

THE SPARK

September 2026

Embodying Love - Demanding Justice - Transforming the World

SAVE
the DATE

RIVIERA
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
PRESENTS

RALLY DAY

AT RPC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:00AM - 11:00AM

Make time for
family,
create memories,
and connect with
your community.

Event Highlights

WORSHIP
FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
EXCITING CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES
TIME IN FELLOWSHIP
BLOOD DRIVE

Join Us for a
Spectacular
Fun Day!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: RIVIERACHURCH@GMAIL.COM



A NOTE FROM PASTOR KIM

We will spend these next 6 weeks in Exodus because there is so much for us to glean from this great book of the Hebrew Bible, also known as the Old Testament. Many of the stories that you hear may surprise you. Or they may land to yours ears differently as we explore them at this moment in time. It is my hope that the scripture passages from Exodus will open your eyes and challenge us as a church, and as people of faith who also believe in our great liberator, Jesus Christ.

May you find that your own faith journey is enriched as we explore these texts together. And may our community of faith be encouraged to stretch ourselves to live into a new way of being – perhaps a liberated way of being – as Moses liberates the Hebrews and they begin to plot out a new pathway forward as a faith tradition in a new space and place.

See you in worship!

Peace and blessings,
Pastor Kim

LIVING OUR MISSION ...YES INSTITUTE

Bowling with a Purpose was a wonderful community event. The Riviera team had a great time—not only enjoying fellowship together, but also meeting and connecting with other members of the YES Institute community.

I connected with JB Pfeiffer, the new Family Resource Navigator & Care Coordinator. JB and Joseph shared that they would be available as a resource for Riviera when community needs arise, including connecting people with resources such as homeless shelters, mental health services, and other community support.

It was a great example of how participating in events like this can strengthen our relationships with our mission partners and expand our network of resources for the people we serve.

Thanks to the Mission Committee for helping make opportunities like this possible!



Click Here

For list of courses offered by YES

LIVING OUR MISSION ...FRANCES TUCKER



THANK YOU!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated school supplies or contributed financially to help provide school supplies for the first-grade class at Frances Tucker Elementary.

Because of your generosity, the classroom will have supplies available throughout the school year to replenish items as the children use them and ensure they have what they need to learn and grow.

Thank you for supporting the students at Frances Tucker Elementary and for helping us make a difference in the lives of children in our community.

LIVING OUR MISSION ...CHILD CARE CENTER



PREPARING FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR AT THE CCC

The Child Care Center took a week to prepare for the beginning of a new school year, and there was plenty happening behind the scenes! Teachers cleaned, organized, and refreshed their classrooms, while new equipment was added to help create welcoming and engaging spaces for our children.

Our teachers also took part in a continuing education course with the YES Institute, providing an opportunity to learn and grow together as educators.

One especially meaningful part of the week was Pastor Kim visiting each classroom to pray with the teachers and bless the spaces where our children will learn, play, and grow throughout the year.

On Sunday, several CCC teachers and staff joined us for worship and participated in the commissioning of our Child Care Center team. We are grateful for the dedication and care they bring to our youngest members of the community and look forward to another great year at the CCC!

LIVING OUR MISSION ...PCUSA



**Our goal for 2026 is
\$300**

“What does the Lord require of you?” “... to do justice and to love kindness and walk humbly with your God.” – Micah 6:8

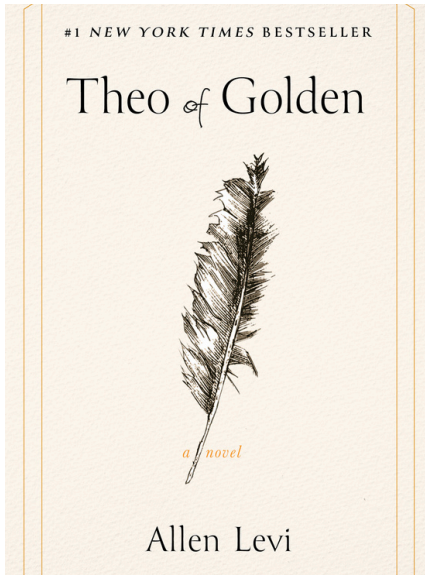
In the 8th century before Christ, the humble prophet Micah was deeply in touch with the plight of the people. He envisioned a world where everyone would be free to live into the fullness of the life God intended. Yet the society and the culture in Micah’s day did not match his visions of God’s reign — there was no justice, kindness or humble living.

The World Communion Offering, received during A Season of Preparation leading up to World Communion Sunday, is a new way for Presbyterians to “love kindness” expressed in action, often involving mercy, faithfulness and steadfast commitment. Racial justice, gender justice, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement are the important causes supported by this Offering.

The prophet Micah is clear: Our love of God moves us to faithful action through justice, kindness and humble living. Participating in the Churchwide Special Offerings is one way Presbyterians show their love for God and help all God’s children live into the fullness of Micah’s prophecy.

Throughout the month of September during worship you will be hearing about how gifts to this offering have been used and will be used.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP



Women's Study Group Begins a New Book

Looking for a good book and great conversation? The Women's Study Group will begin a new book in September: Theo of Golden by Allen Levi.

Set in the small town of Golden, Georgia, the novel follows Theo, a piano tuner whose unexpected friendships and encounters with the people of the community lead to surprising connections and moments of grace. It's a story about friendship, faith, kindness, and the ways ordinary people can make a difference in one another's lives.

The group meets on Zoom on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Whether you've been part of the group before or would like to join for the first time, you are warmly invited to read along and be part of the conversation.

For Zoom information, contact Karen Collier at kc33134@aol.com. The first meeting will cover the first 20 chapters of the book.



THEOLOGY
uncorked
See you September 13
at 5:30pm
at
Berries in the Grove
2884 SW 27 Ave

Email Emma Cottrell for information at rivierapresfaithformation@gmail.com



Adult Bible Study at Riviera Presbyterian Church - Sundays at 10:15 am

Bring your curiosity and your questions—Adult Bible Study is a welcoming space for meaningful conversation, fresh perspectives, and shared discovery. Join us for another lively and engaging conversation about faith and how it connects to our everyday lives, led by Elder Bonnie Hanneman in The Spirit Center.

Riviera Presbyterian Church

FELLOWSHIP SURVEY

Your opinion requested!

Complete the survey to share your activity preferences.



6 questions :

<https://forms.gle/AcTYbG3YUJkc6af37>

Organized by
Riviera
CE/Fellowship
Committee



To Potluck or Not To Potluck, That is the Question

The CE/Fellowship Committee wants to hear from you. We have a very quick survey to help us shape our upcoming activities and events. Do you enjoy potluck? Holy Grounds? Theology Uncorked? Let us know. It only takes about 2-3 minutes. Here's the link:
<https://forms.gle/5h8RgrQoRDBAdQTW9>

Do you have other big ideas or feedback for our church fellowship? Please share!



All attendees had a good time at the Marlins game last month.



After worship all are invited to participate in First Sunday Brunch on September 7 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share if you are able.

SPF COMMITTEE

The next meeting will be October 5 at 630 via Zoom.

THANKS to all who helped move chairs and more for the Election Day activities at Riviera in August. Especially: Kim, Laura and David, John and Vivian, Cris and Claire, Kathy and Karen, Tania and Gerardo and all their little helpers, so many bodies really help clearing out the entire sanctuary a much easier task than with just a few able bodies.

Per Capita for 2026 – Please remember to submit your share of \$38. per member, all which goes directly to The Presbytery of Tropical Florida for their annual activities.

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

Director of Children & Youth Ministry

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

Memorial Service for SANDY BARROW

..... Sunday, August 30 at 2:00 pm



The community is invited to come together to celebrate the life of Sandy Barrow and to say goodbye to a beloved member of our community.

A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, August 30, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, with a reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

The reception will be a time to gather, share memories, and enjoy fellowship. Finger foods will be welcomed for the reception. Kathy Stults is coordinating the reception, so please reach out to Kathy (kstultspt@mac.com) to let her know what you would like to bring.

We hope you will join us as we remember Sandy, celebrate her life, and support one another in this time of remembrance.