

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR: Healing and peace for Howard Axler, Barbara Bellus, Norma Cox, Richard Escobar, Lenny Feldman, Alfie Franco, Marisela Giron, Regina Hansen, Gemma Henderson, Rene Kelbjornsen, Matthew Long, Zoila & Mike Pena, Luís Picon, Amparo "Puchita" Rigau, Amparo Torres, and Mary Whitcomb. For Australia, The Bahamas, the Caribbean, Cuba, Haiti, the Middle East, Puerto Rico, and for people struggling around our globe.

LEGACY CHURCH MEMBER PRAYER CONCERNS: Wayne Whittlesey, and Paul Reiner's daughter, Marti, at Epworth Village; Raleigh Johnson at Susana Wesley; Jean Korner and Carol Hanna at The Palace.

SHARE YOUR PRAYER CONCERNS AND/OR ANSWERED PRAYER

Fill out the Connect Card and drop it in the offering plate or designated prayer request boxes found in the foyer by the Welcome Table. Or you can also submit prayer requests at welovecoralgables.org/prayer.

NEWS + EVENTS

CONNECT KIDS (CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL) • 11:00am service

- Birth - 2: Hanger Building Room 219 (Nursery)
- 3s, 4s & 5s: Hanger Building Room 210
- Kindergarten - 5th grade: Hanger Building Room 202

YOUTH MINISTRY • following the 11:00am service

Calling all youth... Come on over to the Youth Lounge for food, games, fun, and conversation today after the service!

New! CHILDREN'S CHOIR! • launching today!

An exciting new opportunity for children ages 6-12! Part of the ConnectKids programming during the 11:00am service will now include a time for a children's vocal ensemble rehearsal! This is to prepare for participation in Sit-Together Sunday morning worship services and other potential special events. Please see Lauren Hartman for any questions and to fill out an interest form.

SILVER CLUB • Thursday, February 13, 10:30am, Head Center

Love is in the air! Come celebrate Valentine's Day with hearts and flowers and chocolate!

SEAN KENNARD IN CONCERT • Saturday, February 22, 7:00pm

We are excited to announce that the esteemed Professor of Piano at Stetson University, Dr. Sean Kennard, will join us for an evening of inspiring music as part of the Lamar Louise Curry Concert Series! For more information, visit www.welovecoralgables.org/llc-concert-series!

LOVE LANGUAGES WORKSHOP • Sunday, February 23, 12:30-2:30pm

Falling in love is easy. Staying in love: that's the challenge. How can you keep your relationship fresh and growing amid the demands, conflicts, and everyday-ness of everyday life? Join Pastor Hedy Collver for a two-hour workshop based on the book *The 5 Love Languages*. Lunch included! Reserve your spot at welovecoralgables.org/lovelanguages, or call the church office at 305.445.2578.

ASH WEDNESDAY • Wednesday, February 26

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a time of reflection and preparation before Easter. You can receive ashes in the

morning, anytime from **8:30-9:30am in the breezeway** linking the Sanctuary and The Growing Place preschool. And join us that evening at **7:00pm in the Sanctuary** for worship as together we enter into this meaningful season.

Nuevo Grupo Pequeño! HAPPY HOUR LATINO

A new small group is forming for Spanish-language speakers! Empezando el viernes, 28 de febrero, invitamos todos de habla hispana para reunirnos y celebrar viernes social! Solteros o casados, jóvenes y no muy jóvenes... todos serán bienvenidos! Contacta a Pastor Lucas para más informaciones: lbonates@firstcoralgables.org o 305.445.2578 x103.

Save the Date! OASIS • WOMEN'S MINI-RETREAT

Saturday, March 7, 1:00-4:00pm, beginning in the Head Center

Life can sometimes be exhausting. The busy-ness of each week can leave our minds, bodies, and spirits feeling dry and brittle. In the midst of taking care of everyone else and everything else, take some time for yourself to rest, renew, and have fun with other wonderful women from the Coral Gables community! More info coming soon!

Save the Date! EXPERIMENT CHURCH

Saturday, March 7, 7:00-8:00pm, Head Center

Join us for a new contemporary worship experience, with music led by guest musicians Joe, Theresa, and JJ Mazza. More info coming soon!

New Study! TRINITY CLASS • Sundays, 9:15am, Room 206

The Trinity Class is embarking on a new study, *Women of the Bible*. From Eve to Lydia and all the women in between, their stories are filled with lessons on how to (and how not to) meet the challenges of everyday life. All are welcome — both women and men will find a wealth of wisdom in this study. For more information, contact Dr. Bob Ladner at ladner_r@bellsouth.net.

New Study! EXPLORERS DISCUSSION GROUP • Mondays, 7:00pm, Rm. 123

Join the Explorers Discussion Group for their new study, a video series entitled *Beyond Belief*. It contains favorite moments, core teachings and never-before-seen material of the Jesus scholar, Marcus Borg. His wife, Marianne Borg, said about this study: "There's something about Marcus's work that I think will continue to make all things new in a way that we can look afresh at Christianity in the 21st century - what it means for the living of our days, what is real and how should we live." Come grow with us! For more information, contact Margaret Cox at magscox55@gmail.com.

NEW CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESSES!

Rev. Dr. Hedy Collver, Senior Pastor
Rev. Lucas Bonates, Associate Pastor
Corina Dekker, Director of Operations
Michelle Marcos, Executive Assistant
Livia Orban, ConnectKids Coordinator
Anna Reyes, Youth Team Leader
Mario Perez, Accountant

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305.445.2578
www.welovecoralgables.org
www.facebook.com/firstcoralgables

BELIEVE
THERE IS
LOVE
IN THE
WORLD



Sunday, February 9, 2020
8:30 & 11:00am

Week 1 • Love of God

FIRST
UMC
Coral Gables

First United Methodist Church of Coral Gables
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305.445.2578

*O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

*O give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

*O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever*

— Psalm 136:1-3

Welcome!

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us this morning!

Visiting with us for the first time?

*Please be sure to pick up a welcome brochure and fill out
the Connect Card. We'd love to get to know you!*

An * below indicates to stand, as you are able.

We Gather in God's Name

INVOCATION • *O How He Loves You and Me* Anjane Firestone, soprano

PRELUDE • *Elegy* • Bennett Phil Hinton, organ

WELCOME & PRAYER Hedy Collver, Senior Pastor

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

* CALL TO WORSHIP Roberto Perez, Assistant Pastor

Leader: Loving God, we come to worship today because we love you,

All: and we want to love you more.

Leader: We come to worship needing love in our lives.

All: love for family, friends, strangers, enemies.

Leader: In this hour of worship, touch our hearts, fill our hearts,

All: open our hearts to your love which surpasses all

understanding! Amen.

by Carol Penner, *Leading in Worship*

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN • *I Love to Tell the Story* • Hymnal No. 156

* RESPONSIVE READING • Psalm No. 136 Hedy Collver

Response: For his steadfast love endures forever.

* GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as
it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen. Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Lucas Bonates, Associate Pastor

CONNECT CARDS

Hedy Collver

We Offer Ourselves to God

OFFERING

Hedy Collver

OFFERTORY • *On Holy Ground* • arr. Davis

Sanctuary Choir

* DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures
here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* OFFERING PRAYER

Lucas Bonates

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (11:00am)

Hedy Collver

*Parents, if you haven't yet checked your child in for ConnectKids, this is
a great time to head back to the Sanctuary lobby. One of our volunteers
will be there to help you sign your child in!*

We Lift Our Prayers to God

PASTORAL PRAYER

Hedy Collver

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy
kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as
we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM (11:00am) • *Psalm 150* • Franck

Sanctuary Choir

We Listen for God's Word

SCRIPTURE • 1 John 4:16-19

Roberto Perez

*We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love.
God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.
And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be
afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence
because we live like Jesus here in this world.*

*Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are
afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not
fully experienced his perfect love. We love each other because God
loved us first.*

Leader: The word of God, for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MESSAGE • Love of God

Lucas Bonates

We Respond with Joy!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH • Romans 8:34-39

Roberto Perez

Leader: Who then will condemn us? No one! For Christ Jesus died for
us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor
at God's right hand, pleading for us. Can anything ever separate us
from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have
trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in
danger, or threatened with death?

**All: No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours
through Christ, who loves us. And I am convinced that nothing can
ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither
angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries
about tomorrow. Not even the powers of hell can separate us
from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below,
indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from
the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be
to God! Amen!**

* HYMN OF DEDICATION • *For the Beauty of the Earth* • Hymnal No. 92

* BENEDICTION

Lucas Bonates

* MUSICAL BENEDICTION

Sanctuary Choir

POSTLUDE • *Tuba Tune* • Cocker

Phil Hinton, organ

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Our gratitude to Phil Hinton, our guest organist for today!

Altar Flowers in the Sanctuary have been placed by
Cheryl and John Akerman in loving memory of their parents,
Dorothy and William Norman, and Anne and Joseph Akerman.

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This helps our environment and keeps our church clean. Thank you!