



From the Pastor's Heart

"Faithful Stewards of God's Infinite Grace"

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another
as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Peter 4:10).

We are entering into our annual stewardship season entitled, *"Faithful Stewards of God's Infinite Grace."* During the next few weeks, we will consider what it means to be a "faithful steward" and how our stewardship translates into practical Christianity.

This emphasis is built in its entirety on two concepts: First, God owns everything! As Psalm 24:1 states clearly, *"The earth is the LORD's, and all it contains."* God owns it all and has never relinquished the title deed to the world. Second, our responsibility is to manage that which belongs to God which God has entrusted to us. In other words, all that we have is a blessing from God and represents that which God has loaned to us on a temporary basis.

What kinds of things belong to God? Certainly our time is a gift from our Heavenly Father that is given to everyone equally. All of us have the same amount of time — 24 hours per day. How we use our time is what makes the difference for this life and for eternity. Some will squander their time by giving priority to activities that carry little impact for eternity. Others will invest their time wisely for God's glory and for the good of others.

Our talents are also gifts on loan from God. Not everyone receives an equal amount of talents or abilities, but all of us can excel at something. Some are called to a public ministry whereby what they do is highly visible, including pastors, worship leaders, and teachers. Others are called to a less visible role in the ministry and work of the church. But all of us are given talents and abilities which can be used for God's glory and to strengthen the Gospel outreach here at Riverside Presbyterian Church.

The question is not whether we can do something for the Lord. The question is if we will use our talents and abilities to serve God. Unfortunately, many times, we offer excuses to avoid serving the Lord, excuses that often appear humorous when applied to other activities. *Moody Monthly* once carried an article which illustrated excuses people might use for not attending sports events. The analogy is easy to make in terms of serving God:

Every time I went, they asked me for money. The people with whom I had to sit didn't seem very friendly. The seats were too hard and not comfortable. The coach never came to call on me. The referee made some decisions with which I could not agree. I was sitting with some hypocrites — they only came to see what others were wearing. Some games went into overtime, and I was late getting home. The band played numbers that I had never heard before. The games are scheduled when I want to do other things. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up. Since I read a book on sports, I feel that I know more than the coaches anyhow. I don't want to take my children because I want them to choose for themselves which sport they like best.

On the second day of their conference at Yalta, Premier Stalin gave President Roosevelt a reason why a proposed plan would not work. Roosevelt gently reminded Stalin that this was not the same reason he had given the previous day. Stalin replied, "My dear Roosevelt, whenever you don't want to do something, one excuse is as good as another."

Stop and think about it: 80% of the work in most churches (including our church) is done by 20% of the people. The rest have made other activities a priority for their time and talents.

As one of the *"Faithful Stewards of God's Infinite Grace"* here at Riverside Presbyterian Church, will you go against that trend by making a commitment to the "Proprietor of the Universe" to use the time and talents that have been given to you to make a difference in the ministry and outreach of our church? Remember, as one of those to whom God has entrusted time, talents, and treasure, God is counting on you . . .

Your 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

October Birthdays

Cliff Schmidt	10/1
Kathy Hewitt	10/4
James Giebink	10/6
Gail Marshall	10/7
Melissa Castillo	10/21
Jack Buckley	10/25
Ann Stone	10/28
Chuck Torgler	10/30



Happy Birthday!



Pastor's Class

Mondays at 1:00 p.m.
(October 5 – November 16)



Living and interacting in a Post-Christian and pluralistic society is not exactly easy for Christians. There are just so many social issues that we face each day which require the “right” decision. How are we supposed to make these decisions? Does the Bible address these issues?

Come and explore these contemporary social issues in a 7-week series in a class beginning on **Monday, October 5, at 1:00 p.m. in Knox Hall**. Please see Pastor Teng for any questions.

Christian Perspectives on Contemporary Social Issues

October	5	Pluralism
	12	Economics
	19	War
	26	Capital Punishment
November	2	Addiction/Substance Abuse
	9	Bioethics
	16	Homosexuality/Same-Sex Marriage

First Tuesday Dinner

Our next First Tuesday Dinner will be **Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Our dinner will again be catered by Brano's Italian Grill and the menu will be Chicken Picata, roasted potatoes, yam casserole, Caesar salad, bread, and dessert. Cost is \$12.00 a person.

Following dinner our speaker will share the mission trips and goals of **Teen Mission**. Their headquarters are located on Merritt Island. **Paula & Bob Yost** worked for this organization for 30 years. Join us as we learn more about this mission and its recent ministry.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors. Sign up after church in Fellowship Hall, phone the church, or phone **Betty Peterson**.
Please RSVP by Sunday, October 4.

New Members Class

As part of our 70th Anniversary celebration, a New Members Class is being offered on **Saturday, October 3, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, and you'll be received into church membership on **October 4**, the day of the celebration.

If you've been worshipping at Riverside and would like to consider membership, please see **Pastor Teng**, or call the church office ASAP.



70th Anniversary celebration Brunch

**Celebrate Riverside Presbyterian Church
70th Anniversary!**

*Reserve
and
Pay
Online*



Riverside's
website under
"EVENTS"
or
Stop by
Church Office
to Reserve and
Pre-Pay

Starlite Restaurant

Hilton Garden Inn
2080 N. Atlantic Ave.
Cocoa Beach, FL

Sunday October 4, 2026
11:00am - 1:00pm
(Immediately after Worship)

Sunday Breakfast Buffett
Cost: \$20 Pre-paid

Riverside's Annual TRUNK Or TREAT



24 October
4:00 P.M.

Decorate your car trunk and pass out candy to our local children. If you can't come, but want to help, you can by donating Halloween candy to pass out. Please let Anda Ray or Church office know if you would like to help!

Riverside Presbyterian Church CHP Collection



We will collect food items Oct. 11 - Nov 8
Here is a list of items that are needed:



Belvita Breakfast Bars,
Individual bags



Teddy Grahams , 1 oz.
Individual snack size bags



Goldfish Crackers
1 oz. Individual bags



Craisins, 1 oz.
Individual boxes/bags



Fruit Cups 4oz.,
no sugar added
(any variety)



Applesauce cups,
4 oz no sugar added
(no pouches)



Individual Mac & Cheese
microwavable bowls
(no boxes)



100% Fruit Juice,
6.75 oz. boxed



Chef Boyardee "pop-a-top"
microwavable Pasta, any
variety (no cans)



Sunflower Kernels
1.2 oz. individual size



Horizon Organic
Chocolate Milk, 8oz.

Riverside is helping CHP by serving 80+ children each week at area schools. The need in Brevard County is great, with 5,00 children receiving food packs for the weekend and YOU are important part of this ministry!! Please consider donating food items and joining us as we pack the lunch bags!

Packing Day: Sunday, November 15 for Packing Day!
Thank you for your continued generosity!

SUN
OCT 18
2026
AT 3:30 PM

RIVERSIDE ANNUAL CHARITY CONCERT
PRESENTS

ESCAPE TO MARGARITAVILLE



FEATURING
Timmy Bluffett & The Hurricanes

LOCATION:

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3400 N. ATLANTIC AVENUE (A1A)
COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA

ALL NET PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY TO:



The CENTRAL BREVARD
SHARING CENTER provides
emergency assistance and
guidance to those in our
community who are struggling
to obtain life's most basic needs.

www.sharingcenter.org

e-tickets:
www.riversidepc.org
"Events/Event Tickets"
\$15
or SCAN



For more info: Riverside Presbyterian Church 321-783-6085



Since 2009, New Life Mission, located in Melbourne, has equipped homeless women with children with the skills and knowledge to transform their families in a Christ-centered environment. Through education, accountability and goal advancement, this organization empowers families to become self-sufficient.

New Life Mission works to permanently break the generational cycle of homelessness by providing homeless women with children safe shelter, onsite childcare, in-house mental health counseling, access to health care, transportation, education, nutrition, job training, life skills education, and more. Since opening its doors, more than 500 individuals have found the help they needed at New Life Mission.

Your Missions Team used funds from the Bookbinder Endowment Fund to support this ministry.



Agape began over 30 years ago as a ministry of First Baptist Church of Merritt Island. First called Alternative Pregnancy Center (APC), the ministry offered pregnancy tests and counseling to struggling women in Brevard.

In 2016, they expanded to ultrasounds and the APC became not just a ministry, but a certified medical clinic and a member of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocacy. The name Alternative Pregnancy Center started to take on a new meaning and APC was born.

In 2022, APC bloomed into the Agape Women's Center (AWC). Now more than pregnancy care, Agape has a Learning Center and a Drop-In Center—their clients have the opportunity to come to their drop-in center for free supplies, to do their laundry in a safe environment, and build a community with the other women or through their weekly Bible Study and Parenting classes. They also work with trafficked women.

The Missions Team decided to use funds from the Bookbinder Endowment Fund to support this needful ministry.



Imagine not being able to read John 3:16 and understand God's love in your language . . . for millions of people, this is their reality. They live in a Bibleless world—thousands of language groups don't have God's Word available to them in their heart language.

Wycliffe Associates is providing a solution by empowering and equipping national Bible translators to translate Scripture into their heart language using resources and tools provided through Bible translation workshops under the guidance of the local church. Because these national Bible translators are native language speakers—and they are using resources and tools created by linguists and software specialists—they are able to complete translation of the Scriptures quickly and accurately!

Around the world, word is spreading that Church-Owned Bible Translation is the way for all people groups to have God's Word in their language and share the truth with their neighbors.

Riverside's Missions Team opted to support this group with funds from the Special Endowment Fund.



Presbyterian Women

This year's Presbyterian women's study book is entitled: *"United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians."* In October, we will cover chapters 3-4 and discuss how we are connected in Christ.

Both circles would love to have you join us.

We meet in Knox Parlor.

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

Deborah meets the **3rd Wednesday at 3 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. We meet weekly and would love for you to join us! 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 continues to view and discuss episodes from Season 5 of "the Chosen." 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 join us Wednesday afternoons.



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!

Prayer Circle

We come together each Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. (at Jane Lovett's home) 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 janelovett934@gmail.com

Jane Lovett

Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

K-5th grade

Fusion Youth

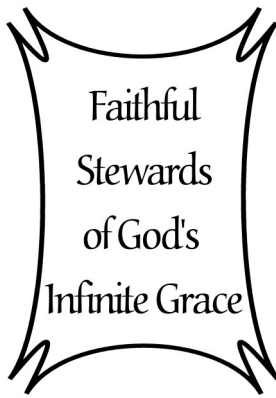
Pfieffer Room

Adults

*Results of Christ's Death,
Analogies of Christ and the Church*
Knox Parlor

Essentials of Faith: How Are We Changed?
(Ladies class)
Knox Galilee

**Learn More about
the God We Serve!**



2027 Stewardship Emphasis

*"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."
— 1 Peter 4:1*

Dear Friends in Christ,

We introduce this year's Stewardship season with a sincere Thank You on behalf of the Riverside Session and its Stewardship & Finance Team, and our interim Pastor Bill Teng. Your generous contributions to the "Roof for Ministry and Cross for Community" campaign plus a grant from the Central Florida Presbytery's St. Marks Legacy Fund allows us to complete these vital projects well in time for our October 70th Anniversary celebration with essentially zero impact on our 2026 operating budget.

We also thank you for your support of Riverside's 2026 Operating, Capital, and Mission budget. Giving significantly increased over 2025. Our costs have also increased, and we may end 2026 with a deficit of \$20,000 to \$50,000 depending on 4th quarter giving. Thankfully, our Roof and Cross projects did not add one penny to this projected deficit.

Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues to work through the Pastor Call process. Our Ministry Discernment Profile has been approved by Presbytery and posted for all candidates to see. The PNC has already been receiving pastor profiles to consider for screening and interview. To attract the leader we seek, it is essential that we demonstrate we have the resources to maintain a quality staff, a sound physical plant, and a spiritually health congregation. Every one of us plays a crucial role.

Our 2027 Stewardship Emphasis theme is *"Faithful Stewards of God's Infinite Grace."* God has indeed showed us his infinite grace through His abundant blessing this year. The Stewardship & Finance Team is collaborating with Pastor Bill to finalize the Faith Promise Card and other information that we will give you in-person or by mail to on October 18. **"Stewardship Sunday" will be November 8, 2026.**

While we recognize that financial pledging is not easy for everyone. We ask that, if you are not currently pledging, you prayerfully consider making a Faith Promise for 2027. Your commitment will help us plan for the coming year. At present, our deficit is being covered by reserves that we are currently not able to replace. We need your faith, your generosity, and your talents to maintain our financial health, so we may serve God by serving our community.

We are so grateful that you are a part of God's family here at Riverside, and we thank you for your participation in this time of Stewardship Emphasis.

In Christ's Love,

The Stewardship and Finance Team



2026 Financial (as of August 31)

Income	\$263,102
Operating Expenses	\$289,919
Net Income	(\$ -53,817)

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 on **Tuesday, September 22**, with Pastor Bill Teng moderating.

The **Staff Resources Team** presented an updated PTO policy for the Personnel Manual for Session approval. Session approved contingent on slight verbiage change.

The **Property Team** reported that insulation installation in Calvin and Knox Halls will restart Monday, September 28. Also, reminded Session that our Sexton, Chuck Torgler, will be on vacation the week of October 5. Bob Howard will ensure coverage is adequate for work needed.

Discussion regarding the Boushell Concert series, ROI with the series, in particular the Oratorio concert. Motion approved from **Community Engagement Team** to send sponsorship letters to local businesses in exchange for mention on screen, in programs, and social media/website.

Next Session meeting will be **Tuesday, October 13, at 6:00 p.m.** Please **Meghan Johnson**, *Clerk of Session* or **Pastor Teng** for any questions.

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

Anda Ray '26

Ann Stone '26

Carl Plaughter '26

Tom White '26

Meghan Johnson '27

Robert Howard '27

Paula Yost '27

Girard Middleton '28

DIACONATE

Janice Eastes '26

Carolyn Hattaway '26

Tammy Ivan '26

Jorge Castillo '27

Mary Mullin '27

Martha Williams '28

Fern Wolle '28

Bob Yost '28



October

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7p Choir Rehearsal	2	3 9:30a New Members Class (Knox Parlor)
4 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11:30a 70th Anniversary Brunch 2p Via de Cristo Men's Group	5 1p Pastor's Class (Knox) 7p NA Meeting	6 Happy 70th Birthday Riverside! 5:30p Anchor Youth 6p First Tuesday Dinner	7 8:30a Men's Study 9:30a Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	8 7p Choir Rehearsal	9	10 8:30a Via de Cristo
11 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11a Worship & Sacrament	12 1p Pastor's Class (Knox) 7p NA Meeting	13 5:30p Anchor Youth 6p Diaconate Meeting	14 8:30a Men's Study 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	15 7p Choir Rehearsal;	16	17
18 Stewardship Begins 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 3:30p Annual Charity Concert	19 1p Pastor's Class (Knox) 7p NA Meeting	20 1p HRR Circle 5:30p Anchor Youth 6p Session Meeting	21 8:30a Men's Study 9:30a Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	22 Via de Cristo Women's Group thru Sunday	23	24 4p Trunk-n-Treat
25 9a Youth & Adult SS 10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time	26 1p Pastor's Class (Knox) 7p NA Meeting	27 5:30p Anchor Youth	28 8:30a Men's Study 10a Prayer Circle 3p Women's Study	29 7p Choir Rehearsal	30	31