



From the Pastor's Heart

"Paying It Forward"

A few years ago, a movie entitled *"Pay It Forward"* became an overnight sensation. Its plot is actually pretty simple: A 12-year-old schoolboy in Las Vegas, named Trevor, is given a class project to complete by his social studies teacher. His task is to come up with a plan that will change the world through direct action. On his way home from school later that day, Trevor notices a homeless man and decides to make a difference in Jerry's life. Trevor then comes up with the plan to "pay it forward" by doing a good deed for three people who must in turn each do good deeds for three other people, creating a charitable pyramid scheme, if you will. Trevor's plan is to help Jerry by feeding and housing him so he can "get on his feet." Of course, there are many twists and turns in some intriguing relationships in the movie in order for this to happen. The catchphrase in that movie was, "Why pay back when you can pay forward?"

And so, the expression "pay it forward" is now used to describe the concept of asking that a good turn be repaid by having it done to others instead. More specifically, the creditor offers the debtor the option of "paying" the debt forward by lending it to a third person instead of paying it back to the original creditor.

That makes a lot of sense, doesn't it? Because it's true that in our common practice, we instinctively want to repay someone's kind deeds, but why not paying it forward — to do something with a sense of delayed gratification — something that we may not see the result right away, but we know somehow down the road God is going to bless that kind deed, that special giving that you have intentionally set aside for the future of the church!

In John 21, we see a similar scenario: After Jesus' resurrection, he appeared to his disciples by the Sea of Tiberias and cooked them breakfast. After which, Jesus asked Peter three times — not once, not twice, but three times — "Do you love me more than these?" Could this be a coincidence because Peter had denied Jesus three times after Jesus' arrest? Here Peter gave the same answer each time: "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you?"

Right there and then, I'm sure Peter wished he could have done something more to prove to Jesus how truly sorry he was in denying him, except in this case Jesus didn't want or need anything done for him from Peter. Instead, he said to Peter, "Feed my lambs. Tend my sheep. Feed my sheep." Maybe this was Jesus' way of saying to Peter to "pay it forward."

In the same way, maybe our way of paying back all the goodness, all the blessings that we have received, is to pay it forward so that somehow, we can assure our future generations would have a place to worship and a ministry to our community.

In the context of Riverside, as we sit in our comfortable, air-conditioned, stained-glass sanctuary, situated beautifully between the Banana River and the Atlantic, I can't even begin to entertain the thought for a moment that this is all a result of accident or chance — that somehow something just happened to come together in the last 70 years — but that this is a result of many, many thousands of people, throughout these years, who have given of themselves intentionally and sacrificially to ensure that we have a place to worship on this day, that somehow we too be good stewards of our heritage to ensure future generations would also be guaranteed such a privilege to worship here.

Again, we're not sitting here today by accident. As I have said in my Benediction at the end of every Communion service since I've been with you: I truly believe, in the best sense of Reformed and Presbyterian theology, that God has put you and me here in this place today for a purpose — that Christ who indwells us has something he wants to do through us where we are, so that God's kingdom can go on being the light and salt in this community and in the world! Are you willing to repay God's goodness and mercy to you by paying it forward in order to serve our Risen Lord, and to bless others in bringing them closer to God? I pray so!

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

DR. VERNON BOUSHELL



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JUNE 28 | 3:30 PM



RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3400 N Atlantic Ave, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931



FREE TICKET IS REQUIRED



E-TICKETS:

RIVERSIDEPRESBYTERIANCHURCH.ORG

"EVENTS/EVENT TICKETS"



WILL CALL TICKETS: (321) 222-7875

ANCHOR Youth

WORSHIP NIGHT

TUESDAY JUNE 23 | **6:00PM** | **RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

BBQ 4TH JULY

Join us on Sunday, July 5th for a BBQ/Potluck in the Fellowship Hall after Worship Service.

June Birthdays

Cathy Seeger	6/3
Louise Segura	6/4
Sandy Bean	6/5
Carl Plaughter	6/5
Judy Howard	6/13
Mary Baldwin	6/14
Judy George	6/14
Anda Ray	6/14
Fern Wolle	6/28

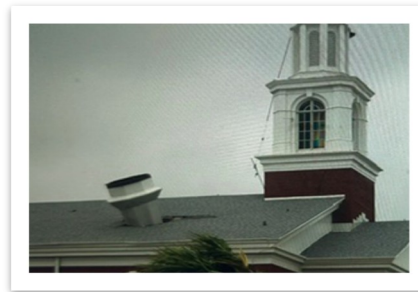
RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1996 - 2006

70th Anniversary

OUR COMMUNITY

As Cocoa Beach became a tourist and surfing destination, our local government began focusing on responsible growth. In 2002, voters overwhelmingly passed a referendum that reduced city building heights and density limits to preserve our small-town feel.

In 2004, four hurricanes hit the state of Florida. Two of them, Frances and Jeanne, caused major damage to the Space Coast. Local businesses were hit hard, and many residents were without power for days. Numerous buildings, including churches, faced clean-up and repair. The steeple of First Baptist Church, now Club Zion, was blown off and sent through the roof.



OUR CHURCH

Riverside's 40th Anniversary celebration was held for forty days in the Fall of 1996. It included Riverside's first Golf Tournament, a family picnic, ice cream social, and a memorable worship service. In January of 1997, the Board of Trustees was dissolved, and its responsibilities were shifted to a 15-member Session.

At the turn of the century, Riverside became a part of Project 2000, joining three other Presbyterian Churches to build a home in Cocoa with Space Coast Habitat for Humanity. In December of 2000, Rev. Dr. A. Allen Brindisi left Riverside after 13 years of dedicated service. Rev. Jane Nicholas continued to serve Riverside as Associate Pastor, joined by Rev. Ernest Flaniken as Interim Pastor in 2001. In January 2002, Rev. Dr. Robert Palmer became Interim Pastor until the arrival of Rev. Dr. Daniel D. Robinson in June 2002. That same year the debt on the Sanctuary was retired.



In 2003, the church adopted a "Commission" structure for the life of the church and its administration. This was followed the next year by the establishment of a "Vision Team" for the future of Riverside. The Vision Team completed its work in 2005 and the members were challenged to "Catch the Vision" by being "Energized to Serve God, Inspired to Grow and Empowered to Make a Difference!"

A ROOF MINISTRY AND CROSS FOR THE COMMUNITY

For 70 years Riverside Presbyterian Church has been a place of faith, hope, service, and community on the Space Coast. Today, we are asking for your support for two important projects that will help preserve and strengthen that witness for years to come.

The Cross

“Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl... Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.” — Matthew 5:15

In our beachside community with visitors, families, workers, tourists, and people walking or driving by every day, a cross can serve as a spiritual landmark — a reminder that God is present and that there is a church community nearby ready to serve and care for people. The cross is not merely an architectural feature; it is a visible proclamation of faith, hope, welcome, and Christ’s presence in our community.

During Hurricane Irma in 2017, the Sanctuary lost the cross from its rooftop. As part of Riverside’s 70th Anniversary year, we hope to install a new cross on the Atlantic Avenue side of the Sanctuary.

A local designer/fabricator has been engaged to create the new cross, and Session has reviewed and enthusiastically supports the proposed design. The new cross is being designed to withstand Florida’s coastal weather while serving as a lasting symbol for all who pass by our church campus. The final contract has not yet been signed, but is expected to cost \$7,000 - \$10,000. We would like to dedicate the cross on the 70th Anniversary Sunday of Riverside, October 4, 2026. This project will be totally dependent on new contributions from our church family and friends.



**Photo is an artist rendition of cross location*

The Roof

“It is required of stewards that they be found faithful.” — 1 Corinthians 4:2

The roof on Calvin-Knox Hall has reached the point where replacement is necessary.

We need to repair the roof, not because buildings are sacred, but because ministry happens in that building now, and because it preserves the opportunity for future ministry beneath that roof. The building itself is not the church, but gathering spaces matter because people matter.

Work is expected to begin soon, with the total project estimated at approximately \$83,000. Session has already approved a funding plan using available reserves, grant applications, and temporary internal financing which will need to be paid back. These costs significantly stretch existing resources and deplete our reserves unless we receive further contributions.



Looking Ahead: We believe God still has meaningful work ahead for Riverside Presbyterian Church, and we invite you to prayerfully consider supporting “The Roof and The Cross” campaign. Every gift, large or small, helps sustain the mission and ministry of this church and its presence in the community. Please indicate “Roof and Cross” on your donations.

Thank you for your faithfulness, generosity, and continued support of Riverside’s ministry.

In your service,

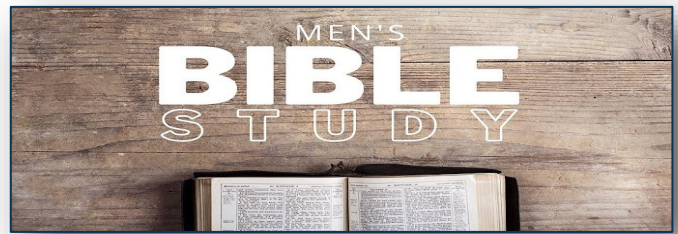
The Session of Riverside Presbyterian Church



Next year's Presbyterian women's study book is entitled:
***"United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other:
 Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians."***

Both circles are on a break for the summer and will resume meeting in September.

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 p.m.** in Knox Parlor (also available via Zoom).

Contact Paula Yost for more information if you would like 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

Angels

Knox Parlor

Romans
 (Ladies class)
 Knox Galilee



2026 Financial (as of April 30)

Income	\$176,446
Operating Expenses	\$156,898
Net Income	\$ 19,548

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)

Session Update

The Session met in-person and Zoom on May 19. Pastor Bill moderated.

Calvin-Knox Hall roof replacement budget was discussed and approved. The 70th Anniversary Committee discussed a campaign to raise funds for placing a cross on the exterior wall of the Sanctuary (visible from A1A), Session approved. A combined campaign will be launched, which will support the roof replacement and the placement of a new cross. Space Coast Symphony Orchestra's potential use of the Sanctuary for this season was discussed and approved.

A Congregational Meeting will be called to elect a Deacon on Sunday, June 14, immediately after worship. A Youth Worship Night, with use of the Sanctuary was approved and set for **Tuesday, June 23.**

Session meets next on **June 16.** A joint meeting of the Session and Diaconate will be on **August 18.**

Diaconate Update

The Deacons met in-person on May 14. Martha Williams led our opening prayer and devotion.

Caring Person for May: Martha Williams

Caring Person for June: Fern Wolle

Reviewed balances in Deacons Fellowship Fund, Deacons Special Fund, and the Care and Support Fund.

Janice Eastes closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

The next Diaconate meeting is on **June 9**, and there will be no meeting in July. The Deacons will have a joint meeting with Session on **August 18.**

Graduate Recognition Sunday

We are recognizing our graduates during worship on **Sunday, June 14**, If you have a graduate in your family (high school, college, graduate school), please send their name, school attended, and degree to the church office as soon as possible.

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

Church Officers

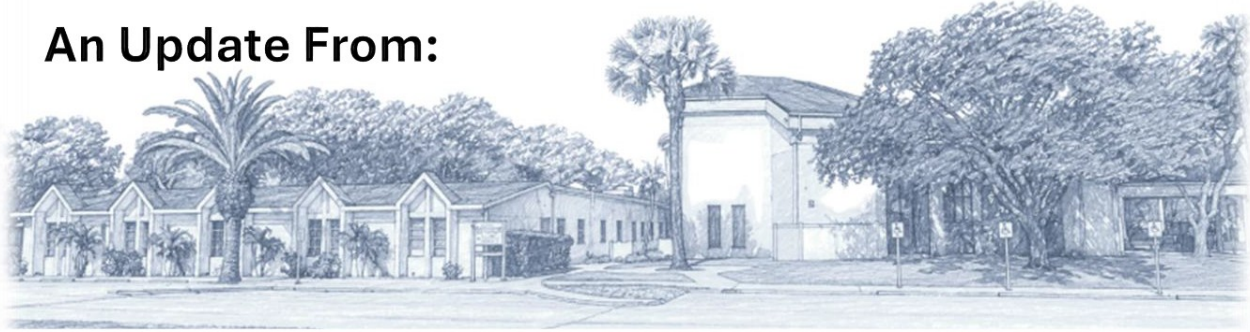
SESSION

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	

An Update From:



The Pastor Nominating Committee

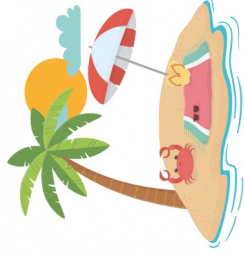
Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) held its first meeting on May 27 and would like to update the congregation on where we are in the process. Our first major task is preparing Riverside’s Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP), which will introduce Riverside Presbyterian Church to prospective candidates through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Church Leadership Connection (CLC), the denomination’s pastor search system. We are grateful that Riverside already has a strong and comprehensive Mission Study that will provide valuable input for preparing the MDP.

The PNC reports directly to you, the congregation of Riverside Presbyterian Church, and we are committed to keeping you informed as the process moves forward. This is an exciting season in the life of Riverside, and we continue prayerfully seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, trusting that God is already preparing the right person for this next chapter of ministry. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions about the process.

In your service,

Chili Lindsay (Chair), Valerie Kellum (Vice Chair), Debbie Burleigh, Janice Eastes, Meghan Johnson, Girard Middleton, Robbie Ward, Ann Stone (ALT) and Paula Yost (ALT)





June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7p NA Meeting	2 5:30p Anchor Youth 6p First Tuesday Dinner	3 8:30a Men's Study 9:30a Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	4 7p Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11a Communications Team	8 7p NA Meeting	9 5:30p Anchor Youth 7p Diaconate	10 8:30a Men's Study 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	11 7p Choir Rehearsal	12	13
14 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Congregational Meeting 11:15a Fellowship Time 11:15a Worship & Sacrament Team	15 7p NA Meeting	16 5:30p Anchor Youth 7p Session	17 8:30a Men's Study 9:30a Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	18 7p Choir Rehearsal	19	20 2p Narcotics Anonymous Event
21 Father's Day 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time	22 6:30p Community Engagement Meeting 7p NA Meeting	23 6p Anchor Youth Worship Night 7p Missions Team	24 8:30a Men's Study 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	25 7p Choir Rehearsal	26	27
28 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 3:30p "America Together" Concert	29 7p NA Meeting	30 5:30p Anchor Youth				