



THE LIGHT



*"HE LEADS THE HUMBLE IN WHAT IS RIGHT AND
TEACHES THE HUMBLE HIS WAY."
PSALM 25:9*



ASH WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

ASHES AND PRAYERS

Ashes and Prayers will be shared with all on Ash Wednesday, February 14th from 1.30 PM to 6.30 PM.

Pastor Kim and church members will lead this event, across the street from the church on NE 96th Street. Stay in your car or join them under the tent.

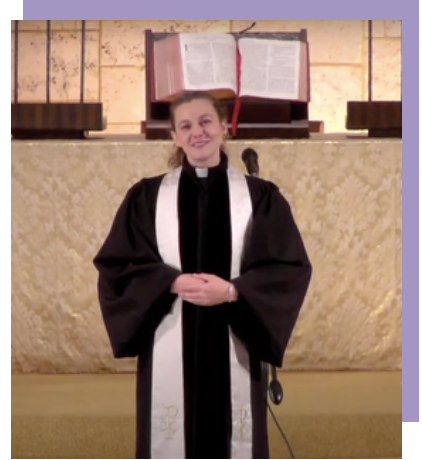
FIRST TAIZE SERVICE

Wednesday, February 14th
7:00 pm in the Chapel

Pastor's Page with Pastor Kim

Dear MSPC,

"Imagination and Creativity are the Future of Ministry... and the Future of the Church." – Rev. Daris Bultena, General
Presbyter, Presbytery of Tropical Florida



We are made in the image of a creative God – not perfect, for only God is perfect – but very good, just as we are. We are created to be creative. When we give ourselves space to be creative, we can find ourselves in holy union with our creator God. And, sometimes, God speaks to us in new ways, in ways that have not been experienced, or heard, or seen, or felt before.

For some of us, creativity and play can feel scary. For some of us, we haven't practiced using our creativity since we were children. During this season of Lent, we are invited to come to God with the creativity, play, and spirituality of children. We will do so in partnership with our friends at Riviera Presbyterian Church in a new, experimental project called Creative Spirits.

The idea of this project is to connect to the spirit of creativity within all of us, as we connect with others in our churches, and in the communities beyond our church community. During the six weeks of Lent from February 14th to March 31st, we are invited to adopt a creative practice that we will commit to exploring in some way every week. This could look like sitting down with a coloring book, writing a few lines in a journal, molding some clay, or singing a song, with no audience at all. Any way to let our minds wander and get our hands or bodies moving in a practice of creating. The finished product is not the point. The practice itself, however clumsy or graceful it may be, is holy and sacred.

Along with our individual practices, our communities will be offering three collective in-person creative worship opportunities at different points through the season.

Look out for more info on these creative worship experiences, coming soon:

1. Taizé Worship and Reflection (Wed., Feb. 28th, 7PM , Miami Shores Presbyterian Church Chapel, 601 NE 96th St, Miami Shores FL, 33138)
2. Creative Movement and Body Prayer (Sun., March 10th, 3PM , Riviera Presbyterian Church, 5275 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143)
3. Ancient and Modern Psalms – Poetry of Joy and Lament (Sun., March 17th, 3PM, Shelter 5, Kendall Indian Hammocks Park)

Everyone is welcome to participate, regardless of age, skill level, faith, or how creative we might think ourselves to be.

We hope you'll join us and invite others to join in this time of exploration and play!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Kim

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Transitional Ministry Column

As MSPC continues in this time of transition, in the middle of a pandemic, it would be helpful for the wider church to understand the tasks (or the job description) that was given to me, and the Session, by the Presbytery of Tropical Florida, when I said "yes" to the call as Transitional Pastor of MSPC in July 2020. Each month, I will focus on a different task.

- **Task for Transitional Pastor: Discovering a New Identity**

During Lent, the church will be entering into a time of creativity. This is a new way that we enter into our identity as believers. As we allow ourselves to explore what it means to be creative, we remember that we were made by a creator God, in God's image. I encourage you to find a creative practice that you'd like to explore this Lent. And, join us in the Creative Spirits worship opportunities available to you. As we explore our creative sides, God invites us into a new way of being church together.



LENT TAIZE SERVICE

On Wednesday evenings during Lenten Worship, MSPC will mirror the community of Taizé, coming together in love, and sharing the journey as one community.

Join us every Wednesday during LENT, in the Chapel.

Wednesdays, February 14th to March 27th

7:00 pm in the Chapel

Learn more about Taizé, its history, and the community at www.taize.fr/en.

Setting the Table for Our Lord's Supper

By Barbara Biggart

In our Presbyterian Reformed Tradition, Baptism and Communion are honored as Sacraments. When we offer the Bread and Juice to one another in the community, we are as the Body of Christ. For us, Communion is held to be a visible form of an invisible grace.

I always feel blessed by the sacred fellowship we share through Communion. On behalf of the MSPC Worship Committee, I would like to extend an invitation for one or two members to join us in the purchasing (with reimbursement) and preparing of the Elements of Bread and Juice before Worship the First and/or Third Sundays each month. If you would like to participate in this service, please do let me know when we meet in Church.

Thank You.

With Appreciation, Barbara Biggart



The Cup of Salvation



Communion Server



Communion Table



MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Shoutouts to our Youth Ministry for kicking off the year with the MLK Day of Service hosted by the Miami-Dade Parks & Conservation Committee at Deerwood Bonita Lakes Park. They did an amazing job installing plants for pollinators and spreading mulch around the park! Thank you, Iya, and the Youth Group for your dedication!



Mission Corner

By Marta Lavandier & Leslie Wallace



What to do with all those gently worn **shoes**?
Adults and children: too tight, out of style?

What to do with all those **eyeglasses**?
Old prescription, out of style?



Collection boxes for shoes and eyeglasses are in the Narthex. The Mission Committee will bring the shoes to our mission partners at Chapman House. North Miami Costco works with Assist International to distribute glasses to help people in need and the Mission Committee will bring them to the donation box there.

HOUSE OF HOPE

Please continue with your prayers for improved health for the residents and that the supply boat soon arrives.

FIRST SUNDAY DONATIONS

- Please bring non-perishable foods to the donation table in the breezeway for Pass It On.
- Contributions of new underwear and gently worn clothes for Chapman House may be brought to the donation table in the breezeway.

Many thanks for your support of MSPC's Mission outreach to neighbors. Please help out and volunteer for the Missions Committee. Contact **Marta Lavandier** (MLavandier2000@yahoo.com) or **Leslie Wallace** (lesliead.wallace@gmail.com) for more information.

Garden Ministry

By Marta Lavandier



The Garden Ministry is BACK and GROWING!

The Garden Ministry is expanding its work from the vegetable plots near the school to designing, preparing, installing and maintaining planting beds around the church campus. MSPC needs your help in adding tropical and native plants to our church grounds and taking care of the courtyard garden.

We need volunteers that can commit 1-4 hours per month throughout the year. Contact Marta Lavandier at MLavandier2000@yahoo.com

A portion of this project is made possible by your contributions during the Give Miami Day fundraising campaign.

PRESBYTERIAN BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 9:00 TO 10:30 AM

"Showering With the Alligators" by Alexa Rossy

As a charter member of "I hate camping club", this Jewish Princess writes her story about traveling in a RV around the US with a fabled Alpha-male. Follow along with Alexa on her adventure for a take on life for laughs, lessons and maybe even a teardrop.



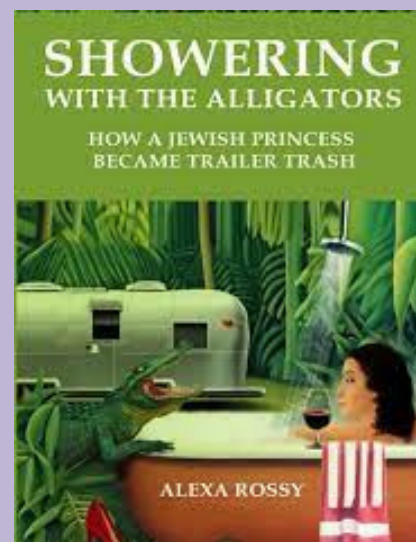
YOU ARE INVITED!

Special Treat - Alexa will be attending our meeting.

She is a native Miamian and will lead our group discussion.

Alexa has been writing poems, limericks, short stories, and letters to the editor for years. She decided it was time to turn her passion for traveling and talking strangers into stories that might inspire others to create their own experiences.

Join us to meet her at our next Presbyterian Book Club!!



SAVE THE
date



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH:
BELLARMONIA CHOIR PERFORMANCE**

Don't miss BellArmonia (Cindy's Ellis' Choir from MAS) singing the hymns during worship on Sun., Feb. 18th.

Then stay for an additional concert at 1:00 PM.
A love offering plate will be passed during the concert!

Easter



MARCH 31ST: EASTER SUNDAY

**6:30 AM SUNRISE SERVICE ON THE FRONT LAWN
11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY**



MSPCS NEWS

EMBRACING MILESTONES AND CELEBRATIONS: A JANUARY RECAP & FEBRUARY ANTICIPATION

As we bid farewell to January, along with the completion of MAP testing, we eagerly usher in the month of love and Black History Month! January was a time of reaching a significant milestone – 100 days of school, a tradition we joyfully celebrated as if we had reached the impressive age of 100. The festivities were filled with fun and excitement!

Looking ahead, we are enthusiastic about honoring the rich history and contributions of the Black community throughout Black History Month. Additionally, Valentine's Day brings the promise of joy and togetherness, as we anticipate celebrating with our Carnival. The event promises a vibrant atmosphere with games, delectable food, and, of course, an abundance of love! We're ready for a month filled with meaningful commemorations and joyful festivities.



If you are interested in scheduling a tour for either the Elementary School (K-5th grade) or Preschool (6 weeks – PreK), please call 305-759-2548 or email schools@mspcs.net.

Upcoming Dates & Events

First Sunday of the Month: Pass It On Collection,
Chapman Collection, Serve at Chapman Partnership

Sundays: 11 AM Worship Service

Sundays: 10 AM "A Walk Through The Bible"

Thursdays: Children's Choirs*

Fridays: 6:30 PM Youth Group

Saturdays: 9 AM "Antiracism Book Club"

Wednesdays: 9 AM Soft Dolls Workshop

Wednesdays: 7 PM LENT TAIZE SERVICE

Thursday, February 1st: First Day of Black History

Thursday, February 8th: 9 AM Presbyterian Book Club

***Special Guest - Alexa Rossy (Miamian Author)**

Wednesday, February 14th: ASH WEDNESDAY

FIRST TAIZE SERVICE / Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 18th: 11 AM Guest Prayer Luis Carranza -

1 PM Performance BellArmonia Choir



*Children Choirs

Choir Offerings will be on Thursdays:

- K-2nd, "The Orchids"
4:15 - 4:45 pm
- 3rd - 5th, "The B Naturals (B ♯ 's)"
4:50 - 5:35 pm

Church singing: First Sunday of every month (Oct. - June 2nd).

To sign-up for a choir, and/or to receive more information, please contact Phil Woodard at pwoodard@mspcs.net.

The Light Staff - February 2024

Maria A Rodriguez, Editor
Rev. Kim Robles, Contributor
Marta Lavandier,
Contributor/Photographer
Leslie Wallace, Contributor
Laura M. Reich, Contributor
Lorraine Souto, Contributor
Craig Swanson, Contributor
Barbara Biggart, Contributor

Miami Shores Presbyterian Church

The Reverend Kim Robles, Transitional Pastor
Mrs. Anita Stevens, Head of School
Miami Shores Presbyterian Church
602 NE 96th Street
Miami Shores, FL 33318
305-754-9541
www.mspsc.net



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