CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING, JUST PEACE, W.I.S.E. & SANCTUARY CHURCH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here

WELCOME

Know that in this space you are welcome as you are, for who you are.
Together we celebrate all of God's children – young, old and in-between;
male, female and in-between; gay, lesbian, straight and in-between;
the assured, the doubting, and the in-between;
the optimistic, the cynics, and the in-between;
the foolish, the wise, and the in-between.

PLEASE NOTE:

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of groups of people. We are doing everything we can to be compliant with all regulations and ensure your safety. We have put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but we cannot guarantee that you or family members will not become infected. By your presence in our church building, you agree to the following: On behalf of yourself and your children, you hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless the Coral Gables Congregational UCC, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to your participation in our programs, services or activities. You understand and agree that this release includes any claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of this organization, its employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any such program, service, or activity.

The Reverend Dr. Laurinda Hafner, Senior Pastor
The Reverend Megan Smith, Associate Pastor
The Reverend Aaron Lauer, Associate Pastor for Emerging Generations

Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ
3010 De Soto Boulevard
Coral Gables, Florida 33134-6317
Phone: 305.448.7421 ~ www.gablesucc.org

CCLI License # 11282912

WE BELIEVE GOD CAN BLOW THE LID OFF ANY BOX AND TURN IT INTO A DANCE FLOOR. WE ARE OUT OF THE BOX PEOPLE.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 25, 2021 *Our faith is over 2000 years old* **11:00 a.m.**
Our thinking is not.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Politics is a game of compromise … faith isn't.
~ Cal Thomas

GATHERING MUSIC

Dr. Greg Taylor, Parish Musician

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Aaron Lauer

Please check in on Facebook and let your family and friends know that you are joining us virtually at Coral Gables Congregational UCC.

Invite your family and friends around the world to worship with us online each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at gablesucc.org/live.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, or Twitter.

Please know that your financial support of the church does great things not only within these walls but far beyond. If you wish to give on your mobile device today, please text "GABLESUCC" to 833.245.6434 or go to our church app.
You can also give at gablesucc.org/give.
For those in the sanctuary, offering plates are in the narthex.

Thank you for your gifts and generosity.

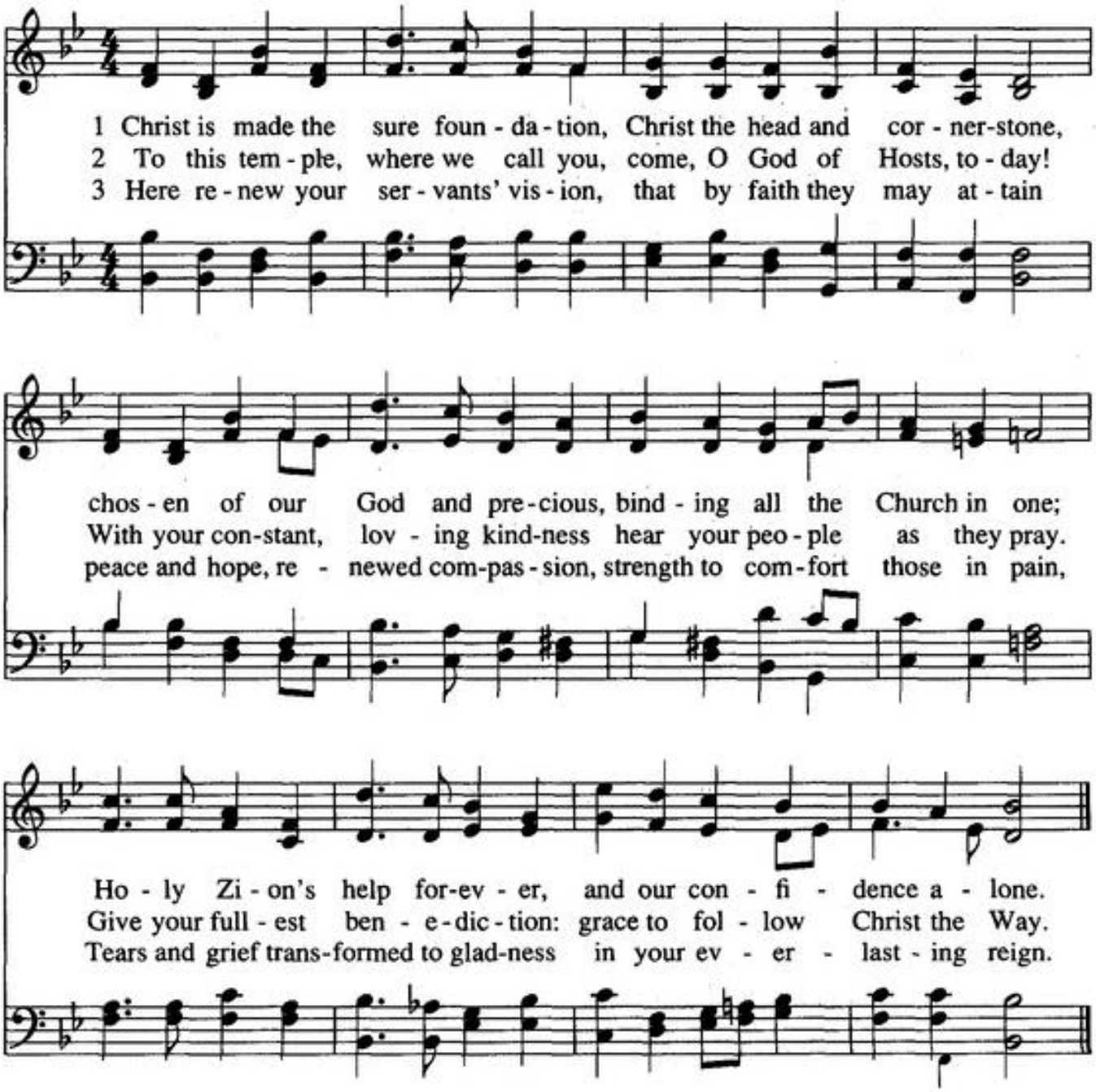
CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons) Daigle
Ashley Levin and Mark Hart; vocalists
Katie Martinez, flute

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We hear the voice of God calling,
Many: "Love your neighbor as yourself."
One: We feel the Spirit moving among us,
Many: moving us to acts of compassion and justice.
One: We know the love of Jesus.
Many: We love because Christ first loved us.
One: Come, worship God together.
Many: Come, let us serve our God, who calls us by name.

Please remain standing for the opening hymn

***HYMN** *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: No matter from where you are worshipping with us today; no matter the concerns, worries, or joys that you bring; no matter your background or social status; your race, culture, faith tradition, or sexual orientation, we offer to you the peace of Christ. Peace be with you!

Many: And also with you.

If you are in the sanctuary, offer a wave, bow, hand over the heart, smile, or nod to others.
If you are gathered with others at home, share the peace of Christ with one another.
If you are worshipping individually, know the peace of Christ is with you.
Email, text, or message your family and friends and share the peace of Christ with them.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON *Mark 12:28-31*

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Friends, listen. God is still speaking.
Thanks be to God!

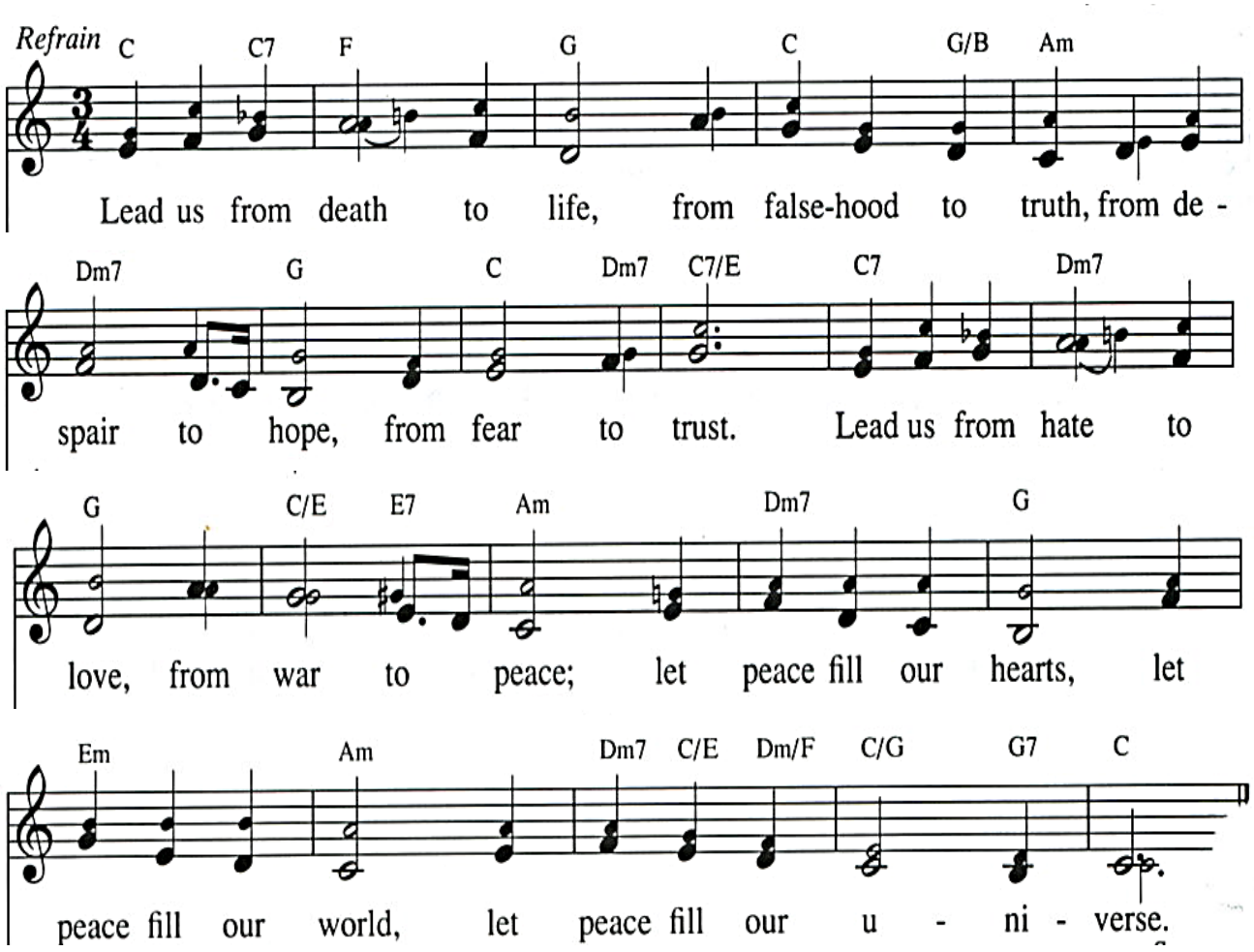
THE MORNING MESSAGE *Elephant in the Pew*
The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

SUNG RESPONSE FOR VOCALISTS AND CONGREGATION

Lead Us from Death to Life

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain; the vocalists will sing the verses

At this time, you may text your prayer requests to Pastor Laurie at 305.968.6482 or email her at 3059686482@vtext.com to be included in this morning's prayers and during the Called to Care prayer time on Wednesday.



THE MORNING PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (spoken)

You are welcome to use the language or words of your tradition or choice.

Our Creator 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Parent, family all are we.
Let me walk with my siblings in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

***BENEDICTION** Based on the song, *The Path* by Jason Mann

May the path that you walk be ever guided by justice and light.
By the truth that you stand, may it show, into the land.
May the words of Christ disturb you all your life.
The road you've chosen is not easy – yet, here you stand!
Go in peace. **Amen.**

***SUNG BENEDICTION** *Alleluia, Alleluia*

On verse two, you are invited to raise your hands up in glory to God.

***POSTLUDE** *Etude in G-flat Major* Chopin

Dr. Greg Taylor, piano

If you are worshipping with us in the sanctuary, you are invited to stay in your pew for a brief Connection Café followed by the Sermon Feedback Café, and the opportunity to share in conversation with Pastor Laurie about her sermon for the day. For those worshipping online, please just stay on your screen for both opportunities. If you wish to comment, just write in the comment section, or text Pastor Laurie at 305.968.6482 or email her at 3059686482@vtext.com.

Join us for some lemonade and cookies following worship and/or Sermon Feedback Cafe.
Gather on the westside of the sanctuary on Columbus Boulevard.
Visitors and guests, we would love to have you join us!

A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS

If you are visiting with us for the first time this morning, we welcome you. We are grateful we have found each other. And, if somehow, there is something in you, some still small voice seeking a place to live out your faith, to ask important questions, and to serve beyond yourself, we invite you into our community. For more information about the church or membership, please contact Pastor Laurie at 305.448.7421, ext. 116 or at LaurieH@gablesucc.org.

We are also a large online congregation of expats from our congregation who have moved to places around the country and around the world. Folks are actively involved in our church who have never set foot in our building, but are committed to our vision, values, and beliefs as a progressive, open-minded, and open-hearted Christian congregation.

No matter who you are or where you are on your life journey,
you are welcome in this United Church of Christ congregation.

IN OUR PRAYERS

We remember all those places of war, violence and unrest, as we continue to pray for peace for all people around the world. Today's prayers especially include our neighbors at Surfside who have suffered such a tragic event as well as our Haitian and Cuban neighbors. A lighted candle on the altar symbolizes our prayers for peace, healing, compassion, and unity.

GET OUR CHURCH APP

For all Apple and Android users, get your official Gables UCC App by going to the App Store or Google Play and downloading it. It's free! And it will keep you up-to-date and connected with church information, special announcements, calendar, and the staff. Need help? Contact Elena Korallis, our Communications Coordinator, at ElenaK@gablesucc.org.

STAY IN TOUCH

Once a week or so, Pastor Laurie emails a pastoral letter, *Laurie's Lines,* to all members and friends, filling them in on the week's events, any special concerns that have arisen, and general church business. If you would like to be included, contact Drew at DrewS@gablesucc.org.

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

The Called to Care Team prays together each Wednesday. They use a list compiled from your prayer requests texted to Pastor Laurie on Sunday morning. Contact Pastor Laurie at 305.968.6482. or Carol Fifield, Called to Care Coordinator, at miamifife@gmail.com.

FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE

Shop for unique, handmade gifts from around the world
Store Hours: Wednesday – Saturday from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Located on the Columbus Boulevard Side of the Church

Each of your purchases helps artisans in developing countries build strong, local economies. These skilled workers are paid fair-living wages while crafting sustainable products that do not harm the environment. No child labor is used. Women's lives are changed as they support their families with the dignity and pride of their work. Come and safely shop (masks required) in support of our justice ministry. If you can't shop on the days we are open, feel free to call/text our personal bilingual shopper Marilyn Smit at 786-897-1515 or email mcsmit55@aol.com to make an appointment.

EXPATS AND VURCHERS
TODAY, July 25 at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom

Join us for a gathering from around the world as we check in with our Gables UCC members and friends living outside of South Florida. Whether you have been a former member or friend of the church and have moved away, or have found a home with us virtually, we invite you to be connected through this special group just for you. The link is: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIpdeCvrjkrG9xONsABQERGkx8s9NkaoE5b

This month we will share a conversation around Pastor Laurie's sermon of the day. Whether you are living across the Pond, on the Gulf of Mexico, in the Carolinas, or the hinterlands of the East or West Coast, please do join us. Remember: no matter who you are or where you live, you are an important part of our church family.

WISE (WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, SUPPORTIVE, AND ENGAGED FOR MENTAL HEALTH) SUPPORT GROUP

Being socially distant does not mean having to be socially isolated.

Each Tuesday at **7:00 p.m.**, Pastor Lisa LeSueur leads a Zoom opportunity to connect with others, and to share stories, as well as survival strategies, for getting through these challenging times. If you are interested in joining, please email Lisa at LisaL@gablesucc.org and the link to the meeting will be forwarded to you.

SACRED CONVERSATION TO END RACISM BOOK STUDY
The Color of Law:
A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America
Second session this Wednesday evening, July 28 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom
Led by church member and attorney Laura Smith

Heralded as a "masterful" and "essential" history of the modern American metropolis, *The Color of Law* is a groundbreaking investigation into how U.S. governments in the twentieth century deliberately imposed racial segregation on metropolitan areas nationwide.

Register for these gatherings at:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYudempqTwiGNYl_8k5xaumjt4upbIU3O9K
or by going to our website, app, or any of our social media.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP
A Morning of Support for Women Living with Cancer
Saturday, August 7 at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Join us for some caring and the sharing of insights and support for those living with cancer or who have gone through the journey. We are grateful that Dr. Anesa Ahamad, a radiation oncologist will be with us. Click here to register:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtcOqqrTkuG9fwrTv8PbizoIdRogQM12Ba
or contact Pastor Laurie for the link.

FOOD PANTRY

In June, our food pantry gave out 55 bags of food! Could you help us replenish our shelves? Canned or tinned goods (especially with pull-top lids) such as soups, stews, proteins (think tuna, chicken, Spam, sausages), beans, vegetables, and fruit along with pasta, rice, pasta sauce, and peanut butter go a long way to feed hungry folks. We also appreciate financial donations so that we can purchase special foods for those with special needs.

Please drop off your bags of groceries at the church on **Sunday morning, Tuesday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., or on Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.** You may also donate at gablesucc.org/give. Under the fund column, select "food pantry." We also LOVE getting boxes from Amazon or other places filled with canned goods inside.

WORSHIP WITH US

One Church ~ Three Congregations:

9:00 a.m. Communion Service

A more intimate and meditative worship experience in the Chapel. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly, and music is presented by one of our talented soloists.

10:00 a.m. Spanish-Language Worship

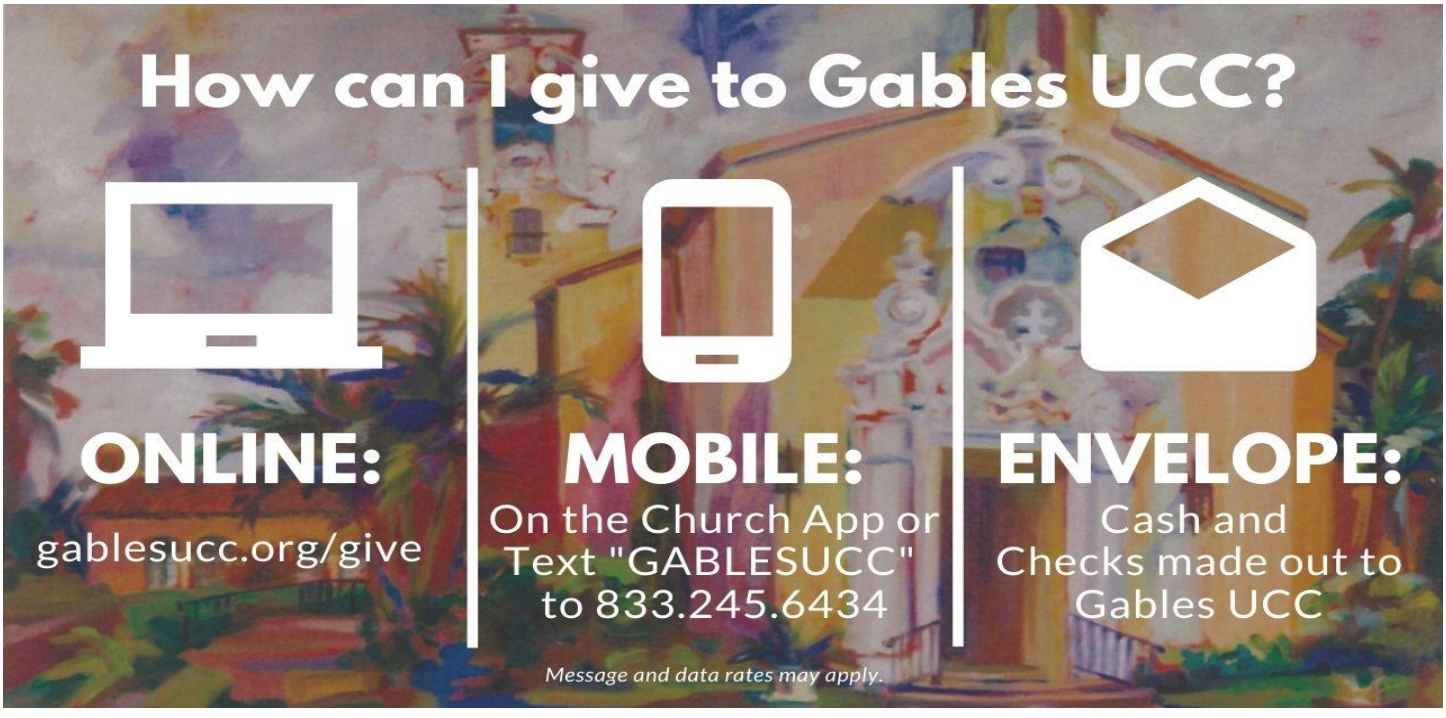
Spanish language worship is available each Sunday in the Chapel. Under the care of Pastora Yoli Izquierdo-Yglesias, the congregation is a warm, supportive, and caring community.

11:00 a.m. Worship In-Person or Online

Join us in person or online for beautiful music, challenging and inspiring messages, and liturgy that offers a renewal of mind and spirit. To register for in-person worship, please go to the following link https://gablesucc.org/worship or you may find it in any of our social media.

German Language Worship

If you are part of a German-speaking family or would like to worship in German come and join us for services, Bible studies, and cultural activities conducted in German. For more information about our German language ministry contact us at germanministry@gablesucc.org.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
Join Us for Compassion Camp In-Person!
Sundays through August 15 from 11:00 a.m. – Noon

The camp includes songs, compassion in action activities, lovingkindness practice, movement activities, crafts, Bible stories and so much more! To register for this Summer Sunday Camp go to: https://gablesucc.org/compassioncamp/

Not ready to send your child back to in person learning? No worries! We've got you covered. Register your child to receive the weekly videos and then pick up their Compassion Camp Kit to complete at home, by contacting Pastor Megan atMeganS@gablesucc.org

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SPIRIT SUNDAY: IT'S A HOMECOMING!
Spirit Sunday, September 12

The theme for this year's annual Spirit Sunday, a day when we celebrate the joy, fullness, and vitality of our beloved faith community, is *Homecoming*. Following so many months apart and separated from each other, we don't think there could be a better theme as we gather back for a heartfelt day full of worship, fellowship, and gratitude!

As with every homecoming, there will be a time for catching up, with lots of food, fun, and a celebration of our re-creation and our continuing hope as a church family as we live into the new-now.

And what would be a homecoming without a yearbook? During our time physically apart, new members have joined us, our expats have created a community from around the world, and a few of us have changed. So, we are inviting everyone, near and far, to submit a picture of you or your family to be included in the yearbook. It can be informal, fun, serious, with your pets, etc. All we ask is that you try and send us a picture taken vertically and clearly give us your names as you wish to be listed.

If you don't have a picture, Malcolm Davies, will be available after worship on Sundays, August 1 and 8 to snap a great picture of you.

Please e-mail your picture to Elizabeth Delgado at yearbookphotos4gablesucc@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please be in touch with Pastor Laurie.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Sunday, September 12 for our homecoming!

CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UCC STAFF DIRECTORY
305.448.7421 (Extensions listed below)

Ministers
All Members of the Church

Pastoral Staff

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner, Senior Pastor	LaurieH@gablesucc.org ext. 116
The Rev. Megan Smith, Associate Pastor	MeganS@gablesucc.org ext. 119
The Rev. Aaron Lauer, Associate Pastor	AaronL@gablesucc.org ext. 117

Program Staff

German Worship Information	GermanMinistry@gablesucc.org
Mark Hart, Exec. Dir. of the Community Arts Program	MarkH@gablesucc.org ext. 120
The Rev. Yoli Izquierdo-Yglesias, Spanish Worship	Valeyosly@gmail.com/786.506.9890
The Rev. Lisa LeSueur, Assistant Pastor for Congregational and Staff Care	LisaL@gablesucc.org, ext. 150
Dr. Ronald Morgan, Director of Music Ministries	RonM@gablesucc.org ext.121
Brooke Bagnall-Koger, Director of Early Childhood Center	BrookeB@gablesucc.org
To contact Early Childhood Center, please call:	305.444.9792

Support Staff

Anthony Cabrera, Minister of Liturgical Arts	Cabreraa25@att.net
Kris Coney, Sound Technician	info@gablesucc.org
Allen Feldman, Pew Organizer	
Elena Korallis, Communications Director	ElenaK@gablesucc.org ext.113
Seth Patterson, Youth Bell Choir Director	smpatter@samford.edu
Tony Prinzi, Print, Rentals & Reception Coordinator	TonyP@gablesucc.org ext. 100
Dennis Rodrigues CPA, Business Manager	DennisR@gablesucc.org ext.130
Drew Sandbulte, Events Coordinator	DrewS@gablesucc.org ext.112
Dr. Gregory Taylor, Parish Musician	Gregpiano1@aol.com
Alexandra Woods, Children's Choir Director	Awoods@cushmanschool.org

Maintenance and Custodial Team
Rene Dominguez (Lead Custodian)
Carlos Barrios, Rosario Noriega

WE ARE OUT OF THE BOX PEOPLE

July 8
Troy Roberts Trio

July 22
Zach Bartholomew Trio

July 15
New World Symphony Fellows

July 29
Diego Melgar Trio
with Vocalist Justine Garcia

August 5
Priscila Navarro

August 12
John Daversa & Tal Cohen

COMMUNITY ARTS PROGRAM
2021
VIRTUAL SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

36th Season!
(Second Virtual!)

July 8 - August 12

Donations

Gratefully accepted to help engage the musical and technical artists for the *Community Arts Program (CAP) 2021 VIRTUAL Summer Concert Series.*

Concerts
7:30 p.m. (EDT)
EVERY Thursday

Join us LIVE!
Community Arts Program
Website, Facebook, Instagram TV, YouTube

305.448.7421, ext. 153
CommunityArtsProgram.org

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
With the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

CORAL GABLES
THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

CULTURE BUILDS FLORIDA

CORAL GABLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CORAL GABLES COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
30TH ANNIVERSARY

Gables MAGAZINE