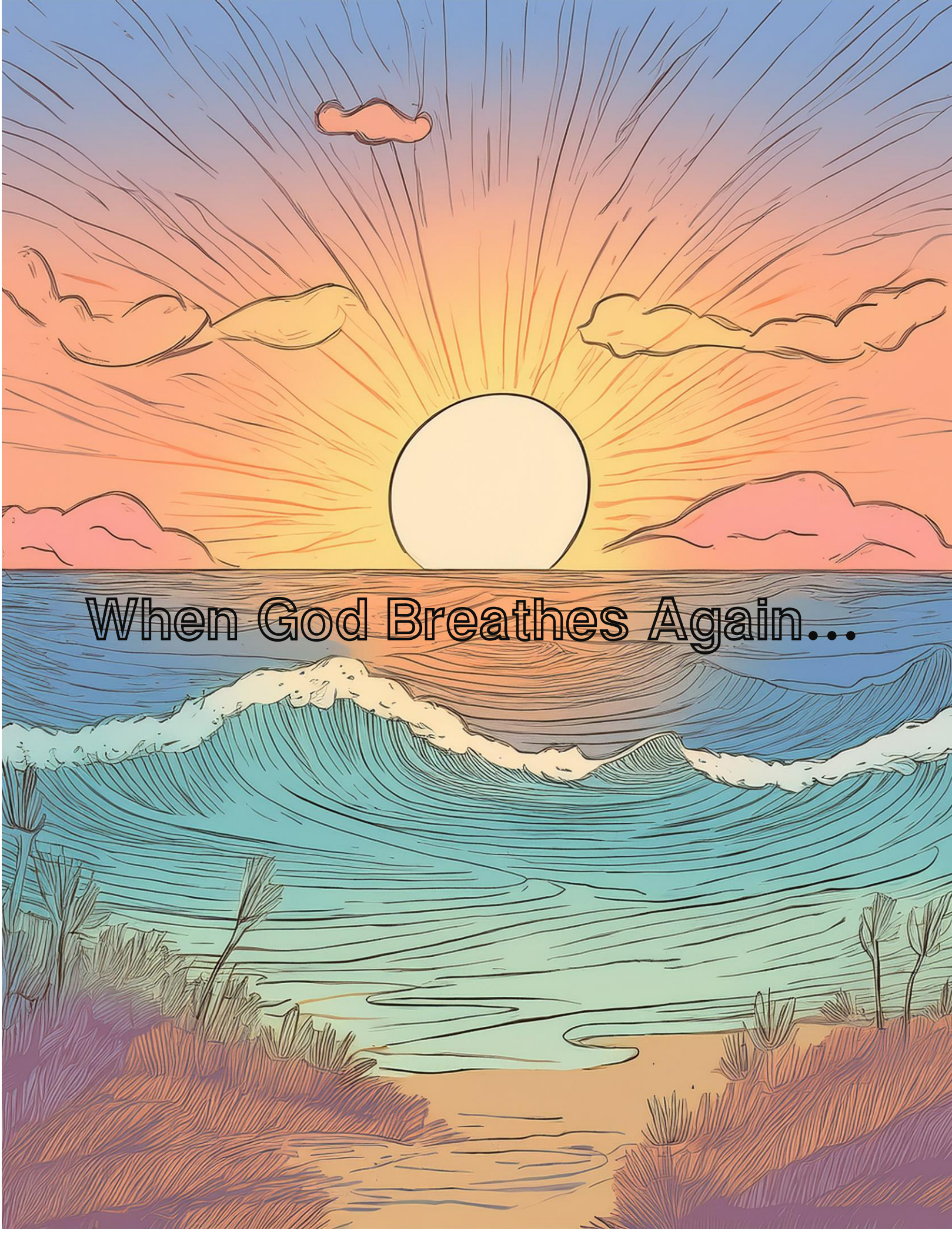

When God Breathes Again...

***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 church 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.

However you join us today, whether in-person or online, please know that the worship of God is enhanced because of your presence and participation from wherever you are….

During our Lenten Season these past six weeks, we focused on the theme: *Catch Your Breath.* Each Sunday, we were invited to catch our breath in those places where life is hard and challenging, such as in times of grief, fear, exhaustion, doubt, loneliness, and division.

St. Augustine once wrote (paraphrasing): "We must empty ourselves of all that fills us so that we may be filled with what we are empty of." Through our time together each week, we sought to create space to pause, reflect, pray, and to exhale, while inhaling God' word of hope and peace. Our Lenten season wasn't just a time to say "no" to things; it was a season to inhale that which truly is life.

So today our journey brings us to this special time as we celebrate Easter, a season to inhale that which truly is life. Welcome to Easter and to this most joyous day. Now, Exhale… Inhale.... Exhale… Inhale…

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

**EASTER FAMILY SERVICE**

**April 20, 2025** *Our faith is over 2000 years old;* **9:00 a.m.**
*Our thinking is not.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Please stand as you are able*

**GATHERING MUSIC**

Dr. Gregory Taylor, piano

**THE EASTER STORY AS RECORDED IN MARK 16:1-8**

The Rev. Megan Smith

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

**CHORAL RESPONSE** *Sing Out With Joy* Mark Patterson

The Children's Choir
Seth Patterson, finger cymbals; Matthew Patterson, claves

***CALL TO WORSHIP** The Rev. Lisa LeSueur

One: Rejoice! There is great news! Christ is risen!
**ALL: Christ is risen, indeed!**
One: Let all the earth proclaim the joy!
**ALL: Let all heaven show forth in praise.**
One: Bless our God and praise all creation;
**ALL: Christ has triumphed! Risen forever!**
One: God is alive!
ALL: **Alleluia!**

*Please remain standing for the opening hymn*

***OPENING HYMN** *God is Alive!*

***This morning the alleluia is presented by Rowan Bermudez who was crowned Keeper of the Alleluia at Mardi Gras and safely kept it during the Lenten season.***

Sing your joy, proclaim God's glory!
Rise and sing, the morning has come!
Bless our God and praise all creation;
Song of the earth, and light from heaven:
God is alive! ---Al-le-lu-ia!

All the earth is filled with rejoicing,
Light and life the wonder of God!
Christ has triumphed! Risen forever!
Joy of our hearts, and hope of our dreaming:
God is alive! ---Al-le-lu-ia!

May we learn to become your Kingdom,
May we be your kindness and truth!
Love is our calling, gift of your presence;
Children of God, and spirit of Jesus:
God is alive! ---Al-le-lu-ia!

***OPENING PRAYER**

One: O God of all our days,
we come this morning with eager anticipation.
We seek to know you, to see you, to touch you.
Open our hearts, that we might experience you anew.
Open our lives, that we may be faithful witnesses to your resurrection.
May we, with shouts of joy, proclaim your steadfast, liberating love
to all people, everywhere.
We ask all this in the name of the risen Christ who taught us to pray saying…

**OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER (unison)**

*You are welcome to pray with the words or in the tradition of your choosing…*

Our Creator, who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom,
and power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***SUNG RESPONSE** *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!* Traditional Caribbean

Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Halle, halle, halle-lujah!
Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**THE GIFT OF MUSIC** *The Day of Resurrection* Henry T. Smart
The Youth Handbell Choir

**WORDS OF 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.*

**THE GIFT OF MUSIC** *Empty Grave* Smith, Williams and Nohe
The Vocal Ensemble with Rob Shank, and Nicholas Tannura, guitars;
Ricardo Suarez, bass; Seth Woods, percussion

**THE EASTER MESSAGE**

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

***CLOSING HYMN** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! All on earth with angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Suffering ended, freedom won, Alleluia!
Death has yielded up its prize, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! All on earth with angels say: Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

***BENEDICTION**

***Please leave through the front doors of the sanctuary.***

***POSTLUDE**

## 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.

## FOLLOWING WORSHIP…

... you are cordially invited to join us on the green area of the church on De Soto Boulevard, for Easter mimosas/Florida orange juice. *Visitors and guests, we would LOVE to have you join us.*

Middle School and High School students please join Pastor Lisa on the De Soto green space outside the sanctuary for your own special reception with refreshments and Easter bags for youth.

All toddlers through fifth graders, please join Pastor Megan for an Easter Egg Hunt.

**Easter Egg Hunt Locations:**

Toddlers through three-year-old's
on the Preschool Playground on Catalonia Ave.

Four-year-old's, pre-K 4, Kindergarten & First Graders
on the Main Preschool Playground on Columbus Blvd.

Second through Fifth Grades
in the Church Courtyard near Fellowship Hall

## 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.

## LOTUS HOUSE MONTHLY COLLECTION

Every month our Sunday School children collect for Lotus House Homeless Shelter. Every month, they are collecting items that the women, children, or LGBT+ youth need. **In April, we are collecting full-size body wash and bars of soap.** 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.

## FOOD PANTRY

Your donations of food go a long way in helping the hungry of our community. Please drop off your bags of groceries at the church or you may also donate financially 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.

**FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE**
**Open TODAY 12:00 noon – 1:30 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.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Weekly, the Called to Care Team receives prayer requests from church family and friends. Each **Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.**, they gather in prayer over Zoom to lift up these prayer requests, to pray for the church, and for the needs of the world. If you have a prayer concern to be prayed over by Called to Care, you may text it to Pastor Laurie at 305.968.6482 or email Carol Fifield, the Called to Care coordinator at miamifife@gmail.com.

**INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW**
***How do I become a member of the church?***

*If you don't want to check your mind at the church door...*
*If you want religion with relevancy…*
*If you've wished for an open and embracing community of faith to nurture your spirit, grow your faith, and to raise your family…*
*Then 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.

## A CALL TO MERCY, JUSTICE, AND WALKING HUMBLY WITH GOD & OTHERS

With a new administration sworn in and changes taking place all around us, as people of faith we are compelled to witness to the work, the words, and the teachings of the ancient prophet Micah who calls us to "Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." This administration appears to be guided by Project 2025, which seeks to fundamentally reshape federal government policies across various sectors, including social safety nets, civil rights, and environmental protection.

Therefore, we are inviting members of the church to join us as we begin preparing for what may be a sustained and meaningful engagement in support of communities that experience historical and structural marginalization, an economy that is fair, inclusive, and productive, a cherished multicultural, pluralist society, and the protection of public health, safety, the environment, and an honest, equitable education for all. If you would like to learn more or sign-up to help, please be in touch with MaryAnne at mal@malukacs.com or Virginia at vegasivi@gmail.com.

## WALKING GROUP

**Wednesdays at 6:00 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. Pastor Megan sets a brisk pace, but you are always welcome to set your own. Friends are always welcome!

## SISTERS ON SOJOURN

**Saturday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m. at Catalonia House**

All women, regardless of age, are invited to join in this relaxed and easy-going group with no rules, no dues, no officers. We are just women coming together to hear each other's stories, provide support and encouragement, and to occasionally learn something. If you have time, please bring something for the breakfast buffet.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We are starting earlier so that those who wish can attend the memorial service of Donna Thomas-Jones who was a part of our SOS group at 11:00 a.m. in our sanctuary. If you wish to be added to the Sisters on Sojourn email list for announcements about upcoming meetings, please email Pastor Laurie at LaurieH@gablesucc.org.

## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

**Sundays, through May 18 9:45 a.m. in Havighorst Lounge and on Zoom**

***The Gospel of John: A Beginner's Guide to the Way, the Truth, and the Life***

**Dr. Amy-Jill Levine Video Series**

**PLEASE NOTE: There is no class today**.

John's Gospel offers readers a new language-of being born anew, of living water, of wind and spirit, of the "I am"- that enhances how we understand the divine, how we experience the world, and how we participate in the mystery of faith. With her characteristic wit and charm, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine introduces readers to the world of the Gospel of John by unpacking the stories in their original context, along with examining how the text is read today. Dr. Levine is Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace and University Professor of New Testament Jewish Studies Emerita at Vanderbilt University. She has also been to Gables UCC as our Visiting Scholar.

The Big Red OneBlood Bus will be here to receive your life-giving donation of blood for those in need. Register to give blood at the link found in Laurie's Lines or on the church app or website.

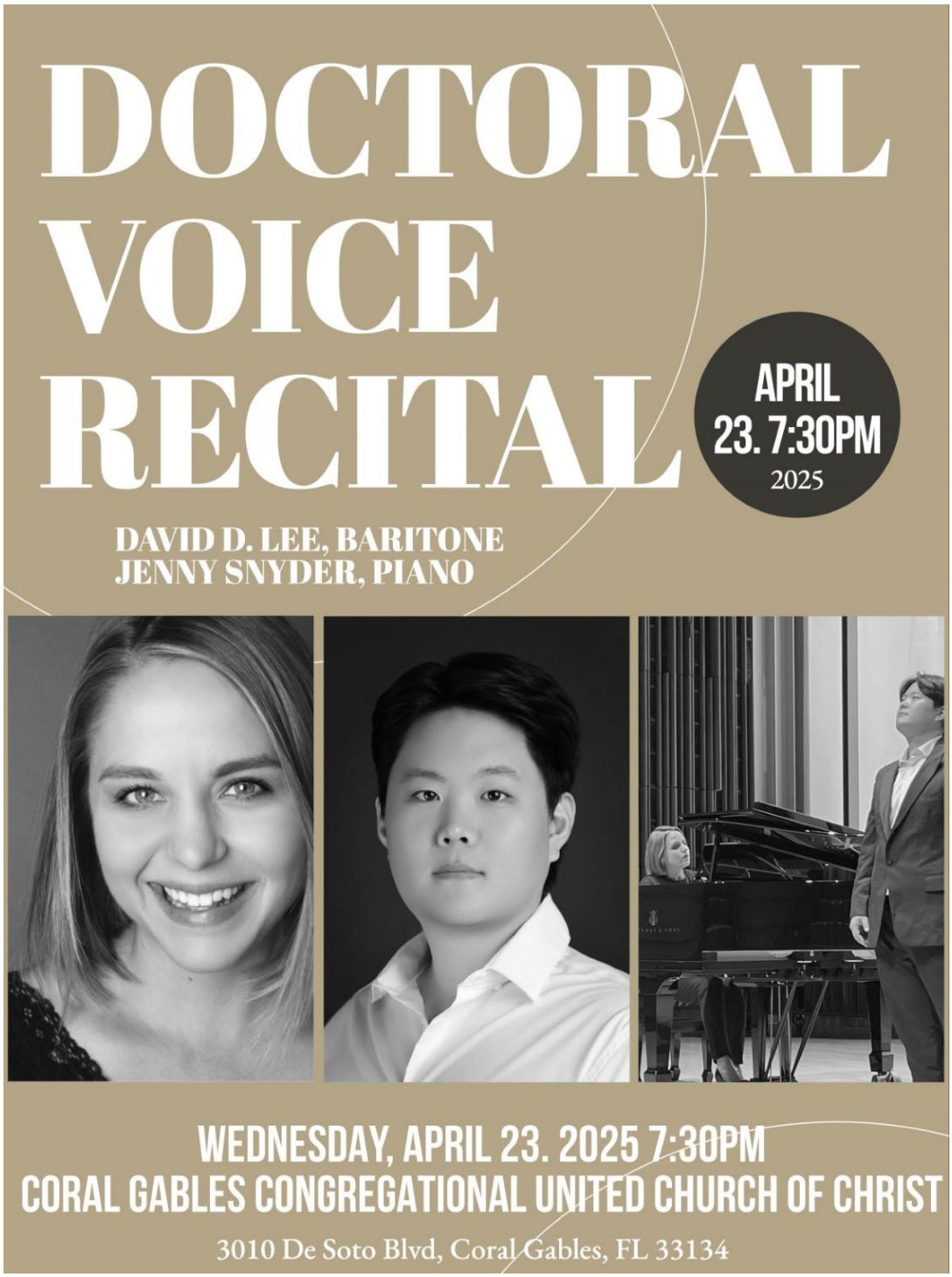
**IMPROV GROUP**
**Sunday, April 27 at 12:15 p.m. in the Chapel**

At its core, improv is the art of making things up on the spot—characters, song lyrics, situations, whole scenes. That sort of blank slate may sound intimidating, especially if you're just getting started. But improv can serve as an important foundation for learning teamwork, bravery, strength, and confidence! Plus, just having fun. Led by church member Jeff McNabb, co-founder and artistic director of the Parliament Room (an Improv group based in downtown Miami), Jeff has eight years' experience as an Improvisor and coach, both with the Just the Funny and Villain Theaters. He has led improv workshops around the city.

**MEN'S GROUP**
**Friday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Catalonia House**

It's often been a joke, that men's groups in churches only exist in theory–apart from an occasional golf outing or a random group of guys who get together at Cracker Barrel. This isn't your father's men's group. Here at Gables UCC, all guys of the church, young and old, gay and straight (and everyone in between), are invited for dinner, fellowship, and a laid-back time. They also serve the church by helping folks prepare for storms, cook the Mother's Day Breakfast, and so much more. Join us for a potluck this month at the church's guest house: 1210 Catalonia Ave.

To get more information or a calendar of events, please be in touch with Mark Smith at mrsmith103069@gmail.com.




Baritone **David D. Lee**, soloist and member of the Gables UCC Vocal Ensemble, will present his second doctoral voice recital in collaboration with pianist Jenny Snyder.

The recital will feature music by Vaughan Williams, Franz Schubert, and Henri Duparc. David will also perform Korean art songs composed by Dong-Soo Shin, Jin Choi, and Dong-Jin Kim, as well as spiritual songs by African-American female composer Betty Jackson King.

The recital will take place in the chapel of Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ on Wednesday, **April 23, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.**

All are welcome!

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT**
**Friday, April 24 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**
**For Kindergarteners – 5th Graders in the Sunday School Wing**

Need a night out on the town or a night in to relax, child-free? Drop your child off at church at 6:00 p.m. and head on out to dinner or stay home to watch your fave Netflix show! While you are enjoying yourself, your child will be having a wonderfully social evening here at church playing with friends, making crafts, watching a movie, and enjoying some fellowship time. Pick up is at 9:00 p.m. Please send their dinner packed in a lunch box for them. Contact Pastor Megan at MeganS@gablesucc.org to register.

## A GREEN CHRISTIANS PROGRAM

***Save the Tree Canopy***

**Sunday, April 27 at 12:15 p.m. in Havighorst Lounge**

Join us for a special *Food for the Soul* event focused on the vital mission to Save the Tree Canopy in Miami Dade, in partnership with representatives from PACT Miami and Urban Paradise Guild Miami. We invite you to explore the inspiring story of our community's efforts to preserve and expand our urban tree canopy. Learn how PACT successfully championed this initiative, and how Urban Paradise Guild supports in sustaining its progress. Where do we stand today? What challenges remain? Let's come together to reflect, connect, and take action.

## YOUTH GROUPS

**Middle School on Friday, May 2 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**

Join us on the first Friday of the month for dinner, games, a project to help the church, and a check-in to support one another. All middle school youth and friends are welcome.

**High School on Friday, May 9 from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**

We gather for fun, fellowship, and food. Plus, a time of checking in with each other, finding ways to support our friends, and sharing what's on our minds. All youth and friends are welcome.

## JUST BETWEEN US

**Saturday, May 3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Library**

For women around the ages of mid-20s-40s, join us as we share together the joys and challenges of relationships, kids, careers, and all the other things that tug at our hearts and fill our days (and nights!). Come, relax among friends, old and new, while supporting one another. Childcare is available and a light breakfast as well. If you have any questions, be in touch with Pastor Laurie.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday, May 4 at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

This month marks the one-year milestone in our church's three-year Centennial Campaign, to restore, renew, and to give life to our church building and other important projects in honor of the 100th anniversary of the church. The campaign total of gifts and pledges is now at $935,000 but we have a lot more dreams to fulfill, repairs to be made, and folks to support especially our youth and those living with excruciating medical debt. Join us immediately after worship to receive exciting updates on our Centennial Campaign and ways that your commitments are doing amazing things. If you would like more information about the campaign now, please go to gablesucc.org/centennialfund.

## I WANT TO DO THAT JUST NOT ALONE

***Fat Ham* at GableStage**

**Thursday, May 15**

**6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.: Drinks at Pastor Laurie's House**

**7:30 p.m.: Show at GableStage**

*Please note: This is a Dress Rehearsal and tickets support the Historic Hampton House.*

It's *Hamlet*, but with more barbeque and disco. Swapping a Danish castle for a North Carolina BBQ pit, *Fat Ham* remakes Shakespeare's story of murder and revenge into something hilarious and profound. Please purchase your tickets through the theatre and then email Geneviève at GenevieveS@gablesucc.org to let her know you are attending the festivities at Pastor Laurie's.

MIAMI RIVIERA
CORAL GABLES
VOL. 1. NO. 44 PROGRESS EDITION, MIAMI RIVIERA, NOVEMBER 12, 1926. SECTION THREE

# STEP INTO HISTORY WITH GRANDPA FINK

SUNDAY, MAY 4, AT 2 P.M. AT THE CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

As part of the city's centennial offerings, the Coral Gables Merrick House brings you an engaging afternoon of city-founder stories told from a unique perspective.

Actor/Historian Robert Dawson will share tales of George Merrick as told by his maternal grandfather Henry George Greatrake Fink, a circuit-riding "saddlebag" Methodist preacher who conjured his Fink's Magic Oil into a fortune. Grandpa Fink was a big fan of his first-born grandson, calling his early writings and poems "better than Wordsworth." Mr. Dawson, who has researched and created over 70 one-man presentations, brings historical figures to life – entertaining and educating along the way.

## THIS EVENT IS FREE. SCAN HERE TO RSVP!

OR VISIT WWW.GABLESFOUNDATION.ORG/EVENTS/

**SERVE A MEAL FOR THE HOMELESS**
**Sunday, May 11 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
**At Chapman Partnership at 1550 Noth Miami Avenue, Miami**

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 arrive at 4:00 p.m., serve at 5:00 p.m., and then help clean up. To RSVP or join the carpool, 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 before your volunteer date.

**BLACK MIAMI HISTORY TOUR**
**Saturday, May 31 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**
***The bus is full, but we are still taking names for the waiting list.***
***Sign up today and hopefully you will get a seat for this important and meaningful tour.***

This bus tour will visit historical sites in Coconut Grove, Overtown, Liberty City, and Little Haiti. It will highlight the challenges and successes of Black Miami. The tour will be led by church member Dr. Marvin Dunn, author of Black Miami in the Twentieth Century. There will be three stops where we will get off the bus; short walks will be required. Families are encouraged to attend. Please register at https://gablesucc.org/tour. It's free but we request that you attend once you sign up. If you are unable to be with us, please let us know as there is a waiting list.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**
**June 10 – 14 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**
**For children entering PreK-4 through entering 6th grade in August 2025.**
**$80.00 per camper ~ Register at gablesucc.org/vbc2025**

Join us in a fun-filled adventure on the open road, taking all the Travelers (a.k.a. Campers) on thrilling journeys to exciting destinations. Embark on an exciting journey with Gables UCC for our 2025 Vacation Bible Camp: Road Trip! We will spend all week learning about God through music, storytelling, crafts, science experiments, and more fun activities! Get ready for twists, turns, and excitement as we face new challenges and find strength in God's presence on this unforgettable trip! For more information, contact Pastor Megan at MeganS@gablesucc.org.

**WORSHIP WITH US**
***One Church ~ Three Congregations:***

**9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. -** We gather to be engaged in meaningful worship, which feeds our spiritual hunger. It is said that each week is a bit different; there is always something that calls us to our authentic selves. Join us online at 11:00 a.m. at gablesucc.org/live.

**10:00 a.m. Spanish-Language Worship -** Spanish language worship is available each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Under the leadership of Pastora Mairolet Vega, the congregation is a warm, supportive, and caring community of those who enjoy worshipping in Spanish.

**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 contact germanministry@gablesucc.org.

## MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST
**Sunday, May 11 from 8:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m.**

Bring your favorite mother, grandmother, sister, girlfriend, aunt, wife, daughter and join us for a special Mother's Day breakfast to honor the special women in your life. The Gables UCC Men's Group is showing off their culinary skills with an amazing menu including: Spanish omelet's, assorted pastries, bacon, sausage, fruit salad, granola, yogurt, juices and coffee. AND, they are promising cake! Who doesn't like cake for breakfast? A freewill donation will be gratefully received. And then take your favorite gal to worship. What a lovely way to celebrate all our special, wonderful women.

Be sure to purchase your beautiful Mother's Day orchids during the breakfast to help support our young people on their mission trip to Kansas City, Missouri this summer to attend the General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

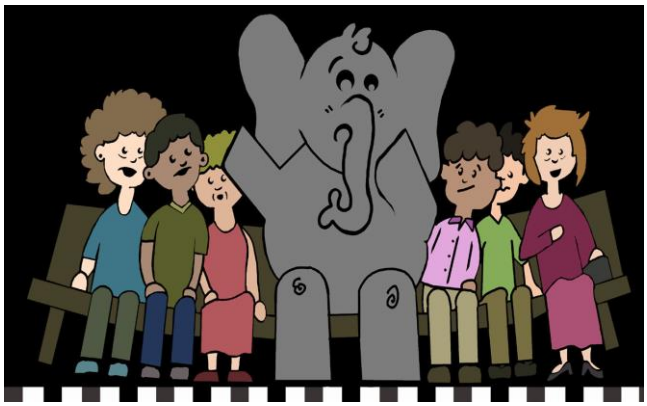
## EXPATS AND VURCHERS GATHERING
**Sunday, May 11 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom**

***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.

## COMMUNITY ARTS PROGRAM FREE MOTHER'S DAY FAMILY CONCERT
**Sunday, May 11 at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Enjoy a FREE Mother's Day Family Concert at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 11 in our sanctuary. Our Community Arts Program (CAP) Conservatory *Creative Strings III* and CAP *Miami Jazz Institute Jazz Ensemble PLUS* with its teaching artists and students present a yearly, favorite performance of original compositions, jazz, sweet band, and contemporary favorites! Celebrate a family day with your family and friends! It's an afternoon of fine, fun listening! No tickets or reservations needed! Learn more about CAP at CommunityArtsProgram.org.

## THE ELEPHANT RETURNS THIS SUMMER



Has there ever been something you wanted to know about your faith, but were afraid to ask? Well, this is your chance to ask tough questions about the Bible, church, ethics, or life and get an honest and personal answer back from Pastor Laurie. Maybe it's a topic or issue that we tend to sweep under the rug or ignore in order to keep the peace, avoid disagreement, or maybe not have to change… kind of like that proverbial elephant in the room or, in this case, in the pew.

Email, text, or call Pastor Laurie, or go to the Gables UCC Facebook page and leave your question. She just might preach on it! Then join us after worship on these special summer Sundays for the Sermon Feedback Café.

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

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All Members of the Church

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The Rev. Megan Smith, Associate Pastor — MeganS@gablesucc.org ext. 119

**Program Staff**
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Mark Hart, Exec. Dir. of the Community Arts Program — MarkH@gablesucc.org ext. 120
The Rev. Mairolet Vega, Spanish Language Worship — Mairoletvega@gmail.com
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

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Geneviève Savain, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor — GenevieveS@gablesucc.org ext.153
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**Maintenance and Custodial Team**
Rene Dominguez (Lead Custodian)
Carlos Barrios, Eddie Oviedo, and Hortensia Piloto Lopez

# WE ARE OUT OF THE BOX PEOPLE

Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ
3010 De Soto Boulevard, Coral Gables, Florida 33134-6317
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# The Gospel According to

# Taylor Swift

## Sunday, April 27

**11:00 a.m. Worship**
**Sanctuary and Online**

Calling all Swifties! We heard the requests of our young people and invite you to a morning of music featuring the songs of Taylor Swift, pop's woman of the moment, who has just come off a billion-dollar world tour, was named TIME magazine's Person of the Year in 2023, and even increased viewership for the NFL this past season.

Get out the friendship bracelets and your finest glitter clothes and join us for Sunday worship filled with music by this extraordinary storyteller whose honest lyrics provide powerful sermons about loving, losing, grieving, changing, and growing up.

Our very own Grammy award winner, producer, composer, and performer Clay Ostwald of the Miami Sound Machine, will be our special music director for this service.