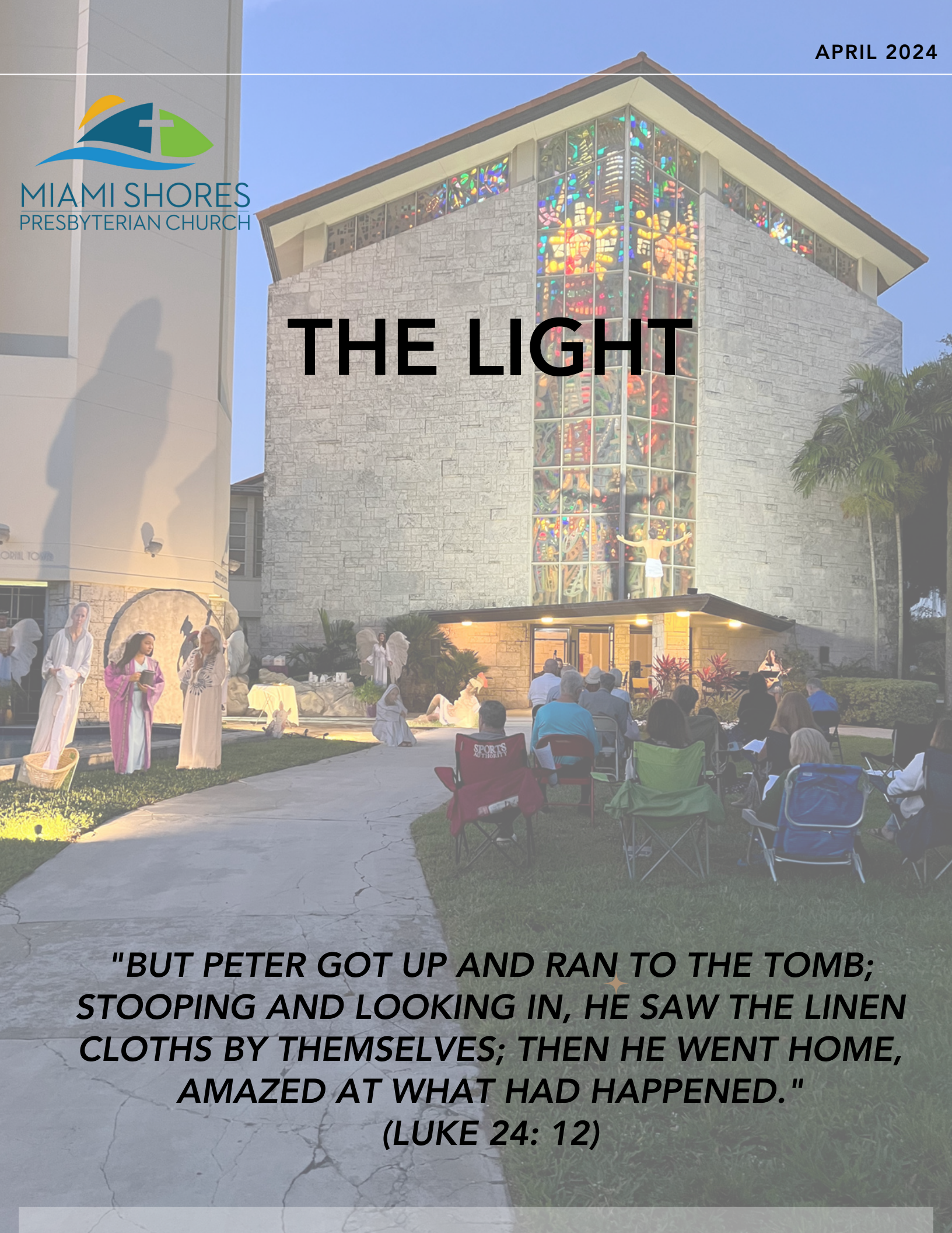


THE LIGHT



**"BUT PETER GOT UP AND RAN TO THE TOMB;
STOOPING AND LOOKING IN, HE SAW THE LINEN
CLOTHS BY THEMSELVES; THEN HE WENT HOME,
AMAZED AT WHAT HAD HAPPENED."
(LUKE 24: 12)**

Pastor's Page with Pastor Kim

"It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood. A beautiful day in the neighborhood. Won't you be my, won't you be my, won't you be my ... neighbor?"

These words are comforting to me. They remind me of my childhood. Of sitting in the living room with my grandmother.

Do you have memories of Mr. Rogers and his neighborhood?
Do you recall his messages of being a good neighbor?



Or, perhaps, you are more familiar with Daniel the Tiger, the modern-day cartoon taken from Mr. Roger's neighborhood, that carries Mr. Roger's messages of practicing kindness with ourselves and others.

Did you know that Mr. Rogers was an ordained PCUSA pastor, whose church was broadcast through PBS? We are going to explore several of his teachings with a sermon series called "Won't You Be My Neighbor," from April 14th until May 5th.

We will explore:

- Why being a good neighbor is important
- Practicing peace in our neighborhood
- Loving ourselves and others just the way we are
- How to be a good neighbor

To allow us to deepen our understanding of these important teachings, and to include our children and youth in these discussions, we will have some intergenerational activities as part of our fellowship hour after worship on Sunday, April 21 st through May 5th.

I'm looking forward to these church-wide discussions with our neighbors of all ages. Please invite your friends of all ages to join us.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Kim



WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

Sermon Series and Fellowship Hour
April 14th-May 5th
Lessons from Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood

Transitional Ministry Column

As MSPC continues in this time of transition, it would be helpful for the wider church to understand the tasks 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: Conflict Management**

As we get closer to the 2024 Presidential Elections, I find myself yearning for healthier ways for each of us to listen to one another. This is a skill that we seem to have lost as a nation. And, as we get deeper into the election, it seems harder and harder for all of us to meet each other and to hear each other, without trying to put one another in the binary of red or blue.

It's my hope that as a church we can practice, and model, what it looks like to listen and hear each other, no matter where we stand in beliefs and politics. I pray that we can begin to live a new way, and one that others can admire. This new way forward would change how we interact with one another at church, and could change the local culture of our neighborhood, and even change the culture of the city.

What if we took the time to listen to one another and to really hear one another?

MISSION CORNER

By Marta Lavandier & Leslie Wallace



PLEASE COME!

MISSION LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP HALL
SUNDAY APRIL 14, 2024
(After Church)



A short presentation will be given on the new Missions venture, the Lomagundi Clinic in Zimbabwe and a light lunch will be served. Reservations will be taken on **April 7th**. The signup table is in the Breezeway or call the Church Office to make a reservation for \$10.00/pp. If you use electronic payment, please clearly identify the recipient "Missions Committee/Luncheon". The Missions Committee will also have information on other organizations that are supported by Miami Shores Presbyterian Church.

First Sunday Donations- April 7, 2024: Collection Tables are in the Breezeway. The eyeglass collection box is in the Narthex: two full bags were delivered in March.

Pass It On: Canned goods and non-perishables.

Chapman Partnership: New underclothes and gently used clothes for adults.

SafeSpace: Toiletries-full size preferable and gently used clothing for teens and children.

House of Hope: Supplies have sporadically arrived and the House of Hope is grateful for your prayers and support. The residents remain full of hope and faith that the difficulties of Haiti will resolve and their peaceful life of learning and taking care of one another will resume. Jenny has let us know that the children are interested in prayer partners. Please contact Mission Committee Member Liaison Debbie Carreiro with questions.

Thank you for your generosity!

The next scheduled Missions meeting is **Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 7 PM, in the Library.**

Please contact **Marta Lavandier** (mlavandier 2000@yahoo.com) or

Leslie Wallace (lesliead.wallace@gmail.com) with questions.

GARDEN MINISTRY

By Marta Lavandier



We are almost done with stage 1 of the campus beautification project. Thank you to all the volunteers, those that donated funds during Give Miami Day to get this project in the ground and to Mary Benton for her donation of pollinator plants. Stay tuned for stage 2! If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Marta Lavandier at MLavandier2000@yahoo.com.

MSPC had three baptisms in March

Alan Izquierdo (March 3) - Niko Nissen Carvajal (March 17) - Eddie Lim (March 24)



We also had 3 **New Members** join the MSPC Community on Sunday, March 24th: Eddie Lim, Rekiya Overstreet, and Elenor Smikle. **This is something to celebrate!**

IFTAR DINNER

By Susy Kinchen



On Tuesday, March 19th a group of MSPC members led by Pastor Kim, were invited by Dr. Abdul Samra, Imam of the Islamic Center of Greater Miami in Miami Gardens, to attend Iftar, a part of Ramadan. Ramadan is the most important month in the nine-month Muslim calendar. It's a sacred time of daily fasting from sunrise to sunset, meant to nurture spiritual growth, charitable giving and generosity, and intensive study.

At sunset, Muslims break their daily fast with an evening meal called Iftar (meaning 'meal' or 'feast'). The service was well attended by civic leaders and congregations of all faiths. Conversations focused around building bridges between different faiths, working hand-in-hand to make a more just and compassionate world. We ended the night having learned a lot about the Muslim religion, and how much we share in common with our Muslim brothers and sisters. Even better, new relationships were formed, great conversations were had, and delicious food was shared. We look forward to doing it again next year. We hope you will join us!

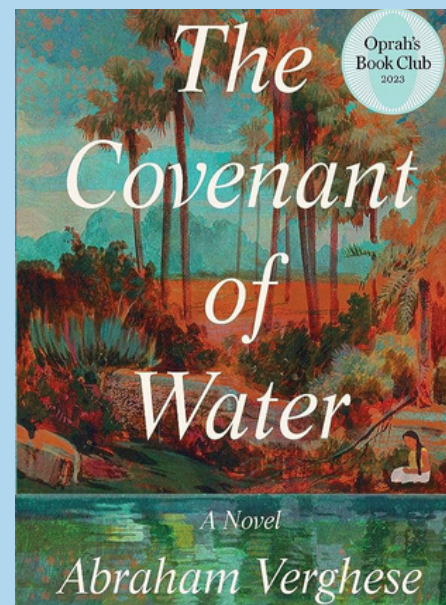


PRESBYTERIAN BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH, 9:00 TO 10:30 AM

***"The Covenant of Water"* - by Abraham Verghese**

Spanning years 1900 - 1977 in southern India. A 12 year old Christian girl is sent to marry a 40 year old man and become the matriarch of the family and witness to all the changes of that century.



MSPCS NEWS

Spring into Spring at MSPCS!



Exciting things are happening as we turn the corner into spring at 2024! March was full of events at MSPCS. The much-loved Bookfair returned, giving children a chance to express their love of reading. MSPCS' Easter Performance was a joyful celebration of our children as each class from the preschool through fifth grade gave a special presentation. There were songs (in multiple languages), dance routines, Easter speeches and Bible recitations, and a lovely re-enactment of Noah's Ark (with many animals two by two!). Our students also traveled—the fourth grade visited St. Augustine, and the fifth grade visited Zoo Miami—and learned through these experiences.

In April, MSPCS is looking forward to Green Day & Earth Day. Also, the fifth grade will be hosting a "Night Under the Stars Glow-Up Party" on April 5 with music, dancing, and glowing decorations to fundraise for their trip later this month to Cape Canaveral and Orlando.

MSPCS is also pleased to welcome two new staff members: VANESSA PARADISO is our new "Teacher Assistant" in the Nursery, and DEJA TORRES is our new "Teacher Assistant" in PK2. Welcome to MSPCS!



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,
Safespace Donation

Sundays: 10 AM Adult Bible Study Class
(New Series on the Book of Daniel April 14th)

Sundays: 11 AM Worship Service

Thursdays: Children's Choirs*

Fridays: 6:30 PM Youth Group

Saturdays: 9 AM "Antiracism Book Club"

Wednesdays: 9 AM Soft Dolls Workshop

Sunday, April 7th: 10 AM The Case for Christ (Last Class)

Sunday, April 14th: MISSION LUNCH

Thursday, April 11th: 9 AM Presbyterian Book Club

Sunday, April 14th to May 5th: *"Won't you be my neighbor?"* Sermon Series and Fellowship Hour



*Children Choirs

Choir Offerings will be on Thursdays:

- K-2nd, "The Orchids"
4:15 - 4:45 pm
- 3rd - 5th, "The B Naturals (B 4'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 - April 2024

Maria A Rodriguez, Editor
Rev. Kim Robles, Contributor
Marta Lavandier,
Contributor/Photographer
Leslie Wallace, Contributor
Laura M. Reich, Contributor
Susy Kinchen, Contributor
Lorraine Souto, Contributor

Miami Shores Presbyterian Church

The Reverend Kim Robles, Transitional Pastor

Mrs. Anita Stevens, Head of School

Miami Shores Presbyterian Church

602 NE 96th St, Miami Shores, FL 33318

305-754-9541 | www.mspsc.net



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