Suddenly,
all my ancestors are
behind me. Be
still, they say.
Watch and listen.
You are the result of
the love of
thousands.

Linda Hogan

CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING, JUST PEACE, W.I.S.E., CREATION JUSTICE,
ANTI-RACISM, AND 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

ALL are welcome to this time and place of worship.
Know that in this space you are welcome as you are and for who you are.

As followers of Christ, we are compelled by the Gospel to seek
reconciliation and wholeness in a world that is all too often an unloving place.
Therefore, whether you are gay, straight, or in-between;
whatever your country of origin or ancestry;
whether you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker;
in Christ's love, we welcome you, so that by the power
of the Holy Spirit we can work together to
usher in God's Reign of justice, peace, and mercy.

GABLES UCC
100
FaithFULLY Forward
YEARS
Our Journey Includes YOU!

1923 - 2023

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

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

November 5, 2023 *Our faith is over 2000 years old; Our thinking is not.* **11:00 a.m.**

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Although we tend to think of saints as holy and pious, and picture them with halos above their heads and ecstatic gazes, true saints are much more accessible. They are men and women like us, who live ordinary lives and struggle with ordinary problems. What makes them saints is their clear and unwavering love for God and for God's people.

~Henri Nouwen

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE *In the Sweet By and By* Bill Ingram
The Handbell Choir with Katie Martinez, flute

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

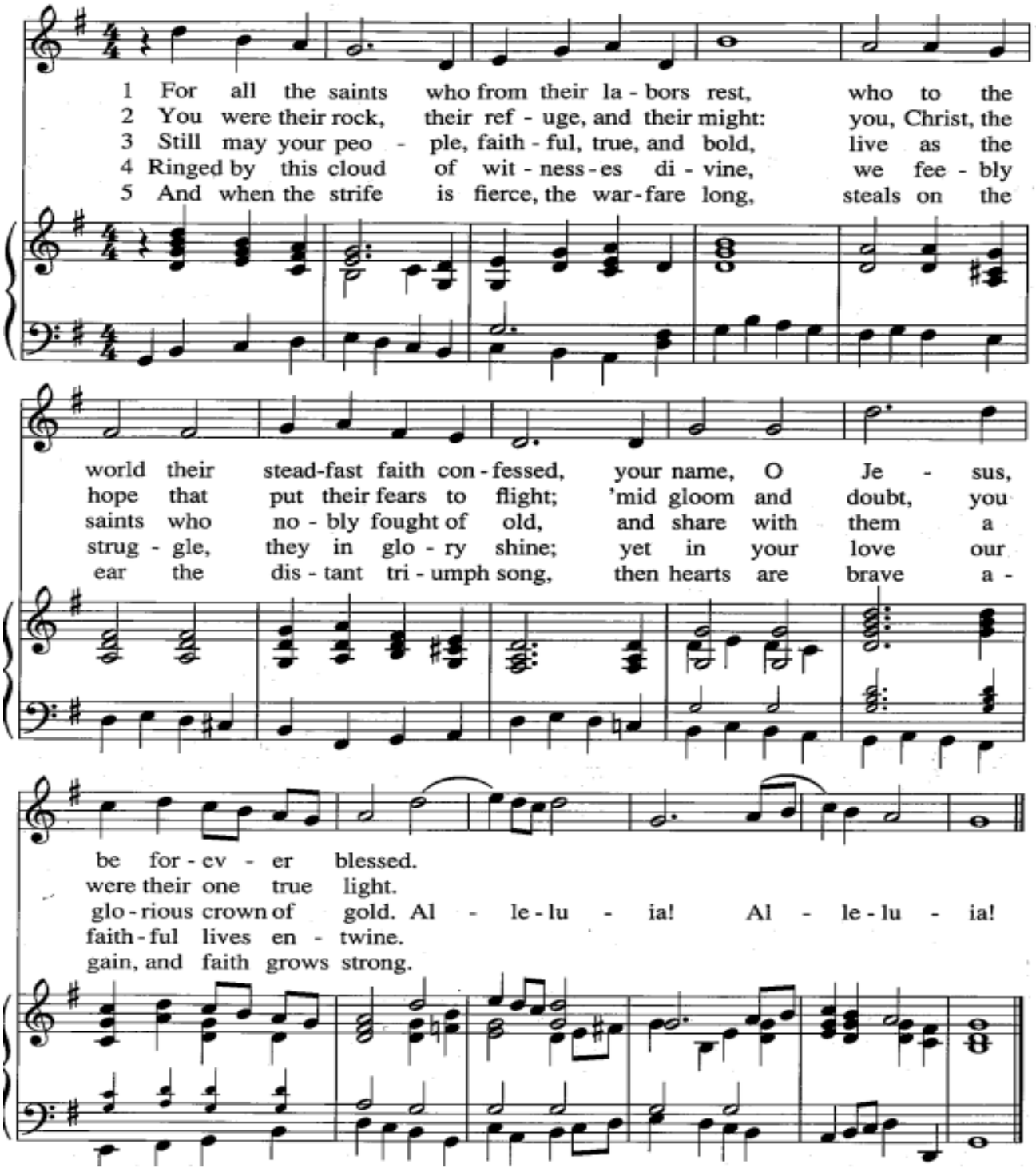
Invite your family and friends around the world to worship with us online each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at gablesucc.org/live. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

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.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Come, Ye Disconsolate* Terre Johnson
The Chancel Choir

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We come today to give thanks to God for the Saints.
Many: For the Saints who tied our shoes and wiped our noses.
One: For the Saints who taught us to share, even when we didn't feel like it.
Many: For the Saints who taught us to wonder at the beauty of a starry night.
One: For the Saints who expected more of us than we did of ourselves.
Many: For the Saints who sacrificed for our benefit.
One: For the Saints who pushed us to live out our ideals.
Many: For the Saints who listened when no one else would.
One: For the Saints who praise God still on another shore.
Many: Praise God for all the Saints!

***HYMN** *For All the Saints*

***THE OPENING PRAYER**

ALL: For all the saints – those who have gone on and those right here in our lives, we thank you, God. Help us in turn be the saints you call us to be. We ask this in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray...

***THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung)**

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.

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: Let us embrace our differences, knowing that God made us just as we are.
Let us welcome the stranger and the familiar by saying, "Peace be with you."

Many: And also with you.

You are invited to share the peace or words of welcome with those around you.

All children and youth through 5th grade wishing to attend Sunday School are invited to exit into the Fellowship Hall. Childcare is available for children Pre-K and under in the Arts and Education wing.

***SUNG INTERLUDE** from Taizé

Bless the Lord, my soul and bless God's holy name;
Bless the Lord, my soul who leads me into life.

BELL ANTHEM *Behold, a Host Arrayed in White* arr. John Behnke
The Handbell Choir

THE SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 5:1-12a*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

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

THE MORNING MESSAGE

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

CHORAL RESPONSE *Come, Come Ye Saints*

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 the Called to Care Team prayer list which is prayed over weekly.

ALL SAINTS DAY REMEMBRANCE

READING OF NAMES AND LIGHTING OF MEMORIAL CANDLES

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

One: In the rising of the sun and in its going down,
we remember them.

**Many: In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.**

One: In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we remember them.

**Many: In the blueness of the sky and the warmth of summer,
we remember them.**

One: In the rustling of the leaves and the beauty of autumn,
we remember them.

**Many: At the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we remember them.**

One: When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.

Many: When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

One: When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.

Many: So long as we live, they too will live, for they are now part of us, as we remember them.

CHORAL RESPONSE *Remember Me*

Greg Jackson, vocalist

We kindly ask for no applause following the Choral Response.

***THE SENDING FORTH**

One: Go in peace to be the saints of God. Do to others as you would have them do to you. And may the Holy One give you a spirit of wisdom that you might come to know the hope to which you have been called, as the saints of God.

ALL: Amen.

***THE SUNG BENEDICTION** *Alleluia*

As we end our service, you are invited to lift your hands up in glory to God on the second verse of Alleluia.

Following our service this this morning, you are invited to the Church Courtyard as we re-dedicate the Memorial Gardens to the Glory of God and the memory of all whose lives are honored there.

Please then join us in the *Fellowship Hall for our Connection Café. A time to connect over conversation and refreshments.* ***Visitors, we would LOVE to have you join us!***

***POSTLUDE**

Dr. Greg Taylor, piano

During the postlude, you are invited to come forward to the piano if you wish to enjoy the music.

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; as well as folks who are actively involved in the 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. Whether an expat or "vurcher" (one who attends church virtually each week), please join us each Sunday for worship and for other programs and educational experiences online throughout the week.

No matter who you are or where you are on your life journey, you are welcome here.

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 Elena at ElenaK@gablesucc.org.

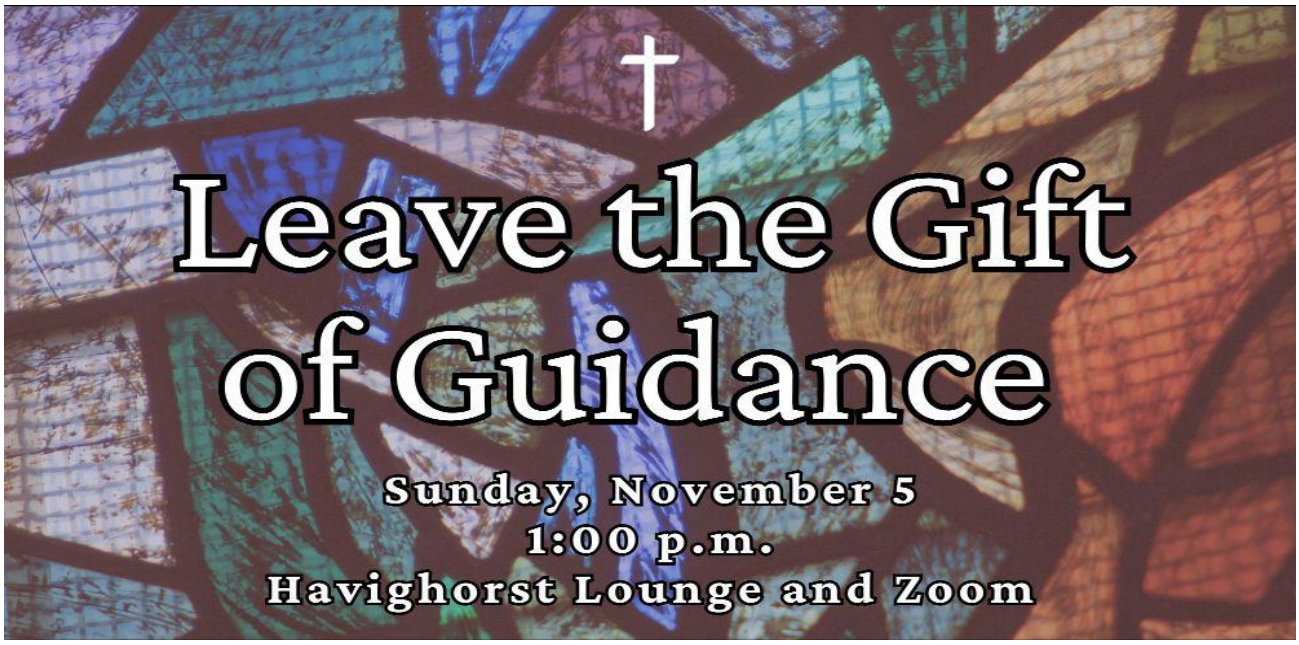
OUR CHURCH APP

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.

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. We especially remember this day the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, and Haiti, and those who have suffered much loss through war, natural disasters, terrorism, and violence. A lighted candle on the altar symbolizes our prayers for peace, compassion, and unity.

TODAY…



The church is always present in people's lives both in good times and in difficult ones. While many occasions in the church come with special planning and preparation such as weddings, baptisms, confirmations, etc., too often, families come to the church on the passing of a loved one not knowing what to do or the wishes of their loved ones.

The Legacy Committee of the church, along with Pastor Laurie, has prepared a booklet entitled *My Funeral/Memorial Service Requests* to help provide guidance and support to your loved ones by offering information about what you would like to have at your own memorial/funeral service as well as other information to help guide them. Such pre-planning enables you to give expression to your faith through choosing and ordering what is to take place. It becomes a witness to your life for your loved ones and to all those who participate in and attend your funeral/memorial service. And there's more. Planning now for your service eases the burden on your loved ones by eliminating the pressure of decision-making, particularly the need of trying to do things "the way you would have wished."

The Legacy Committee cordially invites you to a special gathering **TODAY**, **Sunday, November 5 at 1:00 p.m. in Havighorst Lounge** to help you begin thinking about your final plans. If you are unable to attend and would like a copy of the booklet, please contact Pastor Laurie.

MARCH IN UNITY

Mosaic Miami, formerly the Miami Coalition for Christians and Jews, invites everyone to join their Miami Movement as they march in unison against antisemitism, Islamophobia, and bias. This peace pilgrimage will start at The Freedom Tower **today, Sunday, November 5**, at **3:00 p.m.** and end at The Underline in Brickell. The church shuttle will leave at **2:00 p.m.** to take marchers to the start of the walk, and then pick everyone up afterwards, bringing them back to the church. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Laurie

GERMAN LANGUAGE MINISTRY: ST. MARTIN'S DAY COMMEMORATION

Craft Your Own Lantern:

We will meet **Sunday, November 5,** from **2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall to craft lanterns for the St. Martin's Day lantern parade. Order your lantern kit at Gablesucc.org/lantern.

Join the Lantern Parade:

We will meet **Tuesday, November 7 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall for a St. Martin's Day pageant and songs, followed by a parade around the church with our lanterns. Stutenmänner (Bread pastries) will be available for purchase after the parade.

FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE

Open TODAY 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday – Saturday from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Located outside the Fellowship Hall

Come and shop in support of our justice ministry. 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.

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW

How do I become a member of the church?

We warmly invite you to help us build the family of Gables UCC.

If you are interested in "inquiring" about Gables UCC and what it means to be a member of our family of faith, please be in touch with Pastor Laurie at LaurieH@gablesucc.org or 305.448.7421.

WALKING GROUP

Every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

Join Pastor Megan, church members, and friends for a weekly walk around the Granada Golf Course and back, approximately a 5K or three miles. We will meet outside our church's Fair Trade shop on Columbus Blvd. and leave the church together as we begin our walk. Just an FYI-Pastor Megan sets a brisk pace! Meet outside Fair Trade. Friends are always welcome! Bring a flashlight.

NEW MEN'S GROUP FORMING

It's often a joke, that men's groups in churches only exist in theory–apart from an occasional golf outing, pancake breakfast, or a random group of guys who get together at Cracker Barrel. We want to make a men's group a reality here at Gables UCC, so all guys of the church are invited for dinner, fellowship, and a laid-back time with Rick Walters (Pastor Laurie's husband), at their home on **Thursday, November 9, at 7:00 p.m.** RSVP at LaurieH@gablesucc.org.

YOUTH GROUPS

November 10, the Middle School youth will meet from **7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.** at the Youth Garage. There will be food including make-your-own sundaes and some surprises that everyone will enjoy.

Friday, November 17, the Senior High youth will meet from **7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.** for a cook-out, pool party, and hang-out-session at Pastor Laurie's at 3131 De Soto Boulevard. Swimming is optional, fun is not!

GARDEN WARRIORS

Saturday, November 11 at 9:00 a.m. on the Church Grounds

If you like to garden, pull weeds, plant flowers, or just help make the exterior landscape of our historic church beautiful, then join us for a Garden Warriors' workday. All volunteers will be welcomed and appreciated (kids too)!

A SPECIAL SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

A Future with Hope

Sunday, November 12 from 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Havighorst Lounge and Zoom

Nadia Bolz-Weber has said, "Church isn't where you meet. The church isn't a building. Church is what you do. Church is who you are. Church is the human outworking of the person of Jesus Christ. Let's not go to Church. Let's be the Church." This got Pastor Laurie thinking about Gables UCC as we come our 100th anniversary in a time of racial reckoning, political and social divisiveness, war, violence, and when folks of all ages are "leaving the church to find God," as Lenny Bruce once said. We are truly on the cusp of unprecedented change which will forever transform the church as we know it.

ALL church members, whether longtime or new, church leaders, good friends, or those just interested in a thoughtful, meaningful, and important conversation about the church, are encouraged to attend. There will be some important announcements, a sharing of some goals and dreams, and a chance to reflect and ask questions about the future of Gables UCC. **Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m. Childcare is available.**

EXPATS AND VURCHERS

Sunday, November 12 at 12:30 p.m. over Zoom

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 join our special fellowship and support group.

We gather from around the world to 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. Email Pastor Laurie at LaurieH@gablesucc.org for the Zoom link.

FOOD FOR THE SOUL WITH BEATRIZ CHACHAMOVITS

Sunday, November 12 at 12:30 p.m. in Havighorst Lounge

The Green Christians are proud to present another thought-provoking Food for the Soul event on next Sunday when artist Beatriz Chachamovits join us. An award-winning environmental artist and educator, Beatriz Chachamovits describes how she's dedicated her art to revealing the declining state of coral reef ecosystems. In drawings, sculptures, and installations, she addresses key causes of their deterioration, especially coral bleaching, and plastic pollution. Her goal is to spark discussions of the role humans have played in the decline of coral reefs and how we can work together to preserve these fragile ecosystems for future generations. Please join us for this very special and timely event.

SERVE A MEAL AT CHAPMAN PARTNERSHIP

Sunday, November 12 from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33136

Join members of Gables UCC on the second Sunday of each month as we serve a meal for residents at the downtown location of Chapman Partnership, a shelter for people experiencing homelessness. We will leave the church at 4:00 p.m. (or you can meet us there), serve at 5:00 p.m., and then help clean up. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our community and to build relationships with fellow Gables UCC members. To RSVP, please contact Zilkia-Marie Denis McNabb at zdeni001@gmail.com or 786.712.2635. Anyone who volunteers at Chapman Partnership must be registered with them as well. Please go to their website and register if you have not previously.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Monday, November 13 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Church Library

We gather to create beautiful prayer shawls to share with members of our church family who are ill or starting a new era in their lives. You do not have to know how to knit or crochet – someone will teach you. If you are looking for a ministry of prayer and care for others, this may be it. Come and help wrap someone in God's love by creating a beautiful prayer shawl. To join by Zoom please be in touch with Pastor Laurie.

*FRIENDS*GIVING

Our wonderful Muslim friends from the Coral Springs Foundation (formerly the Turkish Cultural Center) are inviting us to join them for a Thanksgiving meal and celebration of unity on **Saturday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m.** If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Laurie know at LaurieH@gablesucc.org. The church shuttle will take us and bring us back to the church.

I WANT TO DO THAT, NOT JUST ALONE….

Thanksgiving Play

Thursday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. at GablesStage

Join us for an outing at GableStage (across from the church at the Biltmore Hotel). You purchase your own tickets on the website of GableStage and come for refreshments and fellowship between **6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.** at Pastor Laurie's (also, across from the theatre). The play, written by Larissa FastHorse, the first indigenous American woman to have a play on Broadway, "flips the bird" on one of America's most prolific myths—the original thanksgiving meal. With provocative questions around erasure and authorship of history, this comedy asks how we proceed when steadfast assumptions are disrupted.

UPCOMING ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

From Anita Bryant to Ron DeSantis:

What Does the Bible Really Say About Homosexuality and Other Issues of the Day?

Sundays, November 19 and 26 at 9:45 a.m. in Havighorst Lounge and Zoom

Ron DeSantis and the Florida Legislature seem to be taking a page from Anita Bryant's old playbook, using anti-LGBTQ legislation like "Don't Say Gay," as a religious issue. Additionally, from banning books and electronic monitoring of teachers to white-washing history and allowing the state to dictate women's health care decisions, it seems as if many of the elected leaders in Florida are committed to an agenda of censorship and surveillance in the name of our Christian faith.

Is this truly the Christian way? Or is there another side of the story? What does the Bible say about homosexuality? What would be Jesus' take on women's rights, especially around issues of choice? Does our Christian faith really say anything about how history is taught or what books are to be read? Join Pastor Laurie on these Sundays as we dig into scripture, Jesus' teachings, and some thoughtful theology in light of what is happening in the name of Christianity in our State.

THANKSGIVING FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Tuesday, November 21 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Register at GablesUCC.org/lunch.

Join us for a special catered Thanksgiving luncheon with all the fixings including turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce and of course, pie! The luncheon will include entertainment, as well as games, prizes, and a holiday sing-a-long. This is sure to get you in the Thanksgiving spirit. Cost for the meal and entertainment is only $15. Tickets on sale today after worship.

There is also pick-up service if you need a ride to the church. Just let Pastor Laurie know. All reservations must be made by **Friday, November 17**.

NOVEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTREACH PROJECT

Our Sunday School children and youth are supporting Lotus House Homeless Shelter. Every month, they are collecting items that the women, children, or LGBT+ youth need. **In November, it's full-size toothpaste and toothbrushes.** Children may bring donations with them to Sunday School. Adults may leave donations at the reception desk or ship them to Pastor Megan at Gables UCC.

Spend Thanksgiving morning serving those in need. This year, we are partnering with First United Methodist of Miami and Branches to make take-home meals of turkey, mashed potatoes, and more for those around Miami, in addition to bagged lunches, hygiene kits, and bags of food for our food pantry.

It's a great way to spend Thanksgiving morning. Bring your family and be with your church family.

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Please mark your calendar now for the weekend of **December 16 and 17** as we celebrate and commemorate the 100th anniversary of Gables UCC.

We will eat, drink, and be merry...and yes, we will dance!

We will dine under the stars on Saturday evening, enjoying the company of church members old and new. Following dinner, we will go into our historic sanctuary to dance the night away. After all, we are a church that believes God can blow the lid off any box and turn it into a dance floor. We are out-of-the-box people.

Then on Sunday morning, we will gather as a worshipping congregation to give thanks to God for those who had a vision of a church in this place, to celebrate the faith that has sustained and guided members for 100 years, and to recommit ourselves to being an alive, faithful, visionary church for the future.

If you have a cottage, casita, or an extra room, we are looking for places to house our church members from afar who will be coming in for the festivities for that weekend. If you are willing to share a space, please let Pastor Laurie know.

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

Program Staff
The Rev. Lisa LeSueur, Assistant Pastor for Congregational and Staff Care — LisaL@gablesucc.org ext. 150
Day McCallister, Interim Coordinator for Emerging Generations — DayM@gablesucc.org ext. 117
Mark Hart, Exec. Dir. of the Community Arts Program — MarkH@gablesucc.org ext. 120
The Rev. Mairolet Vega, Spanish Language Worship — Mairoletvega@gmail.com
Dr. Ronald Morgan, Director of Music Ministries — RonM@gablesucc.org ext.121
German Language Worship Information — GermanMinistry@gablesucc.org
Brooke Bagnall-Koger, Director of Early Childhood Center — BrookeB@gablesucc.org ext.315
To contact Early Childhood Center, please call: — 305.444.9792

Support Staff
Mariana Broadmeadow, Life Events Coordinator — MarianaB@gablesucc.org ext.114
Anthony Cabrera, Minister of Liturgical Arts — Cabreraa25@att.net
Kris Coney, Sound Technician — info@gablesucc.org
Allen Feldman, Pew Organizer
Elena Korallis, Communications Coordinator — 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
Geneviève Savain, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor — GenevieveS@gablesucc.org ext.153
Dr. Gregory Taylor, Parish Musician — Gregpiano1@aol.com

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

WE ARE OUT OF THE BOX PEOPLE

CORAL GABLES
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

100 YEAR BLOWOUT

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 16TH
6:30PM

Get your Gables Gatsby on for our hundred year anniversary. Celebrate 100 years of blowing the lid off any box and turning it into a dance floor!

3010 DE SOTO BOULEVARD
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33134

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
GABLESUCC.ORG/BLOWOUT

Branches
Trish & Dan Bell Family Empowerment Centers

CORAL GABLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Help us provide 5,000 meals to Miami-Dade and Broward families in need this Thanksgiving!

Items needed:

INSTANT MASHED POTATOES
BOXED INSTANT STUFFING
CRANBERRY SAUCE
GRAVY
PEANUT BUTTER
JELLY

Deadline:

November 6th

Drop Off:

Gables UCC
3010 De Soto Blvd, Coral Gables, FL 33134

All green beans provided by: GOYA

For more information
email crigaud@branchesfl.org