



THE LIGHT

A Season of **Peace**



**"and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God"
(Luke 19: 44).**

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



MSPC will hold its Annual Called Congregational Meeting with the purpose of electing our next slate of officers to fill vacancies for the Classes of 2025 and 2027, and to elect At-Large Nominating Committee Members for the Class of 2025

10

MONTH

20

DAY

24

YEAR

**THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 20TH,
2024, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP AT NOON
IN THE MSPC SANCTUARY.**

Pastor's Page with Pastor Kim



This month, the Session is reviewing its rolls of Active Members. The Session of Miami Shores Presbyterian Church defines active membership as “worshipping with the church regularly, pledging and giving regularly, and being an active participant in the life of the church.”

If you have not regularly worshipped with us, pledged and given, and been actively engaged in the life of Miami Shores Presbyterian Church for the last two years, you have been removed from the Active Member list. This is not new. This has been our Session’s process, as a part of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

We currently have 136 people on the Active Membership list. If you are curious if you are on the list, or have any questions about membership of the church, you can contact me: kim@mspc.net.

Why is this important to our Session? This is how you as a congregation decide who will serve on a Congregational Nominating Committee. This is how YOU can be nominated to serve as an ordained officer of the church. This is how you vote in a congregational meeting.

If you are missing the church, or if you or a member of your family would benefit from a visit from the Pastoral Care Team, please do not hesitate to call our church office, who will refer you to our chair of the Pastoral Care Team.

Please know that whether you are active member, a friend, a visitor, or a guest, you are ALWAYS welcome to worship with us, and you are always welcome to participate in the life of the congregation. And, I would love to see more adults getting baptized and joining the church as we saw happen last month! At MSPC, we continue to Worship God. Welcome All. Build Community. ALL are welcome to worship, fellowship, and **study with us!**

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Kim

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:** *Attention to Stewardship/financial matters*

We are blessed that our Deacons, with the leadership of Deacon Moderator Tabitha Charles, are leading our G.I.F.t.S. Campaign again this year. The Deacons remind us, as Henri Nouwen tells us

"So when we give ourselves to planting and nurturing love here on earth, our efforts will reach out beyond our own chronological existence. Indeed, if we raise funds for the creation of a community of love, we are helping God build the kingdom. We are doing exactly what we are supposed to do as Christians. Paul is clear about this: 'Make love your aim' (1 Cor. 14:1)."

I hope you will join the Deacons and Elders in our 2025 MSPC Pledge Campaign, making love our aim.



MIAMI SHORES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

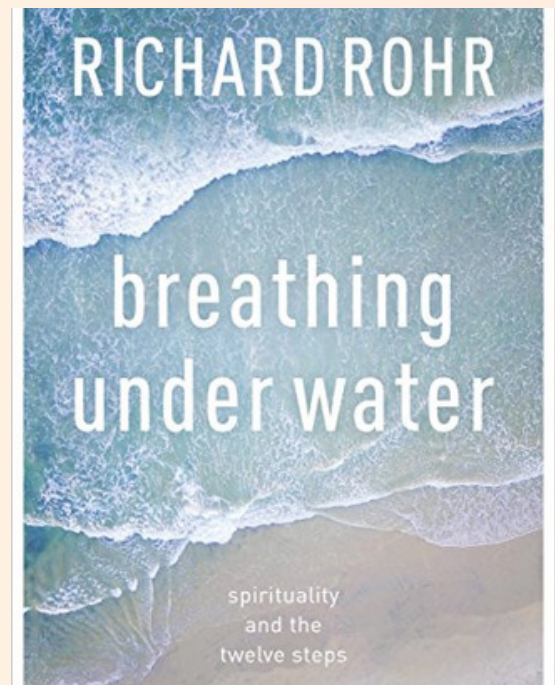
LEAD BY PASTOR KIM

BOOK SERIES

SUNDAYS | 12:15 PM
Starting September 8th

In the Sanctuary

MINDFULNESS AND CONTEMPLATION
BOOK SERIES



G.I.F.t.S. – Growing In Faith through Stewardship

Dear MSPC Church Members,

My name is Tabitha Charles, and I am the Moderator for the Deacons. I have been blessed to help lead these amazing volunteers who give not only their time but also their financial support to our church.

It is time once again to take stock of the blessings we have received and the blessings we can share with each other.

The **G.I.F.t.S** campaign is a crucial initiative for our church. It is a time when we come together as a community to pledge our financial support for the upcoming year. This year, the campaign will run from Oct 1st to Oct 31st, 2024. I encourage you to join not only me but also the Elders and Deacons by either mailing or turning in a pledge card by October 31st. Your Pledges will enable our Session to build a fruitful budget for our church community, supporting our church budget from January 2025 through December 2025.

The MSPC Deacons hope that you share the excitement of the importance of pledging and giving back to our church. It's time to support our faithful pastor, our beautiful worship spaces, our dedicated volunteers, and our amazing programs for both young and old.

Together let's pledge our G.I.F.t.S. and give back so that God's blessings may be fulfilled in our church community.

In Faith, Love, and Stewardship,

G.I.F.t.S. – Growing In Faith through Stewardship

Our Deacons are the church volunteers who are responsible for organizing and spearheading our church's Stewardship Gifts Campaign. We would like to take a moment to explain why and when this important church-directed endeavor takes place.

Many have asked what is our Stewardship Campaign for and what does it do?

When you give, your money goes to the mission and vision of the church.

MSPC Mission: Worshiping God. Welcoming All. Building Community.

MSPC Vision: God's Love Unites Us All



MIAMI SHORES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO OUR

*Stewardship
Kickoff Event*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH 12:00-2:00 PM



MSPC Fellowship Hall

RSVP to Carol 305-754-9541 or cwilde@mspc.net



Please join us on Sunday, October 6th to celebrate all who gave gifts last year to support our church community! We invite you to fill out a pledge card for 2025 to support our Mission and Vision!

It takes all of us to do God's work including financial commitments for our church!



G.I.F.t.S. – Growing In Faith through Stewardship

Where specifically does the money go when you give to MSPC?

To Support Our Amazing Church Staff!

Rev. Kim Robles, Transitional Pastor
David Kinchen, Director of Business and Operations
Steven Silvestro, Director of Finance and Accounting
Gisela Alexander, Accounting Assistant
Carol Wilde, Church Administrator
Maria Rodriguez, Director of Marketing and Communications
Renaë Bonds, Chaplain for Children's Ministry MSPC/S
Iya Overstreet, Youth Ministry
Ryan Ellis, Music Director
Cindy Ellis, Vocalist
Heriberto Castro, Organist Pianist
Giovanni Angel, Tech. Ass. For Sunday Worship
Jacob Holmes, Director of Children's Choir
Miss Ana, Miss Precious, Miss Janel, MSPC Nursery Workers

Week-to-week ministry and mission:

MSPCS – our school! (our number 1 mission!)
Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary and live-streamed on YouTube (Music, Preaching,
Children's Message, Communion and Baptisms, and more)
Bible Studies and Book Studies for all ages
Children's Church
Nursery Hours during Worship
Children's Choirs
Sunday Morning Fellowship with the Deacons
Youth Group
Pastoral Care
Home Communion
Funerals and Weddings

Special Ministry and Mission:

Taize Worship during Advent and Lent
Ashes and Prayers on Ash Wednesday
Vacation Bible School
Blessing of the Animals
Miami Shores Village Pride

Local and Global Mission we financially support:

Chapman Partnership
Safe Space
House of Hope, Haiti
Café Justo and the Border Ministry along Mexico and the U.S.

Stewardship Kickoff Event:

Our Kickoff Sunday is October 6th . Join us after worship for a lovely all-church community Stewardship Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. We encourage all members to join us for fellowship and to kick off our campaign by filling out and turning in your pledge card for 2025! Pledge cards will be at all tables, and a gift box in the back of Fellowship Hall for you to drop off your card! Remember, the pledge is for January 2025-December 2025! Thank you!

Just look at what our gifts are supporting! WOW! Together let's pledge our **G.I.F.t.S.** for 2025 and give back so that God's blessings may be fulfilled in our church community.

In Faith, Love, and Stewardship,

We warmly thank you.

The Deacons of MSPC

We warmly thank you.

The Deacons of MSPC

Class of 2024

Tabitha Charles, Moderator - Bekky Leonard - Mirja Nissen - Sharon Wallen

Class of 2025

Thomas Hessel - Mari Mejia - Yvonne Moyer - Luly Rivero - Mark Vinton

Class of 2026

Bob Bourne - Elizabeth Burkins - Debbie Carreiro - Jay Weaver - Emily Reich (Youth Deacon) Isabella Alderman (Youth Deacon)

Reflection by Sharon Wallen, Deacon

Who are you?

I'm Sharon Wallen, a National Board-Certified Teacher, #1 International Bestselling Award-winning Author, international speaker, and a member of MSPC since 1989. I was born in Kingston, Jamaica. My family migrated to America when I was a teenager.

Why am I a Deacon?

In 2023, Pastor Kim recommended me to the Nominating Committee, and Elder Grace Moore contacted me. It was an honor to be contacted and an honor to serve God in the capacity of Deacon. I'm grateful that Miami Shores Presbyterian Church is a beacon in South Florida that affords its members opportunities to be "light of the world and city on a hill that cannot be hidden." Matthew 5:14

Why do I support the church?

I support the church with pledges, tithes, and offerings because the "earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1 My resources are from God. He loves a cheerful giver and over the years, it has become easy for me to obey.

MSPC serves our community. Our church supports Missions abroad and actively meets needs in Florida. MSPC also provides a place for community; for example, I'm among a team of 13 Deacons here. We work together towards common goals, common initiatives and service.

I enjoy seeing the lessons young children learn in our Sunday School. In addition, observing young teens volunteer as Greeters for our Sunday services is a blessing among us.

I give my yearly Pledge because it's used towards furtherance of God's work in hearts, minds, hands, and souls that attend here or visit our sanctuary.

Why do I give to the Stewardship Campaign?

I'm happy to know that the doors of MSPC and Chapel are open in 2024. I'm happy to know that our Vision and our Mission provide a "balm in Gilead" for the needs of our world. (Jeremiah 8:22) I'm happy to know that at Easter, Christmas, and Vacation Bible School, MSPC is still relevant for its members and meets the needs of the community at large.

I give to the Stewardship Campaign because I'm grateful for all my blessings. "God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7) My resources are from Him. "I brought nothing into the world, and I'll take nothing with me!" (1 Timothy 6:7) No human being can out-give God, and He "daily loads His children with benefits." Psalm 68:19

I give to our Stewardship Campaign because God is my source. I'm happy and I see the influence, impact, and difference our beloved MSPC makes in this world.

All the above discussion explains why I find giving and supporting the Stewardship GIFTS Campaign very important.

In His Service,

Sharon Wallen, Deacon

MSPC HAPPENINGS

BLESSING of the ANIMALS



Service Prayer

FEAST DAY OF SAINT FRANCIS

Friday, October 4th
7:00 PM

in the Chapel Parking Lot

MSPC Chapel 601 NE 96th St, Miami Shores, FL 33138



MIAMI SHORES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TAIZE SERVICE

Find some peace through chanting, praying, hearing Scripture, and sitting in silence. This is a blessing of peace for us on the night before our country's election for the next president of the United States of America.

Monday, November 4th, 2024
In the Chapel
07:00 PM



Mission Corner

By Marta Lavandier & Leslie Wallace

CARE PACKAGES

The Missions Committee is sending care packages to our members attending undergraduate and graduate programs, technical or vocational schools and military academies. The care packages are sent at no cost to you. Please send your son or daughters' name and address to MLavandier2000@yahoo.com by October 1st. The Missions team will have a table in the breezeway after service on Sunday, Sept. 29. The packages are mailed in mid October.

GIVE MIAMI DAY

MSPC is participating in Give Miami Day. This countywide fundraiser benefits local non profits like our church. Be on the lookout on how you can contribute during this one day fundraiser on November 21st. If you have or know of a business that would like to set up a matching grant, please contact us.

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH DONATIONS:

- **Pass It On:** Canned goods, bags of rice and beans, peanut butter and jelly.
- **Safespace:** Toiletries, gently used children's clothing.
- **Chapman Partnership:** New underwear and socks for all ages. Gently used clothing and shoes.

Thank you for donations!

The Next Missions Meeting is on **Sunday, October 13th** from 12:15PM to 12:45PM in the room 135. - Please contact *Marta Lavandier* (MLavandier2000@yahoo.com) or *Leslie Wallace* (lesliead.wallace@gmail.com) for more information.



SAVE THE DATE!!



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH
11:00 AM IN THE SANCTUARY**

🎵 Exciting news! **The MAS Vocal Ensemble** will be offering a Musical Message during our worship service. Join us for an inspiring time of worship and music—don't miss this special performance! 🎵

Pastor Nominating Committee

By Stephanie Daniel

The PNC diligently met over the summer to draft the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP). The MDP highlights MSPC's many attributes and emphasizes the skills and talents our church is seeking for in a permanent Senior Pastor.

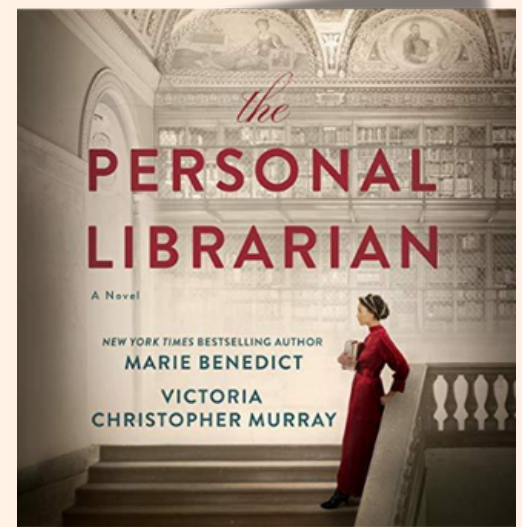
We are glad to report the MDP is nearing completion. This fall, the PNC is preparing to advance to the next steps in the Pastor nominating process.

At the culmination of the search process, the PNC looks forward to our congregation calling and welcoming a permanent Senior Pastor who shares MSPC's vision and is ready to lead our church forward in its mission.

PRESBYTERIAN BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 9:00 to 10:30 AM
in the library - "The Personal Librarian" By
Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray

Another book written by the ladies who also wrote *The First Ladies*. J.P. Morgan hires Belle da Costa Green to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books and artwork for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library. Belle becomes a fixture in NYC society and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world, known for her impeccable taste and shrewd negotiating for critical works as she helps create a world-class collection.

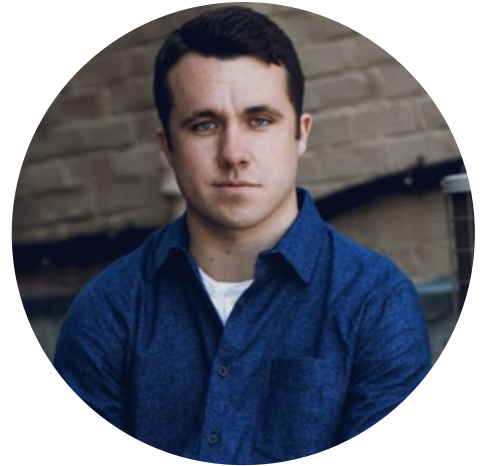


CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

By Jacob Holmes

Big stuff "just around the riverbend!"

I'm having an absolute blast revamping the MSPC Children's Choir Program! Big changes are underway, and I couldn't be more excited for the upcoming season. One of the most exciting developments is that our upper choir, made up of 4th and 5th graders, will be transformed into a boys' choir (for the upcoming months), featuring Josiah as our chapel soloist. Under my direction, the mission of the choral program is to ignite passion, spark creativity, and inspire excellence through exceptional performances and dynamic arrangements.



Mark your calendars! - On Sunday, October 6th, Our Children's Choir is eager to share this musical journey with you, during Worship! Don't miss it out!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH



SUNDAY BIBLE
Explorers Club ✿

TIME: 12:20 PM - 1:20 PM - WHERE: CHILDREN'S CHURCH
(ROOM 240 IN THE MUSIC HALL)

Come join us for an awesome experience exploring God's word through games,
★ crafts, visual arts, and more.

For more information contact Ms. Bonds - rbonds@mSPC.net

MSPCS NEWS

By Satrina Chargualaf



Our core value for September was Confidence. And, our Bible verse is 1 John 4:18:

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

I am happy to announce that we have been averaging and maintaining a 95% or above attendance rate. Last week, our K-5 students took their MAP Assessments. MAP stands for "Measures of Academic Progress" which is an adaptive assessment. Our 5th grade Safety Patrol also started this month and we are very proud of them for being student leaders and helping us keep safety in mind each day.



In September, we will have our picture day and first Town Hall together on the same day. Town Hall will start off with our 5th Grade Safety Patrol Induction and Song (Organized by Chaplain Bonds, Mrs. Weddle, Mr. Holmes) and culminate with our K-5 Uniform Fashion Show (Organized by Mr. Ingram, Emcee will be Ms. Edouard, Music by Mr. Holmes)

Our school is celebrating **Hispanic Heritage Month**. Mrs. Serrano, our Spanish Teacher, is leading this for our school. We will have a culminating activity on October 17th. Our Parent Association will host their first All-Parent meeting on Wednesday, September 25.

The month of October will feature our infamous Pumpkin Patch. We invite all of you and your families to come out and enjoy our Pumpkin Patch festivities. We also have our Teacher-Parent conference on Thursday, October 3rd. MSPCS Staff will engage in professional development on Friday, October 4th. Our culminating activity will be an organized Trunk or Treat at the end of the month.

Thank you for all your support and may we continue to keep God at the center of everything we do!

Registration for the 2024-2025 is still OPEN! Please email (schools@mspcs.net) or call the MSPCS office at 305-751-5417 (for Nursery through PK4) or 305-759-2548 (for Kindergarten through 5th Grade) to arrange a tour.

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 - Library

Sundays: 10:30 AM Nursery (Up to 4 Years)

Sundays: 11:15 AM Children's Church - Library

Sundays: 11 AM Worship Service

Sundays: 12:15 PM Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

**Sundays: 12:15 Mindfulness and Contemplation
Book Series**

Wednesdays: 9 AM Soft Dolls Workshop

**Friday, October 4th: 7:00 PM BLESSINGS
OF ANIMALS IN THE PARKING LOT**

**Sunday, October 6th: 12PM STEWARD
KICKOFF EVENT**

**Sunday, October 20th: 12 PM ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Monday, November 4th: 7PM TAIZE SERVICE



2024-2025 Children's Choirs

**Thursdays,
September 5th to June 1st**

- K-3rd Grade, 3:15-3:50 PM
- 4th - 5th Grade, 4:15 - 5:00 PM

Choir will only be meeting during the scheduled school days. There would be no choir during MSPCS school breaks/MSPCS school holidays and on the Thursdays of the school shows (Christmas and Easter).

Church singing: First (mostly) Sunday of every month (Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1).

The Light Staff - October 2024

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