



From the Pastor's Heart

"Who's Ministering to Whom?"

Since I've been your *Interim Pastor* in the last fifteen months, you may have noticed that the Sunday worship bulletin has been different: other than the obvious "Order of Service," there are intentional pages and sections — such as the "Welcome" page, the "Announcements" page, the "Prayer Concerns" section, the "Daily Lectionary Readings for This Week" section, the ever-popular "What Happened on This Day in Christian History" box, and the "Church Weekly Calendar." But have you ever noticed that under the Church Calendar, there's the "Church Directory" that begins with these words, "**Ministers:** Entire Congregation / **Assisted by:**" followed by a list of the church staff?

Some people may say, "Wait a minute, I thought our church staff is who we pay to do the work of the church?" However, this centuries-long traditional roles of the clergy or staff and laity — with the clergy or staff doing the pastoring and the laity receiving it — is woefully inadequate to care for all the needs of people in our churches today, nor is it the proper understanding of discipleship.

According to Presbyterian pastor and writer Melvin J. Steinbron, author of *The Lay-Driven Church: How to Empower the People of Your Church to Share the Tasks of Ministry* (WIPF and Stock Publishers, 2004), there are two mindsets people sometime have when dealing with the Church — which he refers to as the new *vs.* the old:

Old: The pastor is called by God to be a minister.

New: Every Christian is called by God to be a minister.

Old: Ministry is the task of the pastor, supported by the people.

New: Ministry is the task of the people, supported by the pastor.

Old: The people assist the pastor in doing what they believe God is calling the pastor to do.

New: The pastor assists the people in doing what they believe God is calling the people to do.

Old: The pastor has all the gifts required to nurture and care for a congregation.

New: All of the people together have the gifts required to nurture and care for a congregation.

Old: The pastor bears the burden of the ministry. The people hold the pastor up in prayer.

New: Both people and pastor bear the burden of the ministry. They hold one another up in prayer.

Old: The pastor is accountable to God and the members for doing the ministry. Lay people who serve are accountable to the pastor.

New: All Christians are ministers and are accountable to God and the church leaders.

Old: Seminaries are to educate and train certain "called" people for the ministry.

New: The church is to educate and train all members to be ministers.

Our Reformed understanding of "Priesthood of All Believers" (1 Peter 2:9-10) and the apostle Paul's admonition about our spiritual gifts in the metaphor of "One Body with Many Members" (1 Corinthians 12) apply to all followers of Jesus Christ, and not just some! Our various gifts are to be used to minister to one another.

Yes, the Church should be about God's people doing God's work together — both clergy and lay. I believe it is only then that we would realize the kingdom of God and fulfill Jesus' commission for all of us for His Church.

Yours in Christ,

Worship with Us!

IN-PERSON or "LIVE" BROADCAST

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:00 a.m.

www.RiversidePC.org



Riverside Presbyterian Church

3400 N. Atlantic Avenue

Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

321-783-6085

Email: office@riversidepresbyterianchurch.org



RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1986 - 1995

70th Anniversary

OUR COMMUNITY:

The decade was off to a chilly start in 1986. On January 28, after one of Central Florida's coldest nights, the Space Shuttle Challenger lifted off the launchpad carrying the first teacher in space, Christa McAuliffe. A few seconds after liftoff, the shuttle exploded, killing McAuliffe and six other astronauts onboard. For residents of Cocoa Beach, it was one of the saddest days in our history. Despite the tragedy, President Ronald Reagan vowed the Space Shuttle Program would continue, and in September 1988, the Space Coast witnessed the successful launch of Discovery and its five-man crew, proving space flight could move forward. Another industry was soaring, too, and soon the area became known as the East Coast Surfing capital. In 1992 Kelly Slater won his first Surfing World Title at age 20, becoming the youngest ever crowned by winning the prestigious Pipeline Masters in Hawaii. He went on to win the title eleven more times. Retirees and tourists had many reasons to continue to flock to our community.



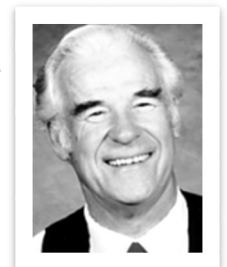
OUR CHURCH:

Following the retirement of Rev. Pedlow in 1986, the Rev. A. Allen Brindisi was called to become the fifth pastor of Riverside in 1987. He and his wife Ann organized the first Spring Family Carnival in 1988, and the next year, Riverside sponsored the first Crop Walk in Cocoa Beach. The Memorial Garden was established 1991 and the Mariners were organized in 1994. The building of a new 500-seat sanctuary was approved in 1993 at an estimated cost of \$800,000. Groundbreaking took place May 30, 1993 and the first service was held in the new sanctuary on Palm Sunday, 1994. Church membership was 590 active members and 15 affiliate members. Rev. Brindisi supervised three seminary student interns at Riverside. One of them, the Rev. Jane Nicholas, became Riverside's Associate Pastor on September 1, 1993.



OUR PEOPLE:

Dr. Vernon Lee Boushell brought a lifelong passion for sacred music and excellence in choral leadership to our church. He had a PhD in music education and choral conducting, and decades of experience leading major works, which elevated the church's music ministry to make us the "music church." His vision and commitment led to what would become the Boushell Concert Series after his death in 2008. Many at Riverside remember another great leader, Brian Grigsby, whose quiet and steady service is built into the life of this campus. As chair of the Land Use Committee during a pivotal season, Brian helped guide decisions that shaped the sanctuary and championed the creation of a playground that served the Brevard Community College Lab School. His professional life—spanning early missile programs, 125 Delta rocket launches, and foundational work for the International Space Station—was marked by vision, precision, and collaboration, qualities he carried into his church service as an Elder and Deacon. Today, his wife Marilyn serves as church historian and active community member. Remembering faithful, forward-looking leadership offers a timely reminder: the spaces we steward today are the legacy we leave for tomorrow.





Pentecost Sunday

May 24, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Please remember to wear something RED as we celebrate the Church's Birthday!

May BIRTHDAYS

Douglas Olds	5/1
Martha Williams	5/8
Carolyn Hattaway	5/15
Carole Roldan	5/20
Doug Kasimier	5/21
Girard Middleton	5/22
Wayne Ivan	5/24
Gerry Harris	5/31

OneBlood Drive

Sunday, May 10
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred.
You can go to www.oneblood.org
Each donation saves lives!

Dr. Vernon Boushell's "Spirit of America"

Sunday, June 28, 3:30 p.m.

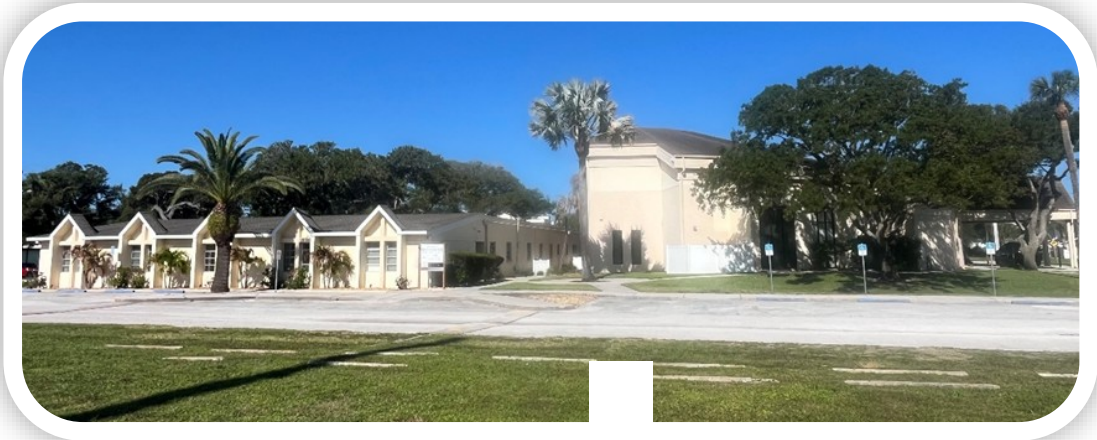
Mark your calendars!
Tickets will not be available until the end of May, look for an email announcing tickets are available.

Banana Split Sunday

Join us Sunday, May 24
in the Fellowship Hall
after Worship to enjoy
banana splits to kick off Summer!

PAY IT Forward

Looking back is important, but the 70th Anniversary team also wanted to look forward with the hope and excitement for our next 70 years. One way to pay-it-forward is to refresh and beautify the campus by holding three (3) workdays before our anniversary on Oct. 4, 2026. This will include many different types of opportunities to participate depending on your gifts, talents, and time. Please put a “HOLD” on your calendar for these dates, as our congregation comes together.



Campus Workdays

<p align="center"><u>Saturday, May 30</u> FIRST IMPRESSIONS</p> <p align="center"><i>Front of Campus facing A1A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low maintenance shrubs around e-sign (e.g. Coontie plant) • Low maintenance shrubs around tray sign • Paint curb stops (need weeded by lawn service prior) • Verify if any curb stops need replacing <p>DONATION OPPORTUNITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Coontie plant donations * lemonade stand for workers * donations for planting soil * donations for parking stop paint (check with RICHARDs Paint – repurposed paints) 	<p align="center"><u>Saturday, June 27</u> RAISE THE CURTAIN</p> <p align="center"><i>Fellowship Hall Stage Revival</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean off stage • Return to intended purpose • Design for attractiveness when not in use (e.g. when general public uses as a voting precinct) <p>DONATION OPPORTUNITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * TBD 	<p align="center"><u>Saturday, Sept. 19</u> BACKDOOR BLESSINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back of the campus • Clean up dumpster area • Paint parking stops • Paint sidewalk caution • Planting around Knox Hall office door • Planters around Calvin Hall doors <p>DONATION OPPORTUNITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * lemonade stand for workers * donations for parking stop and sidewalk caution paint
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<p><u>ON YOUR OWN TIME</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low maintenance plants – planter section by office door • Realistic artificial or low maintenance plants (e.g. snake plants) – planter on street side of Calvin Hall • Painting Knox and Calvin Hall external doors (Property Team) • Painting “crosses” in contrasting colors on Calvin Hall (Property Team)
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Riverside Campus Grounds Workday

Sponsored by the 70th Anniversary Team*

**Saturday, May 30, 2026
from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Save the Date



Cast Iron Plant

Our church campus is a beautiful space, and we want to keep it that way! We're organizing a workday for the front of the church to make it an even more welcoming for everyone. Enjoy the fellowship and the satisfaction of making our campus look its best!



Coontie Plant

Projects for This Workday will Focus on the Front of the Church:

- Planting “Coonties” around new electronic sign
- Planting “Cast Iron Plants” and Oyster Plants” around palm tree
- Painting the parking curb stops
- Two potted “Snake Plants” outside Calvin Hall (near memorial gardens)

What to Bring:

- Gloves
- Gardening tools (if you have them, label them!)

Something for Everyone - What can you do?*



Oyster Plants

- Plant
- Paint
- Donate plants (do you have any extra in your yard?)
- Donate two planters (Calvin Hall entrance)
- Cooler of water and Gatorade
- \$\$\$ for Special yellow curb stop paint



Snake Plant

***Let Us Know: Coleen Bowman, Marilyn Grigsby, Judy Geoge, Pam Weiger, and Anda Ray**





This year's Presbyterian Women's study book is entitled, *"Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ."*

Both circles meet in Knox Parlor.

Hannah/Ruth/Rebecca meets **3rd Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.**

Deborah meets **3rd Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in joining one of the circles, please contact **Gail Marshall, Betty Peterson** or **Paula Yost**.



Men's Bible Study meets **Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.** in-person in Knox Parlor and via Zoom. Afterwards we go to breakfast for more fellowship time.

If you prefer to join us via Zoom, please contact **Tom White** at 614-849-8741 or via email at didymus623@gmail.com for a Zoom meeting invitation.

Gentlemen, if you are not already a participant, we invite you to join us.



The Wednesday Afternoon Ladies' Bible Study is using a Ray Vander Laan study entitled "The Mission of Jesus." In this study we will learn more about Jesus and the ancient world where the crucifixion, ascension and Pentecost took place. We meet **Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.** in Knox Parlor (also available via Zoom).

Contact **Paula Yost** for more information, if you would like to join us Wednesday afternoons.

Prayer Circle

We come together each Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. to pray for the needs of our church family and friends. There are blue cards in the pews that you can fill out, or you can email me at biddle310@gmail.com

Jana Lovett



Each Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m. in Calvin Hall our youth ages 12-18 meet for a safe, relaxed, and inviting place to grow together, laugh, belong, and be themselves.

Evenings include social time (sometimes dinner!), games, movies, cozy coffee-house atmosphere followed by short Bible-based conversations grounded in faith and real life,

Please pray for our youth as they grow in faith and grow together!

Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

K-5th grade

Fusion Youth
Pfeiffer Room

Adults
The Holy Spirit, the Forgotten God
Knox Parlor

Romans
(Ladies class)
Knox Galilee

Learn More about the God We Serve!



2026 Financial (as of March 31)

Income	\$156,072
Operating Expenses	\$111,168
Net Income	\$ 44,904

Faithful Stewardship

Thank you for your continued financial support!

God's work never stops ... and therefore, neither does ours, blessings!

Douglas Kasimier , Treasurer, (dkasimier@aol.com)

PNC Elected

At a Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 26, the members of Riverside elected the following individuals to be on the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) charged to identify and nominate the next called pastor for Riverside. They are:

Debbie Burleigh
Janice Eastes
Meghan Johnson
Valerie Kellum
Chili Lindsay
Girard Middleton
Robbie Ward
Ann Stone (alternate)
Paula Yost (alternate)

The work that the PNC does is the most crucial in the search process — they will first write up a Ministry Description Profile (MDP), based on the Mission Study that was completed recently by our own writing team and approved by both our Session and the presbytery Committee on Ministry. After the MDP is approved, again by both Session and COM, it will then be posted on the PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection (CLC) website to be matched for potential candidates. Please hold them up in your prayers.

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Bill Teng
Interim Pastor

Rev. Jane Wesson
Parish Associate

Betsie Germann
Administrative Assistant

Doug Kasimier
Treasurer

Diana Amtower
Traditional Music Leader

Keaton Belliveau
Psalm 66 Praise Band Leader

Chuck Torgler
Custodian

Karen Ward
Web/IT/AV

Diaconate Update

The Deacons met in-person on April 14, 2026.

Janice Eastes opened with devotional and prayer.

Caring person for April: Jorge Castillo

Caring person for May: Martha Williams

Discussed Easter flowers and deliveries to shut-ins, all went well and was successful. Pastor Jane gave report on in-home communion ministry. Reviewed Care and Support, Fellowship and Deacons budgets.

Janice closed meeting with prayer.

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, May 12 at 6:00 p.m.** in Knox Hall.

Please see **Pastor Jane Wesson** or **Janice Eastes** for any questions.

Church Officers

SESSION

Terri Beeler '26	Meghan Johnson '27
Anda Ray '26	Robert Howard '27
Ann Stone '26	Paula Yost '27
Carl Plaughter '26	Girard Middleton '28
Tom White '26	

DIACONATE

Janice Eastes '26	Martha Williams '28
Carolyn Hattaway '26	Fern Wolle '28
Tammy Ivan '26	Bob Yost '28
Jorge Castillo '27	



May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11a Communications 5p SCSO Concert	4 7p NA Meeting	5 5:30p Anchor Youth 6p First Tuesday Dinner	6 8:30a Men's Study 9:30a Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	7 7p Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 Mother's Day 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time	11 7p NA Meeting	12 5:30p Anchor Youth 7p Diaconate Meeting	13 8:30a Men's Study 9a PEO Meeting 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	14 7p Christian Education 7p Choir Rehearsal	15	16
17 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11a Worship & Sacrament Team	18 6:30p Community Engagement Meeting 7p NA Meeting	19 1p HRR Circle 5:30 Anchor Youth 7p Session Meeting	20 8:30a Men's Study 9:30a Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study 7p Deborah Circle	21 7p Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 Pentecost Sunday 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Banana Split Sundae Fellowship	25 Memorial Day Church Office Closed 7p NA Meeting	26 5:30p Anchor Youth 7p Missions Team	27 8:30a Men's Study 9:30a Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	28 7p Choir Rehearsal	29	30 TBD - Campus Workday
31 Trinity Sunday 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time						