact reaches far beyond a single meal.



Couldn't attend, you can donate at rivierachurch.org

Souper Bowl Account

or Cash App at 305-666-8586

THANK YOU

LIVING OUR MISSION..HUNGER



Happy new year from the Presbyterian Hunger Program!

We are grateful to you as one of our many allies in the mission of alleviating hunger and eliminating the underlying causes of hunger and poverty.

Even while the land rests for the winter, we look forward to life springing again. Around the world, even amidst suffering, there are signs of hope. Our grant partners (✧) have shared good news with us from the last year. Together we can celebrate:

- Congregation based community organizing groups continue to work around the United States for affordable housing.
- Six teenagers graduated from Mesrobian Technical College with skills for stable employment – allowing them to become key agents in breaking the cycle of poverty in Lebanon. ✧*Jinishian Memorial Association (first photo)*
- La Villita Community Farm continues to be a hub for cultural connection and environmental justice in Chicago. ✧*Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (second photo)*
- Women who were previously kept from school participated in training to learn sewing and financial management skills in Zimbabwe. And women and youth who learned in Madagascar now have access to a tool library to practice their quality sewing work. ✧*Reachout Trust and SAF/FJKM (third photo)*
- Joining Hands partners in El Salvador continue their Bitter Sugar Campaign, dealing with environmental, water, and health issues caused by the sugarcane monoculture. ✧*ARUMES (fourth photo)*
- Clean water is available for communities in Sudan because of rehabilitated hand-dug wells. ✧*Social Metric Organization*
- Guarani indigenous women producers participated in polyculture training and received support for improved irrigation systems. ✧*Centro de Estudios Regionales para el Desarrollo de Tarija in Bolivia*

PHP's Advisory Committee has approved funding for dozens of trusted partners for their work in 2026, including new partners in five U.S. states, the Central African Republic, and Nepal.

Together in 2026 we continue to answer the biblical call to feed the hungry, free the oppressed, and do justice. Our allies include generous donors, Hunger Action Advocates, Earth Care Congregations, Hunger Action Congregations, mid-councils, One Great Hour of Sharing offices, Joining Hands networks, and partners within and beyond the PC(USA) – in at least 27 countries!

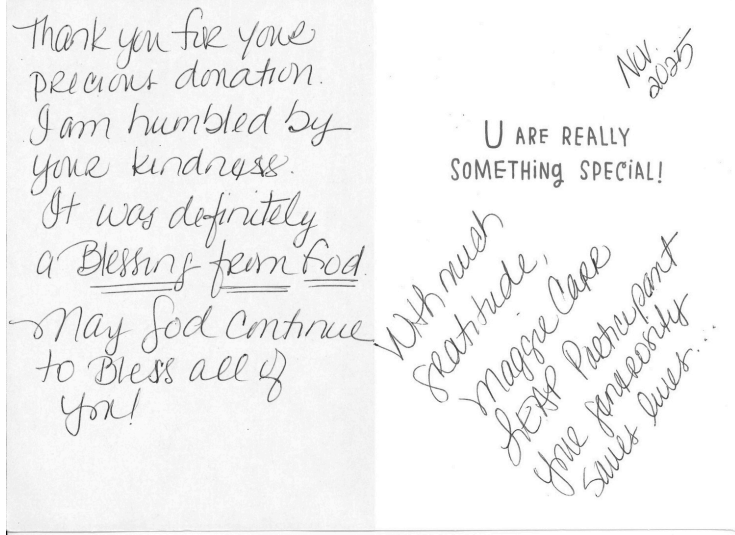
Thank you for your part in this good and blessed work.



Presbyterian Hunger Program
(888) 728-7228 x5832 | php@pcusa.org
www.pcusa.org/hunger



LIVING OUR MISSION..LEAP



We received a beautiful thank-you card from one of the LEAP Ladies, and we are grateful to share their words of appreciation with you.

Because of your generosity through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, women transitioning from incarceration into the LEAP House are welcomed with a \$50 gift card to purchase basic necessities. What may seem like a simple gift becomes something much more: a tangible reminder that they are not alone as they begin again.

Each card represents dignity. Choice. A fresh start.

Thank you for helping extend Christ's peace in practical ways — for showing up with compassion, and for being part of a community that believes new beginnings are possible.

Your generosity is making a difference.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Dear longtime friends of Alice,

About two and a half years ago Alice, was diagnosed with Lewy Body disease, a faster moving form of dementia than Alzheimer's. She coped bravely with her increasing loss of intellectual and bodily powers, but recently had a tragic fall, sustaining a hematoma that ended her life. She died on January 4th. We had enjoyed 57 years of blessed married life.

I'm getting lots of support from family, neighbors, church, and numerous civic organizations that Alice and I have volunteered for over the years.

Alice wanted a green burial, and since she was Wilmington's first urban farmer I arranged for her body to be turned into soil by the process of human composting. She was a certified master composter, and I'm sure she would be delighted with this way of putting her body to good use. I plan to use a portion of her soil to plant a native tree in our backyard.

Her obituary is here: <https://recompose.life/obituary/alice-davis/>. Click on the small circles at the left to see more photos.

There will be a service celebrating her life at [Hanover Church](#) at 4:00 pm on March 8th. That date happens to be International Women's Day. Ever a feminist and social activist, Alice would be delighted about that coincidence.

I hope you will be able to attend in person or online.

Ever grateful,

Tom Davis

LIVING OUR MISSION... OPPORTUNITIES

CLEAR

CATALYST
MIAMI

Community Leadership on the
Environment, Advocacy & Resilience

Co-create climate
solutions with your
neighbors!

March 12 – May 14
Thursdays
6 – 9 pm

United Way of
Miami

3250 SW 3rd Ave
Miami, FL



catalystmiami.org/clear



Interpretation in Spanish, Haitian Creole, & ASL
+ Accessibility accommodations available

Volunteer Opportunities

HEAL

CATALYST
MIAMI

Housing Equity, Advocacy,
and Leadership

Learn our history &
develop solutions for
the future.

March 12 – May 14
Tuesdays
6 – 9 pm

Little Haiti Cultural
Complex

260 NE 59th Terr
Miami, FL 33137



catalystmiami.org/heal



Interpretation in Spanish, Haitian Creole, & ASL
+ Accessibility accommodations available