LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
No matter their mental health challenge.
No matter their immigration status.
No matter their sexual orientation.
No matter their economic status.
No matter their gender identity.
No matter their disability.
No matter their religion.
No matter their race.
Love your neighbor. No exceptions.

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 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.

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

WORSHIP WITH US EACH WEEK
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.

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

October 25, 2026 *Our faith is over 2000 years old;* **11:00 a.m.**
Our thinking is not.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Justice is what love looks like in public.

~ Cornel West

GATHERING MUSIC

Dr. Greg Taylor, Parish Musician

PRELUDE

Prelude on Ellacombe Michael Helman
Adult Handbell Choir

WELCOME The Rev. Megan Smith

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.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Order My Steps* arr. Jack Schrader
Chancel Choir with Charmyn Kirton, soloist; Jon Dadurka, bass;
Rob Shank, guitar; Greg Taylor, piano; Seth Woods, percussion

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather as people Christ has summoned to ponder an ancient question: "Which commandment is the greatest?"
All: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.
One: And the second is like it:
All: Love your neighbor as yourself.
One: Not some neighbors. Not convenient neighbors. Not neighbors who look like us, or love like us, or pray like us.
All: All our neighbors. Every single one. No exceptions.
One: Come, let us worship the God whose love knows no borders,
All: and let our worship become justice, our prayers become action, and our love be shown in Christ and Christ in us!

***HYMN** *The Summons* John Bell (Iona Community)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my Name be known?
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoner free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen?
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Choir: Will you love the 'You' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show,
thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me?

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: In a world that draws lines, Christ draws a circle. In a season that divides, Christ makes us one. The peace of Christ be with us all.

Many: And also with you.

If you are in the sanctuary, offer a wave, hug, handshake, smile, or nod to others.
If you are worshipping individually, know the peace of Christ is with you.

At this time, all children and youth through 12th 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 Education Wing.

***SUNG INTERLUDE** *Halle, Halle, Halleluja!*

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

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON *Matthew 22:34-46*

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

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

THE GIFT OF MUSIC *Take My Life* Sondra Tucker
Adult Handbell Choir

THE MORNING MESSAGE

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

CHORAL RESPONSE *Make Them Hear You* arr. Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir with Mark Hart, soloist; JC Oviedo, Janet Copeland, violins;
Melissa Lesniack, viola; Tadao Hermida Ito, cello; Katie Martinez, flute;
Zih Syuan Hsiang, clarinet; Sara Luciani, oboe; Seth Patterson, horn;
Greg Taylor, piano; Jon Dadurka, bass; Seth Woods, percussion

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 our morning prayers and on our church prayer list which is prayed over by the Called to Care Team during the week.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray in the language and 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 the power, and glory, forever. Amen.

INSTRUMENTAL PRAYER RESPONSE

Amazing Grace arr. Don Hart

JC Oviedo, Janet Copeland, violins; Melissa Lesniack, viola;
Tadao Hermida Ito, cello; Katie Martinez, flute; Greg Taylor, piano

INVITATION TO GIVE, SERVE, AND BELONG

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.
Offering plates are available at the doors for your gifts as well.

Thank you for your generosity and support of the work and ministry of Gables UCC.

***THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***THE BENEDICTION**

One: Go now to love God with everything you've got, and to love your neighbor without exception. Let them hear you, let your love go public, and let the world know whose you are.

ALL: Amen.

***THE SUNG BENEDICTION** *Alleluia*

As we end our service, you are invited to join hands with your neighbor as an expression of our unity in Christ and lift them up in glory to God on the second verse.

***POSTLUDE** *Etude in C Sharp Minor, Op. 10, No. 4* Frederic Chopin

Dr. Greg Taylor, piano

Following the service, we invite you to come to the piano to enjoy the postlude. Please 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!***

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.

TODAY:
CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR INFORMATION SESSION
An All-Church Civil Rights Pilgrimage through Georgia and Alabama
Sunday, March 21 – Friday, March 26

Gables UCC is planning a Civil Rights Tour this Spring to gain a deeper understanding of the historic and continued struggle for racial equality in the United States. It is during Holy Week, which in itself is meaningful as we stand in places where ordinary people of faith carried their own crosses for the sake of God's beloved community. We will arrive home in time to proclaim Easter together, having seen with our own eyes that death does not have the last word.

The week is also spring break for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and we very much hope families will join us. This is a journey meant for every generation, from children to seniors, and it will be richer for having all of us along.

We will visit the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, hear the moving story of Rosa Parks and the Montgomery bus boycott, walk across the Selma Bridge, pay homage at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, and so much more.

Want to learn more? Join us for an information session TODAY, following 11:00 a.m. worship, in Havighorst Lounge and on Zoom.

FLORIDA PRISON EDUCATION PROJECT BOOK DRIVE

Led by one of our youth, Isabella Marlin, this morning she is collecting book donations to support the Florida Prison Education Project, an organization that provides higher education opportunities to incarcerated individuals. Please consider donating books to support this meaningful initiative. Drop off will be in Fellowship Hall.

HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY FUNDAY

TODAY: Sunday, October 25 from 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

On the third Sunday of the month, following 11:00 a.m. morning worship, all High School Youth are invited to share in a Sunday Funday as we venture out to discover places of interest or fun. Students will have lunch with Rev. Melanie at the church and then head out. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Melanie at MelanieM@gablesucc.org.

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.

MIDDAY STUDY: WOMEN'S MIDRASH

Tuesday, October 27 at 12:00 p.m. on Zoom

We use the book *Womanist Midrash: A Reintroduction to the Women of Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings* by our 2025 Visiting Scholar, Rev. Wil Gafney, PhD. Gafney uses her own translations and offers midrashic interpretations of the biblical text rooted in the African American preaching and rabbinic traditions to tell the stories of a variety of female characters, many of whom are often overlooked and nameless. Contact Pastor Megan at MeganS@gablesucc.org for the Zoom link.

WALKING GROUP

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. – Meet Outside Fair Trade

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. Bring a flashlight.

NEXT SUNDAY: ALL SAINTS

Sunday, November 1 at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

On this day, we will commemorate All Saints' Day by remembering those loved ones we have lost since November 2025. As part of our recognition, candles will be lit for those who have passed away over the past 12 months. If you would like to remember a loved one, please contact Pastor Laurie at 305.448.7421, ext. 116 or LaurieH@gablesucc.org.

NEXT SUNDAY: ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Firm Foundation: Living Stones:
Honoring Our Past, Celebrating Our Present, Building God's Future
Sundays, November 1-15 at 9:45 a.m. in Havighorst Lounge and Zoom
A Warm Breakfast Will Be Served

Week One: Honoring Our Past

In this session, we will honor the faithful people whose generosity, service, and witness have laid a firm foundation for our congregation. We will also consider how each of us can create a living legacy that reflects our faith and values. Together, we will explore opportunities to support the church's future through a gift to the Legacy Fund (our endowment fund) and discuss thoughtful estate planning. We will also consider how planning our own funeral or memorial service can offer a meaningful testimony of faith and provide a loving gift of clarity and care to our families.

Week Two: Celebrating our Present

In this session, we will celebrate the ways God is at work in and through our congregation today. We will reflect on the gifts, ministries, relationships, and opportunities that shape our life together, recognizing that each person is a "living stone" in the spiritual community God is building. Together, we will give thanks for our present ministry, consider the challenges and possibilities before us, and explore how God is calling us to participate faithfully in the life of the church today.

Week Three: Building God's Future

What kind of church is God calling us to become? In this session, we will look toward the future with faith, hope, and imagination. Building on the foundation laid by those who came before us and drawing on the gifts God has given us today, we will explore how our congregation can continue sharing the gospel, serving our neighbors, nurturing disciples, and welcoming future generations.

IMPROV WORKSHOP

Sunday, November 1 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A

Come join the fun! Led by church member Jeff McNabb, co-founder and artistic director of the Parliament Room, a downtown Miami improv group, this gathering offers a welcoming space to laugh, connect, and explore the joy of improvisational comedy. No experience is necessary, just bring your creativity and a willingness to play! All are welcome.

PRE-ELECTION PRAYER SERVICE

Monday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and Online

For many, this election season has been a time of fear, anxiety, hurt, and anger. Join us on the eve of the mid-term elections for a contemplative service of healing and peace. May we be reminded that God alone is our strength and our hope.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT FOR PRE-K – 5TH GRADE

Friday, November 6 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. in the Sunday School Wing

Parents, 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 out for a night on your own! While you are enjoying yourself, your child will be having a social evening at church, playing with old and new friends, making crafts, watching a movie, and enjoying some fellowship time with Pastor Megan and members of the childcare staff. Pick up is at 9:30 p.m. Cost is $10.00 per child.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Friday, November 6 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. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Melanie at MelanieM@gablesucc.org.

SACRED RHYTHMS

Friday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel

Sacred Rhythms is a reference to the rhythms we hold within ourselves: breath, heart, soul, motion…it is a way to become more conscious of God within you and fully embody that presence in our world. All ages and mobility levels are welcome. Dress in clothes you can move or be perfectly still in. Led by church member Irene Martinez, OTR/L.

JUST BETWEEN US

Saturday, November 7 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, please contact Rev. Melanie at MelanieM@gablesucc.org.

FOOD FOR THE SOUL

Sunday, November 8 at 12:15 p.m. in Havighorst Lounge

The MAGIC group (Mideast Action Group Interfaith Collaboration) will present a Food for the Soul program on antisemitism. The presenter will be Donna Nevel, community psychologist and educator and co-director of PARCEO, a research and education center. Donna will share with us her workshop on Challenging Antisemitism from a Framework of Collective Liberation. This presentation will be devoted to understanding and challenging antisemitism from the perspective of a deep commitment to justice and dignity for all people. Topics will include: an understanding of what antisemitism is, with a historical framework; antisemitism in the US; what antisemitism isn't and why that matters; and how to challenge antisemitism alongside other injustices from a lens of collective liberation. Lunch will be provided.

GERMAN LANGUAGE MINISTRY

BIBLE AND BEER
With Theologian in Residence, Rev. Brandan Robertson
Wednesday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Pastor Laurie's Home

The Gables UCC family is invited once again for a relaxed evening of conversation, community, and thoughtful engagement with scripture led by the Rev. Brandan Robertson, our Theologian in Residence. Over a beer, soft drink, or coffee, we'll look at a few biblical passages that are often misunderstood or taken out of context, especially in our public and political conversations. Together, we'll explore what these texts were actually saying in their own time—and what more careful, life-giving readings might offer us today. No Bible expertise required, just curiosity and a willingness to think together.

THE "GIVE MIAMI" 5K: JOIN OUR TEAM

Support Gables UCC on **Sunday, November 15** at Maurice A Ferré Park by participating in the Give Miami 5K and Festival. To register to run, walk, skip, or dance your way through the Give Miami 5K, please be in touch with Elena at ElenaK@gablesucc.org for the link. 100% of proceeds from your race registration fee goes toward Gables UCC! Please share with your family and friends.

ALL-CHURCH BOOK CLUB
The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters by Priya Parker
Wednesday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Pastor Laurie's Home
Led by Liz Stack

We invite the whole church family to join in reading and discussing this book by author and facilitator Priya Parker, rich with wisdom for how we come together and how we stay together, as a congregation, as families, as a community, and in our daily lives.

In *The Art of Gathering*. Parker explores why we gather and how to make our time together truly meaningful. For a church family, it's a beautiful reminder that every gathering be it worship, a meal, family reunion, friends getting together, can be intentional, welcoming, and transformative

Thank you for your generosity, which helps us seek justice, care for one another, and serve our community and wider world. Together, we put our faith into action.

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.

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.

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

We are collecting non-perishable food for our food pantry. We rely on our church members, family, and friends to provide the needed donations for the many Miamians suffering with food insecurity. We have created an Amazon wish list to make donating even easier! You can shop online at gablesucc.org/pantry. If you prefer to shop in-person, please drop off donations at the church reception. Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need!

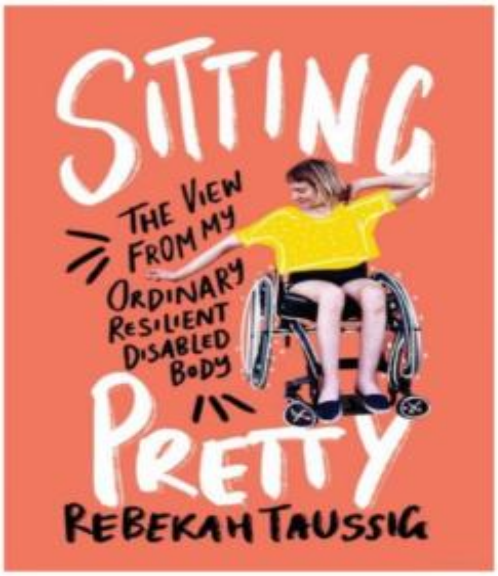
INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW

How do I become a member of the church?

If you don't want to check your mind at the church door...
If you know that God's love embraces all people, no matter who they are…
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 raise your children…
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, we cordially invite you to attend our Inquirer's Gathering on **Sunday, November 8 at 12:15 p.m. in the Library.** You will learn more about the church, what we value and believe, our history, and our denomination, the United Church of Christ. Who should attend an Inquirer's Gathering? The short answer—you! If you love coming to the church and you are not a member, please join us! For more information, please be in touch with Pastor Laurie.

JOIN US THIS FRIDAY FOR A VERY SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF:



CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

3010 De Soto Blvd, Coral Gables, FL 33134

October 30th, 6:00 pm

Admission: $15 General $10 Seniors. Vets, Students

(Proceeds to benefit Coral Gables Congregational Church outreach programs)

Life glimpsed through the lens of a wheelchair user. *"Sitting Pretty"* presents a unique seriocomedy as only Rebekah Taussig can deliver. Drawn from her acclaimed memoir *"Sitting Pretty"* and performed by a trio of spirited actors *"Sitting Pretty"* explores Taussig's daunting task of teaching Disabilities Studies to a class of impossibly disengaged students. The result? Equal parts comedy and pathos.

Featuring Justine Chichester, Shawn Buller and Laquantis Morton The Next Chapter: *"Sitting Pretty"* promises a theatre experience not to be missed!

For tickets and information go to www.whatifworks.com or use the QR Code

A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAURIE

I could not be prouder to announce that Gables UCC has received **$400,000** from the National Fund for Sacred Places, a program of Partners for Sacred Places in collaboration with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The funding will help us replace the Fellowship Hall roof, repair and protect our historic windows, and allow us to pull this all together with stucco repair, water damage repair, and paint to take our beautiful building into its second century.

There were 466 applications from places of worship across the country, and 30 were selected for funding this year, including our beloved church.

This is a matching grant. Gables UCC will need to raise $400,000 over the next two years to match the NFSP grant. We are ready to do that! You can make a gift now by participating at the Give Miami Day 5K on November 15 (information on page 11 of this bulletin), or by giving to the church on Give Miami Day, November 19 on the Give Miami Day website. Help us make the most of this very generous grant from the National Fund for Sacred Places!

To learn more about this program and this year's grant recipients, visit fundforsacredplaces.org. You may see some beautiful photos of Gables UCC that were included in our proposal.

My heart is overflowing with gratitude and joy,
Pastor Laurie

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

Ministers
All Members of the Church

Ministry Team
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. Lisa LeSueur, Assistant Pastor for Congregational and Staff Care — LisaL@gablesucc.org ext. 150
The Rev. Melanie Marsh, Assistant Pastor for Emerging Generations — MelanieM@gablesucc.org
The Rev. Brandan Robertson, Theologian in Residence — br@brandanrobertson.com
The Rev. Mairolet Vega, Spanish Language Worship — Mairoletvega@gmail.com

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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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Maintenance and Custodial Team
Rene Dominguez (Lead Custodian)
Jesus Balladares, Eddie Oviedo, and Hortensia Piloto Lopez

Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ
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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.

A JEWISH, CHRISTIAN & MUSLIM SCRIPTURAL REASONING EVENT

From Strangers to Neighbors

Hospitality, kindness, and discovering our shared humanity

What do our sacred scriptures teach us about welcoming strangers, loving our neighbors, and building a community where everyone belongs?

HEBREW BIBLE (OLD TESTAMENT)

Leviticus 19:33–34

"When a stranger dwells with you in your land, you shall not oppress them. The stranger who dwells with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love them as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

SPEAKER

Rabbi Andy Susman
Hearts, Minds & Music

NEW TESTAMENT

Hebrews 13:1–2

"Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

SPEAKER

Pastor Laurie Hafner
Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ

QUR'AN

Surah An-Nisa (4:36)

"Worship Allah and associate nothing with Him, and to parents do good, and to relatives, orphans, the needy, the near neighbor, the neighbor farther away, the companion at your side, the traveler, and those whom your right hands possess. Indeed, Allah does not like those who are self-deluding and boastful."

SPEAKER

Vagif Kazimli
The Atlantic Institute

This Sunday
October 25, 2026
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ
3010 De Soto Blvd,
Coral Gables, FL 33134

- Explore shared sacred teachings
- Engage in meaningful conversation
- Build understanding across faiths
- Be inspired to create a more welcoming community

ALL ARE WELCOME