



# THE LIGHT



✦  
*"Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things."*

***(Psalm 107:8-9:)***



## TAIZE SERVICE

For blessings of peace on the night before our country's election for the next President of the United States of America.

*MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH  
7 PM IN THE CHAPEL*

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# Pastor's Page

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Have you noticed the extra tension in the air? It seems that this election season has been adding some anxiety for many of us.

In July, after our special Taizé service in the Sanctuary, I was speaking with the musicians. We were each saying how we didn't realize how much we had needed a service of healing. That many of us were carrying unneeded energy around the presidential election.

Then, the Holy Spirit moved me to suggest, "Why don't we have an evening Taizé service the night before Election Day?"

And, everyone in that conversation felt this was a wise choice. That each of us, and the wider community could benefit from a service of prayer, Scripture, and silence. Session has agreed as well. Hopefully, you do too!

So, come and worship in the Spirit of Taizé in the MacArthur Chapel, at 7 pm, on Mon., Nov. 4th, the eve before Election Day.

Bring your unneeded energy, and leave it for Jesus in the Chapel.

And, may we remember that we are voting for the president of the United States. Whoever wins does not become God. Our God is constant. Our God is ever-present, all-loving. And, so, may this knowledge help us to stay grounded as a people of faith moving forward in the coming days.

Peace and blessings,

**Pastor Kim**

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## 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*

Congratulations, and thank you, to our Deacons, for leading MSPC's 2025 G.I.F.t.S. Campaign this year. The Kick-Off Event was special. We not only had a full spread of food and desert, and sparkling cider to say "cheers" to those of you who have given in 2024. But, we also had an incredible turn-out of individuals. The fellowship was fantastic! The Deacons have worked hard to make the 2025 G.I.F.t.S. Campaign a success. Thank you to everyone that has pledged to give in 2025!



## Mission Corner

*By Marta Lavandier & Leslie Wallace*

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Thirteen care packages have arrived to students attending colleges in Miami-Dade, Gainesville, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, New York and Massachusetts. The care packages contain snacks, a gift card, a devotional and a letter from Pastor Kim.

The Missions Committee is collecting **\$25 gift cards** from local supermarkets to benefit families from our three local elementary schools. The gift cards will help families purchase Thanksgiving meal staples. A member of the committee will collect the cards on Nov. 3, 10, 17.

Please remember to bring your donations on the **First Sunday of the month**.

- **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.



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## GIVE MIAMI DAY



MSPC is participating in Give Miami Day. This one-day fundraiser is on Thursday, Nov. 21. The proceeds will fund Vacation Bible school scholarships, campus beautification and the wonderful special music we enjoy. You can make your donation on our page at [givemiamiday.org](http://givemiamiday.org), via check or click on the donate button in our website starting on Nov. 17.

The Next Missions Meeting is on **Sunday, November 17th**  
from 12:15PM to 12:45PM in the room 135.

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## GARDEN MINISTRY

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Are you interested in planting your own organic vegetables, herbs and flowers? The garden ministry has plots available in the community garden. You can sign up on Oct. 27 or on Nov. 3. The ministry will have a workshop to get you started. Everyone is welcome to attend on Sunday, Nov. 10, at 12:15 p.m. in room 135. If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Moyer at [Moyeryt@aol.com](mailto:Moyeryt@aol.com).



# MSPC - THIRD QUARTER 2024 INCOME & EXPENSES

By Terry Rodríguez

Hello MSPC Community. This month's FAITH & FINANCES is dedicated to the third quarter income and expenses. See notes for clarifications and feel free to reach out with any questions.

INCOME	
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$73,169.52
OFFERINGS	\$558.06
Subtotal CONTRIBUTIONS	\$73,727.58
OTHER INCOME	\$127,120.69
INCOME	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$200,848.27</b>
EXPENSES	
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
FAMILY MINISTRY & YOUTH	\$2,703.86
ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$0.00
SCHOOLS	\$0.00
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	-\$359.39
MUSIC	\$8,175.00
MISSIONS	\$2,397.33
PASTORAL CARE	\$0.00
WORSHIP	\$4,509.15
FACILITY USE EXPENSES	\$0.00
LIVING NATIVITY	\$0.00
COMMUNICATIONS	\$252.34
Subtotal PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$17,678.29
OPERATING EXPENSES	
FINANCE/ADMIN/STEWARDSHIP	\$51,397.12
OPERATIONS	\$66,553.95
PERSONNEL	\$125,996.99
ADDITION TO RESERVE	\$0.00
REVITALIZATION/RENOVATION	\$0.00
Total OPERATING EXPENSES	\$243,948.06
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$0.00
EXPENSES	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$261,626.35</b>
<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$60,778.08</b>

PLEGGED, NON-PLEGGED, LOOSE PLATE  
62% of Active Members Pledged in 2024

TOWER INCOME  
MSPCS FACILITY USE FEE

INCLUDES PROPERTY INSURANCE  
COVERAGE DID NOT INCREASE IN COST

MAINTENANCE/REPAIRS  
BUILDINGS, GROUNDS  
CHURCH, SCHOOL & CHAPEL  
(INCLUDES \$6,836 FOR CHURCH  
A/C REPAIRS)





# **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for such a blessed day! In honor of St. Francis, we celebrated the love and joy animals bring into our lives. May God's peace and protection be with all of His creatures, reminding us of the beauty and harmony in creation.





# TAIZE ADVENT WORSHIP

WEDNESDAYS - IN THE  
CHAPEL AT 7 PM

*December 4th, 11th & 18th*



MIAMI SHORES  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## **2024 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

**Tuesday, December 24 at 7PM**  
**MSPC Sanctuary**

***"Love knows your name"***

***Luke 2:1-20***

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# CHILDREN'S CHURCH & SUNDAY BIBLE EXPLORER'S CLUB

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Greetings to all,

As we move forward and expand our Children's Ministry, I would like to take this opportunity to first offer a huge "Thank You" to all the families that have so graciously allowed us in the Children's Ministry at Miami Shores Presbyterian Church to have the awesome pleasure of serving their children. During Children's Church we have had a super time extending the Children's message into the Bible Classroom. We sing and participate in music and movement, we continue to explore the Lesson to be found in the Message of the day through discussion, arts and crafts, and object lessons.

We have recently introduced the ***Sunday Bible Explorers Club***. Sunday Bible Explorers Club provides a safe space for the children to foster age appropriate fellowship, have open discussions about any questions they may have about the Bible and their faith (and they have some great questions, reflections, and answers) to give a clear presentation of God's word and how they may apply it to daily living. We also play games, participate in different object lessons, as well as indoor and outdoor activities.

This way the adults are able to continue to fellowship and participate in the wonderful activities the church is offering after Sunday service with the assurance that their child/children are being supervised and engaging in activities that support their spiritual growth. So we invite you and your children to come join us as we worship God, welcome all, and build community.

Peace and Blessings,

***Chaplain Bonds***

For more information contact Ms. Bonds - [rbonds@mspcs.net](mailto:rbonds@mspcs.net)



# Pastor Nominating Committee

*By Stephanie Daniel*

Good news! After much discussion, debate, discernment, prayer, and consideration of the Oxford comma, the PNC has approved the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) and submitted it to the Presbytery.

The PNC looks forward to taking the next steps. We thank the congregation for their continued prayers and support in this process.



*Congratulations!*

## *To Our Newly Elected Leaders!*

- **Elders Class of 2027:** Barbara Biggart (2nd term), Marcia Cannata, Joshua Harford, Grace Moore, Dan Thorogood
- **Elder Class of 2025:** Dolores Fernandez Alonso (2nd term)
- **Deacons Class of 2027:** Jodi Grace, Mirja Nissen (2nd term), Eleanor Smikle, Sharon Wallen (2nd term), Isabella Alderman (Youth Deacon – 1-year term)
- **Youth Deacon Alternate** (1-year term): Emily Reich (Youth Alternate)
- **Nominating Committee At-Large Members Class of 2025:** Elizabeth Burkins, Lorraine Souto

# MSPCS NEWS

By Satrina Chargualaf



Dear MSPC Community:

**We are One.**

Our core value for November is Forgiveness. And, our Bible verse is Psalm 32:1 NRSV: ***"Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered."***



In October, we started our Pumpkin Patch which ran until October 31, 2024. Our school community of parents and staff were able to unload over 1000 pumpkins in 1 hour and 48 minutes! Many parents showed up to help make this such a fun, family event. And, our students were just as helpful. They were quickly pulling all the wagons to the pallets to be unloaded.

Our Parent Association sponsored a "Bakes & Beats" event to raise funds for our Music Department. Parents baked delicious treats to sell for the evening as part of our Fall Festival. Mr. Holmes, our Music Teacher and Director of MSPC's Children's Choir in coordination with Miami Theater Center presented the world premiere first four songs of the brand new musical, The Avalanche Club with four of our MSPCS students playing guitar and keyboard! They were phenomenal!

Our Hispanic Heritage Culminating Activity was magnificent! Mrs. Serrano, who is our Spanish Teacher and a Church Member, led this event for our school. Our 5th grade class helped to set up and decorate the Fellowship Hall. Starting with our entire Preschool students (PK4, PK3, PK2, PK1 and our children in Nursery) parading in their adorable cultural outfits and accessories. They also brought the flags of countries as they were joined by our elementary student dancers and students also in their beautiful cultural outfits.



There were also student-drawn maps of represented countries and wood-carved artifacts and musical instruments on display for all to see. The next part of our Hispanic Heritage Culminating Activity were performances by our students. We had 5th grade Student Emcees-one who spoke in Spanish and another who interpreted in English. Then, we had a student sing Babalu to the drumming of another student culminating with our student dancers mesmerizing the audience. We are so proud of each of them for their commitment to practice and giving their best during their incredible performances. And last but not least, the food. I tried to just take one of each item and by the end, I had a full plate of delicious food. Our parents and staff truly went above and beyond to cook and share their countries' cuisine for all of us to enjoy!



Our culminating activity for October was the organized Trunk or Treat. Our families go all out to decorate their trunks for all of our Nursery to 5th grade students to safely get their candy/treats directly from our parents.

Upcoming for the month of November will be:

- Town Hall
- Our first time in history MSPCS Student Council:

Elections for 4th and 5th grade Officer positions will be on Nov. 5th

- MSPCS School-wide Spelling Bee
- Bike Safety Day



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

Sincerely,

**Satrina Chargualaf**  
Head of School-MSPCS

**Registration for the 2024-2025 is still OPEN!** Please email ([schools@mspcs.net](mailto: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.



**WISHING ALL A  
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

*"Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things."  
(Psalm 107:8-9)*

## 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:** 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 - "Breathing Under The Water"**

**Monday, November 4th: 7 PM TAIZE SERVICE**

**Sunday, November 10th: GARDEN MINISTRY  
WORKSHOP / ESTUDIO BIBLICO\***

**Wednesday, November 20th: 7 PM 2024  
Community Interfaith Thanksgiving at Riviera  
Presbyterian Church, located at 5275 Sunset  
Drive, Miami, FL 33143.**

**Sunday, November 24th: ESTUDIO BIBLICO\***

**Thursday, November 28th: Thanksgiving Day**

### **\*ESTUDIO BIBLICO**

*New Spanish Bible Study! – Come for the Word, Stay for the Fellowship! Hola, church family! We're launching a new Bible study en español, and it's perfect for anyone who speaks Spanish, feels more comfortable in Spanish, or just wants to brush up on their Español while learning and sharing with friends. No prep needed – just bring yourself (and maybe a friend!) as you are, and let's dive into the Word together. We're meeting in the garden, where the only requirement is a smile! ¡All are welcome!*



### **2024-2025 Children's Choirs**

**Thursdays, until June 1st**

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

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

### **The Light Staff - November 2024**

Maria A Rodriguez, Editor  
Rev. Kim Robles, Contributor  
Marta Lavandier,  
Contributor/Photographer  
Terry Rodriguez, Contributor  
Stephanie Daniel, Contributor  
Renaé Bonds, Contributor  
Satrina Chargualaf, Contributor

## **Miami Shores Presbyterian Church**

The Reverend Kim Robles, Transitional Pastor  
Mrs. Satrina Chargualaf, Head of School  
Miami Shores Presbyterian Church  
602 NE 96th St, Miami Shores, FL 33318  
305-754-9541  
[www.MSPC.net](http://www.MSPC.net)



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