

THE SPARK

July 2026

Embodying Love – Demanding Justice – Transforming the World

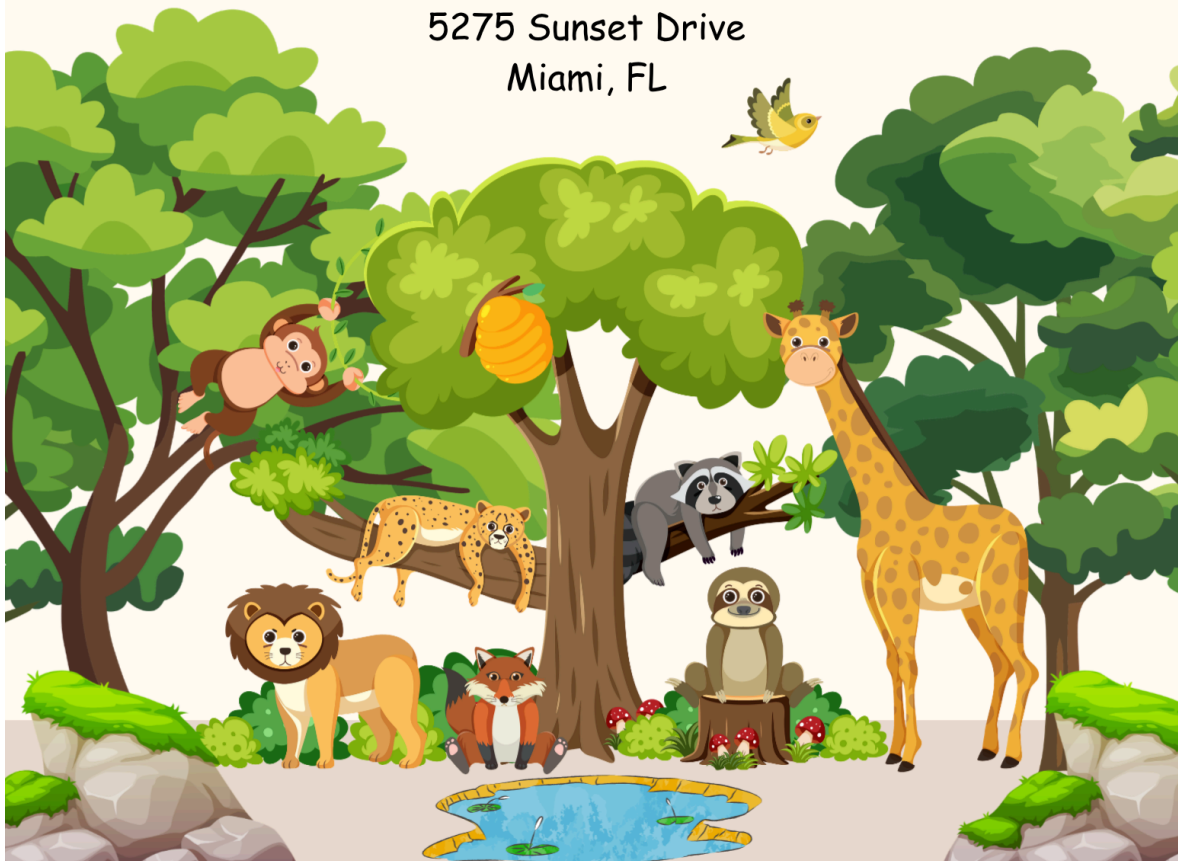
WHAT EVERY LIVING THING NEEDS

SUMMER WORSHIP

Join us this summer as we explore what every living thing needs through intergenerational and interactive worship services! Celebrate how God provides us with shelter, water, food, air, and community through yoga, music, art, science, and snacks!

Every Sunday, July 5th - August 2nd at 9 a.m.

Riviera Presbyterian Church
5275 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL



LETTER FROM PASTOR KIM

Dear Riviera Presbyterian Church Family,

We have spent a few weeks in the sermon series “GOD on the MOVE,” recognizing that we are on the move with God right now at Riviera Presbyterian Church. But, it doesn’t feel like enough time has been devoted to this reality.

The church is in a space of movement and change. And there is always grief and pain as churches change and transition. This pain is felt deeply for many of us individually. It was my hope that we would find comfort as we heard these stories, knowing that God goes with us wherever we go.

But, I’ve sensed from some of you that the pain has not been addressed enough in our work and worship. That we have not acknowledged our grief enough. If you are feeling this, please reach out to me or to one of your Ruling Elders. We are here for you. We – the Session and I – want to hear about your grief. We are grieving as well.

Perhaps some of you may even wish that we’d continue with this Genesis series. And you can! While we at RPC will worship in person with the Summer Worship Series: What Every Living Thing Needs, I will be continuing the Genesis series in worship at Pinecrest Presbyterian Church. If you’d like to receive those sermons in email form, reach out to Barbara Prieto (rivierachurch@gmail.com).

Emma and I have created different, experiential, intergenerational worship that all of us should find joy in this summer. This worship will be a community event for all of us, of ALL ages.

I continue to give thanks for each of you – for your patience and grace as the church leans into a new way forward. As we all know, the one constant in life (besides God’s love and grace) is that change is always around us. It is up to us as people of faith to learn how to continue forward faithfully as a church community. And, I continue to feel your faithfulness. Thank you!

May we know that God continues to walk with us as we continue to carve our way forward into the unknown together.

Peace and blessings,
Rev. Kim Robles
Pastor, Riviera Presbyterian Church

CALL OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers for livestream worship and for photography for our updated website. If you have some gifts in either of these areas, or would like to learn, please reach out to Laura Fothergill (laura.fothergill@gmail.com) and Pastor Kim (pastor@ppcusa.org).

LIVING OUR MISSION ...YES INSTITUTE

Dear Pastor Kim, Barbie and Emma,

Sunday was such an extraordinary and joyful time for us! We deeply thank you for the opportunity to have an open house and gathering, connecting with folks more at the 1:1 level, in addition to a listening and sharing session with the greater RPC and CCC communities.

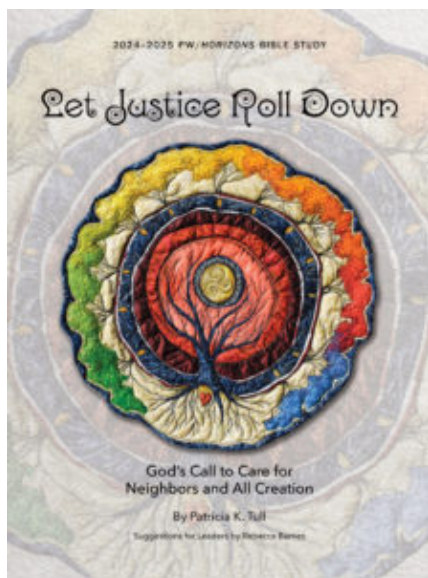
With kindness and regards,
Joseph



LIVING OUR MISSION ... CCC

A big THANK YOU to the CCC Families who provided hygiene products for the women of LEAP. They are ready to do it again in September.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP



The Women's Study Group is meeting via Zoom on Thursday, July 9 at 7:30pm via Zoom

Please reach out to Karen Collier (kc33134@aol.com) for Zoom information.



THEOLOGY
uncorked
See you July 12 at
5:30pm
at
Berries in the Grove
2884 SW 27 Ave

First Sunday
POTLUCK BRUNCH
at 10am



After worship on Sunday, July 5 join us for First Sunday Brunch.

Bring a dish to share and spend time with your church family.

All are invited to share this meal together.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game
Church

Baseball

Fellowship Event

Sunday 09 August | Start 01:40 PM

LoanDepot Park, 501 Marlins Way, Miami, FL 33125

Miami Marlins



VS

Los Angeles Angels



Reserve Tickets
Now

Please RSVP with your contact information and number of tickets now to secure a spot with the group. Cost will be between \$20-\$35 a ticket. Actual purchasing, logistics to follow.



WORSHIP

Sometimes the best thing we can do is simply slow down. A few members of our Riviera family recently walked our labyrinth with members of Pinecrest Presbyterian Church, taking time to pray, reflect, and enjoy the quiet together. We're thankful for these shared moments that nourish our spirits.



Please Note Our August Schedule Change

For the month of August, our monthly Communion celebration and First Sunday Potluck Brunch will be moved to the Second Sunday, August 9. We hope you'll join us for worship, the celebration of Communion, and a time of good food and fellowship as we gather together. Bring a favorite brunch dish to share if you're able, and come enjoy a wonderful morning with your Riviera church family!

PNC: PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

PNC Updates

On October 5, 2025 Riviera Presbyterian Church held a congregational meeting and voted to approve the following church members, Cris Sweeny, Cindy Hershey, Kathy Stults, Laura Fothergill, and Rosy Gonzalez Spears, to the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). This group is charged with discerning and making a recommendation to the congregation on who will be Riviera's next permanent called and installed pastor/head of staff.

Pastor Situation Since Formation of the PNC

● In the fall of 2025 Rev. Melanie Marsh, a RPC's called transitional (interim) pastor, discerned that she was not going to pursue becoming Riviera's permanent (called and installed) pastor. Her last date with RPC was December 31, 2025.

● The third week of January 2026, Rev. Kim Robles agreed to serve as a part-time bridge pastor in a contractual covenant relationship with Riviera Presbyterian Church alongside her primary designated role of leading as Teaching Elder (pastor) at Pinecrest Presbyterian Church. She has continued in this role to date.

There are many steps a PNC must take according to the Presbyterian Church (USA) to move forward. As Chair of the PNC, I will be detailing them throughout the next several months and an explanation as to where we are. Please know that there have been many meetings, conversations, phone calls, visits, prayer and discernment since this journey started last October and that we are committed and called to continue this work. Please pray for us, for Riviera Presbyterian Church, and for all of our leaders known and not yet known.

Blessings,
Laura Fothergill

Chair of RPC PNC

SPF COMMITTEE

Stewardship, Property, Finance Committee:

The Stewardship, Property & Finance Committee will not meet in July. Our next meeting will be Monday, August 3, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

There's still time to participate in our Per Capita Drive! If you haven't yet made your \$40 per member contribution, you can give online or place your donation in the offering plate. Every gift helps support the shared ministry of our presbytery and denomination.

If you haven't been in the church kitchen lately, be sure to stop by and see the latest improvements! A special thank you to Rey for overseeing this project. In addition to the planned wall repairs and new air conditioning, he also tackled unexpected pipe leaks, electrical issues, and ice maker repairs that all surfaced over the past month.

We also want to extend our sincere thanks to John for faithfully arriving early each Sunday to clear the entry sidewalk, unlock the building, and take care of so many behind-the-scenes tasks that help make everyone feel welcome.

If you enjoy caring for our church's buildings, finances, and future, we'd love to have you join the Stewardship, Property & Finance Committee. Whether you have professional experience or simply a willingness to lend a hand and share ideas, your gifts are welcome. If you're interested in learning more, we'd love to hear from you!

Kathy, Kyle, John, Rey, and Tania.

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

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