

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
NEWS & EVENTS
MARCH 2020

Laura James

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

Life of the Community

LIVING LENT TOGETHER: A DAY APART

Mar 21st | 10:00 am | 411 MLK

Lent offers a beautiful opportunity to discover the mystery of Christ within us. It is a gentle but also demanding time. It is a time of solitude but also community, it is a time of listening to the voice within, but also a time of paying attention to other people's needs. It is a time to continuously make the passage to new inner life as well as to life with those around us. Join Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper and Rev. Bruce Lamb for a time set apart during Lent to:

Pray - Reflect - Fellowship as we journey together towards the cross

Lunch will be provided. Space is limited to 50 people. This is an intergenerational retreat open to all Riversiders from young adults to older adults - all are welcome. Sponsored by the Riverside Parish Care and Faith Formation Ministries. Register at trcnyc.org/LivingLentTogether



HOLY WEEK AT RIVERSIDE:

Wed, Apr 8th | Foot-washing offered | 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Christ Chapel

Thur, Apr 9th | Maundy Thursday Service | 7:30 p.m. | Nave

Fri, Apr 10th | Good Friday Service | 12:00 p.m. | Nave

Fri, Apr 10th | Jesus In Harlem | 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Meet in Christ Chapel

Sat, Apr 11th | Holy Saturday Labyrinth Walk | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. | South Hall

Sun, Apr 12th | Easter Sunday Services | 8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. | Nave

Lay Leadership Election

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL TO SERVE: RUNNING FOR ELECTED LAY LEADERSHIP - DEADLINE IS MARCH 8TH

Interested in running for elected lay leadership at The Riverside Church for 2020-21? The heart and soul of the Church are program activities created and evaluated by four program commissions (Education, Membership Care and Parish Life, Mission and Social Justice, and Worship). There are also three important elected committees you can serve on (Church Council, Budget & Planning, and the Nominating Committee). Service on these committees and commissions is the place to begin your journey as a lay leader.

Please submit your interest to the Nominating Committee by March 8 by completing the 2020 Elected Lay Leadership Interest Survey at trcnyc.org/layleadership, or learn more by visiting the Nominating Committee table in Coffee Hour after worship. You can also contact the Nominating Committee directly by emailing nomcom@trcnyc.org.



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Parish Care offers pastoral support to the congregation and community, including our social services programs, Tower League programs and events, weddings, funerals, and more.

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Live Justice Now is an ongoing initiative of Riverside's Mission & Social Justice ministries as we take action in response to the great need for truth, justice, and compassion in our world.

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Christian stewardship is not just about how we use our money, it's about how we live our lives in communion with God and each other. Using learning tools like worship, education, and dialogue, Stewardship and Development supports and shapes people of faith as they strive to show generosity in every aspect of their lives and better understand the connection between faith and giving.

Music at Riverside: Page 9

For over 85 years the music program has drawn people from around the world to The Riverside Church. From our five choirs, to our carillon and four organs, to our renowned musicians, guests are certain to hear music that enlivens and nourishes the soul. Visit trcnyc.org/music to find out more.

Whoever You Are: Pages 10-11

Education Ministry & Faith Formation: Pages 12-16

The Riverside Church exists to nourish and grow the faith of everyone who comes to us seeking to know God. The programs of our Faith Formation ministry will help you explore your faith, ask challenging questions about life, and grow closer to God and one another.

Digital Ministry: Page 17

We all encounter God in different ways. In an increasingly digital world, that includes videos, podcasts, and online media. Engage the Riverside community wherever you are through our original digital content.

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Visit The Riverside Church gift shop or online store to purchase your t-shirt and mug, empowering you to literally wear your inclusive theology on your head (or, shoulder) and share it with every sip of coffee.

Worship at Riverside

Worship of God is at the center of our life at The Riverside Church and our services reflect the diversity of who we are as the body of Christ. All are welcome as we seek to create a beloved community, nourish faith, and transform our world.

Carrie Quarqueso | Coordinator for Worship & Arts | cquarqueso@trcnyc.org

MORNING LIGHT

Sundays | 8:30 am | Christ Chapel
Our intimate early Sunday morning service incorporating meditation, scripture reading, and communion.
Mar 1st: Hsien-yu Wang
Mar 8th: Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper
Mar 15th: Min. Derrick Jordan
Mar 22nd: Rev. Bruce Lamb
Mar 29th: Rev. Kevin VanHook

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Sundays | 10:45 am | Nave
Our traditional Sunday service, held in the historic and beautiful Nave, follows the lectionary and liturgical calendar and is centered around scripture, preaching, music, and prayer. Communion is typically celebrated on the first Sunday of each month.
Mar 1st: Rev. Kevin VanHook
Mar 8th: Diana Butler Bass
Mar 15th: Rev. Michael Livingston
Mar 22nd: Dr. Raquel Lettsome
Mar 29th: Dr. Cleo Larue

SPACE FOR GRACE

Wednesdays | 7:00 pm | Assembly Hall
Our Wednesday evening service is a celebratory Praise & Worship service featuring preaching, prayer, and gospel-inspired music to revive the spirit and help you through the week.
Mar 4th: Rev. Bruce Lamb
Mar 11th: Farley Lord
Mar 18th: Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper
Mar 25th: Dr. Colleen Birchett

VOLUNTEER WITH THE FLOWER MINISTRY!

Do you have a green thumb? An eye for color? Volunteer with Riverside's Flower Ministry! We are seeking volunteers with a heart to serve in any and all capacities of the ministry's work, from floral arrangement, to administration, to routine care for our live plants. Volunteers of all experience levels welcomed, and training opportunities are pending. For more information, contact Carrie Quarqueso at CQuarqueso@trcnyc.org or at extension 6832.

RIVERSIDE ARTS CAMP 2020 - TEACHERS NEEDED AUG 17TH - 24TH

The Worship and Education ministries are looking for energetic volunteer teachers to lead 5th-12th grade arts classes at our one-week intensive Riverside Arts Camp this Summer! Seeking teachers for Music, Dance, Visual Art, Drama, and Creative Writing classes. For more info please email cquarqueso@trcnyc.org.

SAVE THE DATE

A PROPHECY RECLAIMED: KING'S VOICE RETURNS TO RIVERSIDE

Dr. King's "Beyond Vietnam" spoke truth to power against war and economic inequality in words that ring prophetic today.

Sun, Apr 5th | 3:00 pm | Doors at 2:00 pm | Nave

On April 4, 1967, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered the unprecedented *Beyond Vietnam* speech at The Riverside Church, calling out America's war on Vietnam and arguing for profound moral change at home. He was assassinated exactly one year later. At the time of the speech, Dr. King was widely criticized but his claim that "a nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death" proved prophetic in a modern-day America still struggling with racism, inequality, and never-ending war.

Dr. King's powerful words will return to Riverside's Nave through a newly-discovered pristine recording previously unknown to historians. Leading intellectuals of our time will offer their thoughts on *Beyond Vietnam*'s meaning today:

Dr. Clayborne Carson

Martin Luther King, Jr. Centennial Professor of History and Ronnie Lott Founding Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute, Stanford University

Prof. Susannah Heschel

Chair of Jewish Studies Program and Eli Black Professor of Jewish Studies, Dartmouth College

Dr. Cornel West

Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy, Harvard University, and Professor Emeritus, Princeton University

Beyond Vietnam, along with five other audio recordings featuring Dr. King delivering sermons from The Riverside Church pulpit, were digitized as part of a larger joint project between The Riverside Church and the American Archive of Public Broadcasting.

Parish Care

Parish Care offers pastoral support to the congregation and community, including our social services programs, Tower League programs and events, weddings, funerals, and more.

Rev. Debra Northern | Minister of Parish Care | dnorthern@trcnyc.org

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper | Minister of Older Adults | lharper@trcnyc.org

TOWER LEAGUE LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: JESUS' FINAL WEEK

Thursdays | Noon | 9T Library

Join the Tower League for a weekly Bible study filled with wisdom and wit. This week features a special contemplative 5-week Bible study, focused on opening our hearts to learn from Jesus's final days, led by Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper & Dr. Hsien-yu Wang. Please note there is no Bible Study on March 26 and the series wraps up on April 2.

TAI CHI CLASS

Every Monday | 3:00 pm | Childcare Room

Sheila Mason, Instructor

FILM VIEWING & DISCUSSION: "BEATRICE WOOD REMEMBERS: DADA, DUCHAMP, LOVE & TANGO"

Mar 9th | 2:00 pm | 9T

We'll screen a documentary featuring 94-year-old Beatrice Wood, the groundbreaking Avant Gard artist. Filmmaker Steve Watson will be present for Q & A. Light refreshments will be served. Hosted by Riverside & Lifeforce in Later Years (LiLY). Please let Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper if you plan to attend.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S GROUP MONTHLY PLANNING MEETING

Mar 1st | 1:00 pm | 411 MLK

B&P'S WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH TROLLEY TOUR AT THE WOODLAWN CEMETARY CONSERVANCY

Mar 29th

Take a ride back in time and celebrate the lives of many of our women notables who helped shape our culture. For more information and to sign up, please contact B&P President Linda Lewis at 212.283.3456.

TOWER LEAGUE WEEKLY PROGRAMS:

Mar 5th:

Program @ 2:00 pm: Women's History Film Viewing & Discussion | 9T

Althea, a 90-minute documentary on Althea Gibson, the first African American to play and win at Wimbledon and the U.S. Nationals (precursor of the U.S. Open) — a decade before Arthur Ashe. The film reveals the highs and lows of this remarkable athlete whose life and achievements transcend sports and have entered the annals of history. Discussion to follow.

Mar 12th:

Program @ 2:00 pm: 2020 Census & Older Adults | 9T
Representatives from LiveOn NY, a nonprofit advocacy group helping New Yorkers age with confidence, grace and vitality, will share about the 2020 Census and its importance for and impact on Older Adults—and answer any census questions the group may have.

Mar 19th:

Program @ 2:00 pm: MoMA Presentation | 9T
Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) educator, Gabriela O'Leary, will offer a program on the newly renovated museum.

Mar 26th:

Program @ 2:00 pm: MoMA Trip
The Tower League will take a 90-minute guided tour of the newly-renovated MoMA. Lunch provided. Cost is \$20 per person (scholarships are available). Space is limited. For more information and to sign-up by March 19, please contact Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper at lharper@trcnyc.org or 212.870.6753.



Life of the Community

Mission and Social Justice

"You can pray until you faint, but unless you get up and try to do something, God is not going to put it in your lap."
—Fannie Lou Hamer

Live Justice Now is an ongoing initiative of Riverside's Mission & Social Justice ministries as we take action in response to the great need for truth, justice, and compassion in our world. Many of our opportunities to take action arise in real time with short notice and are not listed here. To sign up for our mailing list, please visit our table at Coffee Hour or email Kevin VanHook at kvanhook@trcnyc.org.

Rev. Kevin VanHook | Minister of Justice, Advocacy, & Change | kvanhook@trcnyc.org
Charity Radway | Administrative Assistant for Justice, Advocacy, & Change | cradway@trcnyc.org



ZERO WASTE AT TRC: FIRST SUNDAYS ON CLIMATE

In response to the worsening climate crisis, the Beloved Earth Community will present a one-hour program for the whole congregation the first Sunday of every month combining worship, education, and action! Want to know more/get involved? Contact Alan Bentz-Letts at alanbentzletts@gmail.com or Regina Tate at mariposa21355@yahoo.com.

GROW NYC GUEST SPEAKER: MICHAEL RIESER

Mar 1st | 1:00 pm | 9T
Why is the church composting food waste? What goes into the brown bins? How are composting & recycling connected? Why is it important? The first 30 people get a free reusable Department of Sanitation grocery bag. The plastic bag ban begins March 1!



SOJOURNERS CONCERT

Mar 8th | 7:00 pm | Christ Chapel
Members of the Riverside Symphony will perform a special concert as a fundraiser for the Sojourner's program and our church's work with asylees and refugees. Our Sojourners Ministry works tirelessly to break the isolation and befriend an asylum-seeker by visiting immigrant detainees at Elizabeth Detention Center each month. There will be a collection of \$15 at the door with proceeds supporting this ministry.

BOYCOTT WENDY'S "FOLLOW THE MONEY" MARCH

Mar 12th | 4:00 pm | Union Square Park
Wendy's is the only major fast-food corporation to refuse to partner with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to end gender-based violence and modern-day slavery in their supply chain. NYC plays a pivotal role in this campaign because the Board Chairman and majority owner of Wendy's is based here. Farmworkers with the CIW, their children, and thousands of consumers are taking the fight for Fair Food directly to the Wall Street power players behind Wendy's with a three-day "Follow the Money" march from March 10-12, culminating with a 3-mile grand finale on March 12 where Riversiders will march. Register at bit.ly/followthemoney.

Riverside housed CIW farmworkers during their 2018 Freedom Fast, a major action that saw 2,000+ New Yorkers march alongside 100+ CIW farmworkers and their families to demand an end to gender-based violence in the fields. Riverside also hosted farmworkers this past November and joined a 500+ march to continue to call on Wendy's to ensure human rights protections for the farmworkers.

WORLD CONFERENCE 2020 PREPARATION

Mar 8th | 1:00 pm | 12T

On the eve of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Review Conference at the UN, thousands of movement leaders, activists and analysts from around the world will be gathering at Riverside with the goals of demanding all nuclear weapons be abolished, preventing and ending wars, reversing climate change, and ensuring economic and social justice in throughout the world. In preparation for the conference on April 24-26, MSJ and The Morningside Quakers invite you to this special event to learn how each of us can be involved. Get more info at worldconference2020.org.

PUERTO RICO EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY SPECIAL OFFERING, REPORT-BACK & FUTURE NEEDS

Mar 22nd | In & After Worship | Assembly Hall

Puerto Rico is still recovering from Hurricane Maria (2017), the worst recorded disaster to hit this U.S. territory. On top of the hurricane recovery challenge have come powerful earthquakes and aftershocks that began in December 2019, causing an estimated \$460 million in loss/damage and displacing nearly 4,500 people. Thousands of people have lost their houses and have nowhere to go. Riverside's two denominations, United Church of Christ and American Baptist Churches U.S.A. are both appealing for funds to support earthquake recovery. Riverside plans to take a special second offering in worship on March 22 for earthquake recovery. After worship, join the new Disaster Response Task Force in Assembly Hall for a report-back and "teach in" on the current situation in Puerto Rico.

MASS POOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY & MARCH ON WASHINGTON ON JUNE 20

The Poor People's Campaign recently announced an assembly and march in Washington D.C. on June 20. On this anniversary of the launch of the Poor People's Campaign in 1967, we all must be more urgently committed than ever to building a broad and deep national moral movement – rooted in the leadership of poor people – to unite our country from the bottom up. MSJ is committed to this movement and our church would like to organize a group to join The Poor People's Campaign in Washington, D.C. this summer.

The PPC's message: Let's fight poverty, not the poor! The Revs. Drs. Theoharis and William Barber co-chair this people's movement to address systemic racism, poverty, militarism, degradation of the environment, and the war economy. Contact msj@trcnyc.org if you're interested in participating.

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN MOBILIZATION & PREPARATION MEETING FOR JUNE 20 MARCH FEAT. REV. DR. LIZ THEOHARIS

Mar 29th | 1:00 pm | Christ Chapel

The Poor People's Campaign is organizing a Mass Assembly and Moral March in Washington, D.C. on June 20. Join PPC at Riverside for a special mobilization event to start organizing and mobilizing people for what promises to be a generationally transformative event. Guest speaker: Poor People's Campaign Co-Chair the Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis. Want to learn more/get involved? Contact aremfigue@gmail.com or msj@trcnyc.org.

HOLY DAYS FOR JUSTICE: SUPER TUESDAY

God's mission for justice is holy and, consequently, the church's commitment to justice is also holy. A critical aspect of our faith is joining the holy work of God in transforming the oppressive structures of our world. Throughout 2020, as we seek to live together in covenantal community, on critical historic dates, our Mission and Social Justice team will offer opportunities for members of our community to take bold and powerful actions towards addressing cries for justice in our world. Our next Holy Day for Justice is "Super Tuesday" and our Lift Every Voice and Vote ministry will host a training to demonstrate powerful ways we can all become civically engaged.

COUNT AND BE COUNTED: 2020 CENSUS TRAINING SESSION 2

Mar 3rd | 6:30 pm | 9T

Lift Every Voice and Vote invites you to the second Census 2020 workshop! The first session emphasized the importance of getting every NYC resident to fill out the census. An accurate count will give NYC adequate representation in Congress and the funding it needs for a variety of critical services. Our second workshop will provide training in how to knock on our neighbors' doors in areas that tended to underreport in Census 2010, which also happen to be the areas that need the services the most. We will join members of Community Voices Heard to knock on doors in March-April to encourage Census participation. You will be given a choice as to what neighborhoods you want to serve and what dates and times work best for you. If you did not attend the first session, we will give you background. A light supper will be provided. We urge you to join us as we go out of our church to serve God in the work of justice. Contact Sumati Devadutt, MSJ, at devadutt.s@gmail.com or Rueben Martinez, Education, at ruebenmartinez2@gmail.com.

NEW YORK

1. PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY – TUE, APR 28TH
 - A. IN-PERSON REGISTRATION DEADLINE – FRI, APR 3RD
 - B. MAIL REGISTRATION DEADLINE – POSTMARKED BY APR 3RD & RECEIVED BY WED, APR 8TH
2. STATE ELECTION PRIMARY – TUE, JUN 23RD
 - A. IN-PERSON REGISTRATION DEADLINE – FRI, MAY 29TH
 - B. MAIL REGISTRATION DEADLINE – POSTMARKED BY MAY 29TH & RECEIVED BY WED, JUN 3RD
3. GENERAL ELECTION – TUE, NOV 3RD
 - A. IN-PERSON REGISTRATION DEADLINE – SAT, OCT 10TH
 - B. MAIL REGISTRATION DEADLINE – POSTMARKED BY FRI, OCT 9TH & RECEIVED BY WED, OCT 14TH

NEW JERSEY

1. PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY – TUE, JUN 2ND
 - A. REGISTRATION DEADLINE – TUE, MAY 12TH
2. GENERAL ELECTION – TUE, NOV 3RD
 - A. REGISTRATION DEADLINE – TUE, OCT 13TH

PENNSYLVANIA

1. PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY – TUE, APR 28TH
 - A. REGISTRATION DEADLINE – MON, MAR 30TH
2. GENERAL ELECTION – TUE, NOV 3RD
 - A. REGISTRATION DEADLINE – MON, OCT 5TH

Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

MASS POOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY & MORAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 20, 2020

The National Mall, Washington DC



Life of the Community

MOVIES AT RIVERSIDE: "MUSTANG"

Mar 29th | 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm | Multi-Purpose Room

Join us for a screening of the 2015 internationally co-produced drama film directed by Turkish-French film director Deniz Gamze Ergüven in her feature debut, "Mustang." The film is set in a small village in northern Turkey, Lale and her four sisters are on their way home from school, innocently playing with local boys. However, prying village eyes view their games with suspicion and the girls' behaviour, and refusal to repent, quickly causes a scandal among the family.



MSJ IN THE ARTS

"Wrestling with Zionism: A Reader's Theater"

Mar 19th | 7:00 pm | Park Slope United Methodist Church, 410 Sixth Avenue @ 8th Street, Brooklyn | Free
An evening of story-telling, offering a fresh way to grapple with our relationships to Israel/Palestine. Several Riversiders are planning to attend to explore potential ways to re-examine this critical topic.

"The Visitor"

Mar 24th-May 10th | The Public Theater's Newman Theater, 425 Lafayette Street, Manhattan

"The Visitor" is a soul-stirring new musical based on the acclaimed independent film of the same name by Thomas McCarthy. The film was inspired in part by his volunteering as a visitor with Riverside's Sojourners Immigration Detention Visitation Program. Full information at <https://publictheater.org/productions/season/1920/the-visitor>.

"< (Less Than or Equal To)

Apr 24-26th | Five Angels Theater, 789 Tenth Avenue @ W. 52nd Street in Manhattan

"<" is a collection of provocative monologues about housing discrimination, fair housing history, and the fight for justice, coinciding with national Fair Housing Month. Full information at www.fairhousingjustice.org/announcements/opening-acts-february-14-2020.

Advancing Anti-Racism at The Riverside Church

Editor's note: Chiara D. Fuller, a member of the Worship Commission, is among eight Riversiders who have completed the People's Institute's 2.5-day faith community-oriented "Undoing Racism" workshop within the past year.

Racism and race issues are woven into the fabric of the United States of America. I actively look for opportunities to progress in my purpose of intentionally being an advocate for effective social justice and racial justice change.

In mid-February, The Riverside Church Antiracism Task Force supported me by introducing me to the "Undoing Racism Workshop," offered by the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond. The workshop was dynamic, contemporary and trailblazing. For two and one-half days, we stayed present while learning, unlearning and relearning U.S.-based racism. Our experienced facilitators skillfully led our group through a vulnerable awakening of ourselves as we were challenged to think beyond our conditioned socialized comfort zones.

We studied the definitions of race and racism and began to unpack 400 years of historical oppression in the United States. We explored systems of power in disenfranchised communities while examining how internalized oppression, power and privilege play a role in our own lives. My cohort left the workshop with a deeper understanding of how we can move forward with the substantial racial and social justice work that needs to be continued within ourselves and our communities. Active change starts with educating ourselves.

2020 is a crucial time for The Riverside Church community to lead. For this fundamental reason, I highly recommend learning more about how to collaborate with the Riverside Church's Undoing Racism Task Force and enrolling in the "Undoing Racism" workshop.

N.B. Next faith community-oriented "Undoing Racism" trainings most likely will be March 22-24 or 29-31, and April 19-21 or 21-23.

See www.antiracistalliance.com for more information. And for more information about anti-racism at Riverside, contact msj@trcny.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

JESUS IN HARLEM: A PILGRIMAGE OF SUFFERING & PAIN

Apr 10th | 6:00 pm | Meet at Christ Chapel

This powerful Good Friday experience will begin in Christ Chapel and will lead us around the neighborhood as we learn more about the ways our community experiences suffering and pain and what it means for Riverside to stand in solidarity with them.

APR 17-19th: "EARTH DAY 50"

Save April 17-19 for an outstanding Weekend Series of Programs on the Universe Story & Climate Change. It will change how you look at our home, the Earth!



ONGOING REGULAR MEETINGS

THE SHARING FUND OF THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Mar 2nd | 6:30 pm | 321 MLK

Did you know that 10% of your gifts to Riverside go to grassroots projects beyond our walls? That's the Sharing Fund. Want more info? Like to join the committee of volunteers who review applications for these grants? There are some openings now for folks who are committed to social justice out in the world.

MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Mar 8th | 1:00 pm | 311 MLK

Maranatha is a community of LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies who seek to foster greater understanding and equity for people of diverse sexual and gender identities. Whether you have been out for decades, love someone who is LGBTQ+, or are questioning, you are welcome to join us! The newly elected convener of Maranatha is Lisa Cooke.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Mar 8th | 9:30 am | Multi-Purpose Room

The Black Lives Matter committee will meet for discussion and fellowship, and to strategize about Homecoming and the upcoming year. For more information and to get involved in this ministry, please contact Ruby Sprott at rubysprott@gmail.com.

AFRICAN FELLOWSHIP

Mar 8th | 1:00 pm | Multipurpose Room

African Fellowship is a community of Africans and friends of Africa who gather monthly to celebrate African heritage, have spiritual fellowship. And discuss issues that impact Africans on the continent and in the diaspora. The current chair of African Fellowship is George Filie-Faboe.

COMING HOME ALUMNI MEETING

Mar 17th | 5:00 pm | 9T Library

Alumni of the Coming Home program will meet for fellowship and strategize about the program's future. For more information and to get involved please contact Michelle Mishoe at mmishoe@fordham.edu.

SOJOURNERS ICE DETENTION VISITATION

Mar 14th & 28th | 7:45 am | Pickup from Riverside

Break the isolation and befriend an asylum-seeker. Join Sojourners in visiting immigrant detainees at Elizabeth Detention Center on March 14 and 28. A carpool leaves from Riverside at 7:45 a.m and from 407 W. 43rd at 8:05 a.m. We welcome volunteers to be pen-pals, twice-monthly visitors to the detention center or contributors for phone cards and commissary purchased on behalf of detained migrants. For more information and to join our team of Sojourners, please contact Frances Connell at frances.connell@gmail.com or Craig Lemley at craigLL@yahoo.com.

MEN'S CLASS

Mar 15th | 1:00 pm | 321 MLK

The Men's Class serves the congregation, and community of Riverside through spiritual, educational, and fellowship programs that encourage a more just & equitable society.

LATINO MINISTRIES FELLOWSHIP

Mar 15th | 1:00 pm | 20T

Latino Ministries brings together Latino/as and their allies in the congregation and community for education and activism around the political, cultural, and spiritual issues facing Latino/communities. We celebrate the diversity of Latino/a culture and life through spiritual fellowship, education, and the arts. Please contact Areli Figueroa at afigueroa@trcnyc.org for more information.

ECCLESIA MINISTRY

Mar 22nd | 2:00 pm | Marcus Garvey Park

Often called "the church without walls," Ecclesia is a radically open and affirming fellowship of individuals who desire to be in community with the poor and marginalized of our society. We share in worship and lunch every month. All are welcome to visit and join us. For more information, please contact Doug Miller at mil42944@aol.com.

PRISON MINISTRY

Mar 22nd | 1:00 pm | 311 MLK

The Riverside Church Prison Ministry conducts advocacy and outreach programs on behalf of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people, their families, and their communities. One of the most compelling needs of the grossly underserved population we serve is the need to be heard, which our volunteers from a range of backgrounds address through advocating on their behalf, working for progressive policies and raising awareness about the issues many people face—issues including reintegration, recidivism, unjust parole denials, mass incarceration, social stigma, and the collateral damage of incarceration on families and communities.

THEATRE OF THE OPPRESSED

Mar 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th | 1:00 pm | 15T

This ministry uses theatre as a means of empowering participants to become actors in movements for social and political change. Originating in Brazil, this technique teaches participants about their power and agency within institutions and systems. For more information, please contact Jeremiah Drake at theatreoftheoppressedtrc@gmail.com.

BELOVED EARTH COMMUNITY

Mar 1st | 12:00 pm | 323 MLK

Beloved Earth a group of passionate climate activists who take to heart the Church's mission to care for creation. Contact Alan Bentz-Letts at alanbentzletts@gmail.com or Regina Tate at mariposa21355@yahoo.com for more information and to get involved.

**SUCCESS! BLACKROCK
DIVESTS FROM FOSSIL
FUELS AFTER PROTESTS OUR
BELOVED EARTH
COMMUNITY ATTENDED!
SCAN TO WATCH Democracy
Now! COVERAGE -->**



Stewardship & Development

Christian stewardship is not just about how we use our money, it's about how we live our lives in communion with God and each other. Using learning tools like worship, education, and dialogue Stewardship and Development supports and shapes people of faith as they strive to show generosity in every aspect of their lives and better understand the connection between faith and giving.

Kaitlin Cook | Director of Stewardship & Development | kcook@trcnyc.org

Farley Lord | Minister of Stewardship & Development | flord@trcnyc.org

Kelsey Scott | Manager of Annual Giving, Stewardship & Development | kscott@trcnyc.org

Solidad Nwakibu | Coordinator of Stewardship & Development | snwakibu@trcnyc.org

SPECIAL WAYS TO GIVE AND SERVE FOR THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY

How will you honor the 90th anniversary with your financial giving?

Legacy Giving Ministry: Give for 90 More Years

This year we're celebrating something extraordinary – the 90th Anniversary of The Riverside Church. That's 90 years of shaping history, supporting our community, and trusting that God will lead the way. To ensure 90 more years, we have a goal of adding 20 new gifts to the Legacy Giving Ministry. If you've already created a legacy gift, let us know! If you haven't yet, consider using FreeWill for your estate plans, your legacy can also be included as a part of our future. Visit www.FreeWill.com/Riverside to create a legacy.

Recurring Gifts: 90 gifts for 90 Years

To commemorate Riverside's 90th year of prophetic ministry and service to the community we are creating more opportunities for you to deepen your faith and connection to the community through your gracious gifts. That is why this year we will be launching a recurring gifts campaign! Recurring giving is an easy and convenient way to show your support for the programs and ministries you know and love. Engaging in online giving is also a way to support our sustainability efforts to reduce paper waste and offer the sustaining support we rely on year-round.

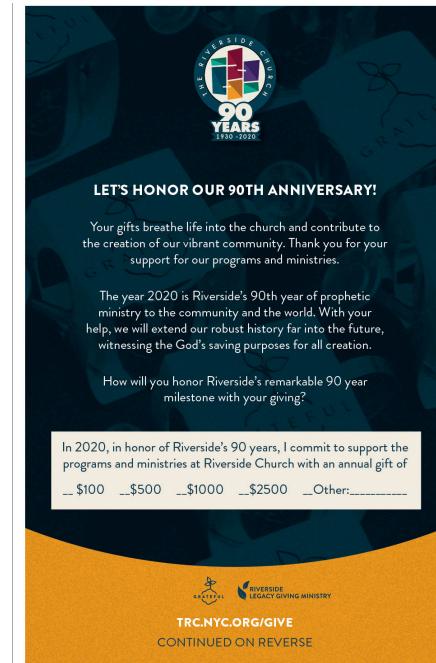
You can set up your recurring gift the next time you make an online donation by selecting "Make This a Monthly Gift". Once you have entered your payment information and schedule your recurring gift, your donation will be automatically deducted from your credit or debit card once a month according to the gift amount you've provided. Every gift contributes to the sustained growth and development of our vibrant programs and ministries. If you have questions about recurring gifts please contact Kelsey Scott at kscott@trcnyc.org. Thank you for all of your support.

Community Service Event

Looking for an opportunity to serve? Please be on the lookout for a quarterly community service event to help mark the 90th anniversary. The first one will occur in March. More details and information to come! For further questions, please reach out to Solidad Nwakibu at snwakibu@trcnyc.org

GIVING PORTAL UPDATE

Many of you have accessed your giving through the online Giving Portal. Unfortunately, our giving database does not currently support that feature of the website, and this service is unavailable for the time being. We want to make sure that you can monitor your giving easily, and we are currently in the process of finding another solution. In the meantime, if you would like a report of your gifts please feel free to contact Kelsey Scott at kscott@trcnyc.org or 212-870-6810.



Music at Riverside

For over 85 years the music program has drawn people from around the world to The Riverside Church. From our five choirs, to our carillon and four organs, to our renowned musicians, guests are certain to hear music that enlivens and nourishes the soul. Visit trcnyc.org/music to find out more.

Christopher Johnson | Director of Music & Organist | cjohnson@trcnyc.org

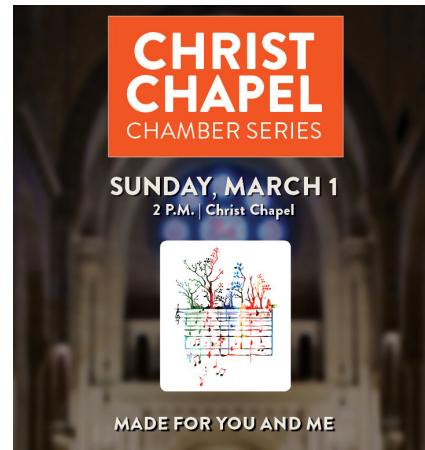
Christopher Creaghan | Associate Organist | ccreaghan@trcnyc.org

CHRIST CHAPEL CHAMBER SERIES:

MADE FOR YOU AND ME

Mar 1st | 2:00 pm | Christ Chapel

Mezzo-soprano Meghann Vaughn joins with several other members of the Riverside Choir and friends to celebrate the diversity of cultures that contributes to the richness of American life. You won't want to miss this toe-tapping concert, which features folksongs and spirituals for different combinations of voices, showcasing arrangements from multiple genres.



SAVE THE DATE: 42ND ANNUAL ENGLISH HANDBELL FESTIVAL

Nick Hanson, Washington, D.C. Guest Conductor

Apr 19th | 4:00 pm | Nave

3:00 p.m.: Carillon Recital by Charles Semowich, Carillonneur

3:30 p.m.: Organ Recital by Christopher Johnson, Organist

4:00 p.m.: Combined Choirs of the Annual English Handbell Festival

The Riverside Ringers host a weekend gathering of bell choirs from throughout the region, combining forces to perform a glorious concert on Sunday afternoon, under the leadership of special guest conductor Nick Hanson. As always, the performance will be a sight to behold and will fill the Nave with splendor!

\$20/15. Tickets available at the door.



Lay Leadership Election

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL TO SERVE: RUNNING FOR ELECTED LAY LEADERSHIP - DEADLINE IS MARCH 8TH

Interested in running for elected lay leadership at The Riverside Church for 2020-21? The heart and soul of the Church are program activities created and evaluated by four program commissions (Education, Membership Care and Parish Life, Mission and Social Justice, and Worship). There are also three important elected committees you can serve on (Church Council, Budget & Planning, and the Nominating Committee). Service on these committees and commissions is the place to begin your journey as a lay leader.

Please submit your interest to the Nominating Committee by March 8 by completing the 2020 Elected Lay Leadership Interest Survey at trcnyc.org/layleadership, or learn more by visiting the Nominating Committee table in Coffee Hour after worship. You can also contact the Nominating Committee directly by emailing nomcom@trcnyc.org.



WHOEVER YOU ARE:

You are safe here.

You are loved here.

You are invited into full participation in our life together.



March 2020



Education Ministry & Faith Formation

The Riverside Church exists to nourish and grow the faith of everyone who comes to us seeking to know God. The programs of our Faith Formation ministry will help you explore your faith, ask challenging questions about life, and grow closer to God and one another.

Rev. Bruce Lamb | Minister of Faith Formation | blamb@trcnyc.org

Amanda Meisenheimer | Minister of Children & Families | mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org

Clent Jones | Manager of Membership & Ministry Programs | cjones@trcnyc.org

Linda Cole | Youth Ministry Associate | lcole@trcnyc.org

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Class 1

Mar 1st | 9:00 am | 321 MLK

Class 2

Mar 8th | 9:00 am | 321 MLK

New Member Joining Sundays

Mar 15th | 9:00 am | Nave

New Members Breakfast + Joining Ceremony
in Worship

New Member Orientation Class - Interested in joining The

Riverside Church? Come

check out our New
Member Orientation

Class and learn what it
means to be a member of
Riverside. We are excited
to launch an expanded
in-depth Membership
Orientation Process. We
will now offer two classes
plus the joining Sunday.
Both classes are different
and contain important

information to integrate you in the life of the Riverside
community. We'll look at Riverside's theology, the history of
Riverside, how to get connected with different ministries and
more! Did you know that Riverside is a congregational church
connected to the UCC and American Baptist denominations?
To register contact Clent Paddio Jones at 212-870-6844 or
via email at cjones@trcnyc.org.

Welcome February New Members Class!



(L-R) Stephanie Williams, Joy Campbell-Priveterre,
Princess Prince, and Carl Prince

LIVING LENT TOGETHER: A DAY APART

Mar 21st | 10:00 am | 411 MLK

Lent offers a beautiful opportunity to discover the mystery of Christ within us. It is a gentle but also demanding time. It is a time of solitude but also community, it is a time of listening to the voice within, but also a time of paying attention to other people's needs. It is a time to continuously make the passage to new inner life as well as to life with those around us. Join Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper and Rev. Bruce Lamb for a time set apart during Lent to:

Pray - Reflect - Fellowship as we journey together towards the cross

Lunch will be provided. Space is limited to 50 people. This is an intergenerational retreat open to all Riversiders from young adults to older adults - all are welcome. Sponsored by the Riverside Parish Care and Faith Formation Ministries. Register at trcnyc.org/LivingLentTogether

RIVERSIDE BOOK CLUB

Mar 14th | 11:00 am | 20T

Join book lovers for a discussion on the book, "Ordinary Light: A Memoir," by Tracy K. Smith. Come join our circle of friends and book lovers. Contact Luvon Roberson at luvonroberson@yahoo.com.

RIVERSIDE SUNDAY SUPPERS

Mar 8th | 6:30 pm

Hosted by Jennifer and German Soto (and Santiago and Isabella) Riverside Sunday Suppers are an opportunity to sit across the table from people whose faces you may only recognize from the passing of the peace, share a meal, and make our church feel just a bit smaller, a little more tightly knit together.



Dinners will be offered once a month. RSVP's on a first come first serve basis. Register at trcnyc.org/sundaysuppers

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FOR THE RIVERSIDE EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH

Apr 12th | 12:00 pm | South Hall

Easter Sunday Brunch will be hosted by Riverside's Membership Ministry immediately following the Morning Worship Service.

\$20.00 General Admission

\$15.00 Senior/Students

Children under 12 y/o Free

Purchase your tickets today in the Welcome Center / Gift Shop or at www.trcnyc.org/tickets.

GOD AND GRATITUDE WITH DIANA BUTLER BASS

Mar 8th | 12:30 pm | Assembly Hall

Watch: trcnyc.org/GodandGratitude

Join the bestselling author of

"Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks," Diana Butler

Bass for a conversation on gratitude.

This FREE event sponsored by the Education Ministry is limited to 200 people and includes lunch, a lecture by Diana Butler Bass and an interactive Q&A. We know that gratitude is good, but many of us find it hard to sustain a meaningful life of gratefulness. Four

out of five Americans report feeling gratitude on a regular basis, but those private feelings seem disconnected from larger concerns of our public lives. With honest stories and heartrending examples from history and her own life, Bass reclaims gratitude as a path to greater connection with God, with others, with the world, and even with our own souls. It's time to embrace a more radical practice of gratitude—the virtue that heals us and helps us thrive.



BAPTISM AT RIVERSIDE

Next Orientation Baptism Class: Mar 29th

Baptism Sunday: Apr 19th

We love to celebrate a new life! Baptism is an outward and visible sign of God's grace and the abundant life that Christ offers. God's promise of new life extends to both children and adults. Baptism ushers us into the care of Christ's church, affirms us, regardless of age, as children of God, and celebrates our nurture and growth toward mature faith and Christian discipleship. If you desire to be baptized and you are a member of the Riverside Church, register for our next baptism orientation at trcnyc.org/baptism, or email Amanda Meisenheimer at mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org with questions.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

THE LORD'S PRAYER SERIES

Riverside Kids Worship | 10:45 am | MLK 3rd & 6th floors

Our Church School is working on a 6-part series on the Lord's Prayer. Using a curriculum created by Illustrated Ministry, our children will learn the Lord's Prayer and grow to understand it more deeply. This curriculum is an invitation to experience this prayer through art, reflection, and discussion. Through the use of inclusive language and meaningful theology, children have opportunities to explore our belonging and connectedness with each other, the world, and God.

PARENT CONNECT SMALL GROUP

Resumes Mar 15th | 9:30 am | 314 MLK

Parents of children through 12th grade are invited to join Amanda Meisenheimer for a weekly Parent's small group where we discuss faith and parenting topics. ParentConnect offers parents and guardians an opportunity to get to know each other and discuss parenting topics through a theological lens. Parent Connect is paused for the Wrestling with God series. Facilitator: Amanda Meisenheimer.

SAVE THE DATE: CYF SPRING RETREAT IS MAY 1-3

\$85 per family, scholarships available. Email blamb@trcnyc.org or mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org for more details and registration info.

RIVERSIDE EASTER EGG HUNT

Apr 5th | 10:45 am | South Hall

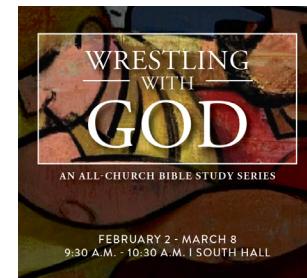
Children! Families! During worship, come celebrate Palm Sunday at The Riverside Church with the Riverside Egg Hunt. Children from preschool through sixth grade will participate in an egg hunt and Easter crafting activities.

WRESTLING WITH GOD: ALL-CHURCH BIBLE STUDY

Sundays through Mar 8th | 9:30 am | South Hall

Please join us this Sunday for the Wrestling With God series.

Scripture offers unique practical and spiritual guidance that can help Riverside navigate through its current transition. Based on this premise, a whole-church Bible study would be centered on a single curriculum of Bible readings related to the specific issues Riverside faces. We will meet together as an entire congregation before worship (without any other meetings or classes taking place at this time) to study, discuss and grow together. Coffee will be provided and participants are encouraged to bring snacks to share. We'll begin our time together with a hymn-sing, a brief teaching on the assigned passage for the day and then break into study groups. This six-week study will be led by a mix of clergy, youth, commissions, and laity.



MARCH 1 – WRESTLING WITH COURAGE

Readings: Esther

Teacher: Parish Care & Rev. Michael Livingston

MARCH 8 – WRESTLING WITH RESURRECTION

Readings: Mark 15:25-16:8, Luke 24:13-35

This lesson we will use Lectio Divina to reflect and study scripture

FREEDOM SCHOOL



RIVERSIDE FREEDOM SCHOOL 2020

Spend a summer changing the world! If you are a college student or educator, apply to spend your summer as a Servant Leader Intern at Riverside Freedom School. As an SLI you will engage children in our community with a curriculum focused upon literacy and social justice. You will make a difference in New York City by encouraging our scholars to grow as readers and as justice-seekers. Apply for this life-changing summer job today at trcnyc.org/hr. Questions? Contact Lenni Santos Santana at lsantana@trcnyc.org.

Life of the Community

YOUTH

YOUTH LET'S TALK SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays | 9:00 am | 323 MLK

The Riverside Church values our youth and understands the importance of their contribution to the life of our church. They are an integral part of our community and our worship. On Sundays from 9am-10 a.m., Middle and High School Youth will be involved in faith formation and strong community building with each other.

YOUTH FAITH PASSAGE CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

Mar 1st & 22nd | 12:30 pm | 323 MLK

Register now for Confirmation! Confirmation classes, designed for children in grades 7 and above, are a journey that teaches basic theology of Christ, and how the Gospel ultimately affects how we relate to God, neighbor, church, and the world. Students and parents are encouraged to engage in this interactive faith passage journey together. Confirmation classes run bi-monthly through June 14. During this journey, students will choose a service project as well as attend a confirmation retreat in August. Confirmation Sunday will take place in September. Register at trcnyc.org/youth.

HOT COCOA, COOKIE, GREETING CARD SALE

Mar 1st & 8th | Coffee Hour after Worship in South Hall

The Youth Ministry is selling cookies, hot chocolate, and greeting cards (made by children in our children's ministry) to help purchase supplies for our Freedom School scholars. Our goal is to raise \$1K.

YOUNG ADULTS

YA MINISTRY WEEKLY SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays | 7:00-8:00 pm | Adrienne Newcomb's Apt.

Looking at the book "Shameless" by Nadia Bolz-Weber

We all have questions about life, faith, and our role in the world. Come explore them in a safe and caring environment where hard questions are welcome. Our weekly young adult small group offers a variety of group experiences that will allow you to study Scripture, engage in theological reflection, and deepen your faith in a fun and casual environment with other young adults in a NYC apartment!

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY BRUNCH

Mar 29th | 12:30 pm | 411 MLK

We all love brunch. All Riverside young adults are invited to join for brunch after worship. Get to know new young adults and catch up with old friends over yummy bacon and eggs and don't forget the avocado toast. This event is free and open to young adults (18-35).

YOUNG ADULT DC TRIP TO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MUSEUM

Apr 18th | 7:30 am | Depart from Riverside Drive Entrance

Join the YA Ministry and the LAMP Campus Ministry for an action packed and powerful joint day trip to Washington DC to see the African American History Museum. We will leave at 7:30 am sharp, have lunch in DC, take a tour of the museum and close with a group dinner and processing before returning to NYC around 10:00-11:00pm... this will be a full day-long trip. Meals costs are covered by you - travel is covered by the church. We have 8 spots - register now by emailing Rev. Bruce Lamb at blamb@trcnyc.org.

MILLENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Applications are now available to apply for the Millennial Scholarship Program by going to trcnyc.org/youth. Every year this program offers youth involved in the ministry programs of the church scholarships to accredited colleges, universities, and vocational programs. Annual the congregation gives several scholarships to eligible youth. Since the inception of this program more than \$400,000 has been dispersed to youth in our ministry programs. Applications are due to the Education Ministry office (317 MLK) by **March 15th**. Good luck!

YOUTH AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM & HOMEWORK HELP

Mondays & Wednesdays | 3:30-6:30 pm | 313 MLK

The Riverside Youth Ministry is launching a twice a week youth (7-12th grades) homework help and mentoring program on Mondays and Wednesdays. We are looking for tutors that are interested in volunteering to help youth with homework (math, social studies, writing, english etc). If you are interested in volunteering email Linda Cole at LCole@trcnyc.org

WINTER/SPRING SMALL GROUPS

We all have questions about life, faith, and our role in the world. Come explore them in a safe and caring environment where hard questions are welcome. Our Faith Formation classes offer a variety of group experiences that will allow you to study Scripture, engage in theological reflection, and deepen your faith.

View all classes and register at trcnyc.org/smallgroups

SMALL GROUPS STARTING MARCH 15

OPEN BIBLE STUDY

Sundays | 9:30 am | 330 MLK

BIBLICAL HEBREW: ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS

Sundays | 1:00 pm | 314 MLK

THE AFRICAN PRESENCE IN THE BIBLE

Sundays | 1:00 pm | Room TBD

Facilitated by Dr. Colleen Birchett

CREATING SPACE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE & HEALING VIA A PUBLIC PERFORMANCE

Sundays | 1:00 pm | Room TBD

Facilitated by Luvon Roberson

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Sundays | 1:00 pm | Room TBD

Facilitated by Eldonia Goode

PARENT CONNECT

Sundays | 9:00 am | 314 MLK

Facilitated by Amanda Meisenheimer

More classes starting in April, including *90 Years of Riverside History* and *The Earth, The City, and the Hidden Narrative of Race*. Get more information about all our Small Group Classes at trcnyc.org/smallgroups

THE 29TH ANNUAL
RIVERSIDE CHURCH
CAREER DAY

Education

Arts

Finance

CONNECTING STUDENTS
TO PATHWAYS FOR SUCCESS

THE 29TH ANNUAL RIVERSIDE CHURCH CAREER DAY

Mar 14th | 10:00 am - 2:30 pm | South Hall | Free | www.trcnyc.org/careerday

For 29 years, The Riverside Church has hosted Career Day exposing thousands of youth to various professions and industries that they can one day pursue. We are committed to serving young people, especially those who have limited resources and access to information and tools essential for success. Career Day provides a unique opportunity for you to join us in educating and empowering youth throughout the tri-state area.

At Career Day, students connect with professionals in their “dream” job, as well as, explore areas they may not have considered before. We have introduced our children to coding, medicine, sports, and green jobs-and are looking to continue expanding our abilities to provide more programming. Please contact Lennith Santos-Santana at lsantana@trcnyc.org to sign up today for the career fair. We are also looking for volunteers to volunteer to help.

Please consider joining us, it is free and open to the community. The format of the day includes:

Career Fair: 10:00-11:30 am

Welcome and Keynote Speaker: 11:45 am

Lunch and Panel: 12:00-12:50 pm

Two Workshop Sessions: 1:00-2:30 pm

Career Day is offering \$500 college scholarships - learn more and apply at www.trcnyc.org/careerday.

Featured keynote speaker is Dr. Lynne Holden

A board-certified Emergency Medicine physician who has practiced in the Bronx, NY for twenty four years. She is a Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Vice-Chair for Diversity and Inclusion for the Emergency Department. As well as a Deacon at The Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and currently belongs to the boards of four national health related organizations such as the Friends of the National Library of Medicine and the Executive Advisory for the CUNY School of Medicine.



YOUNG ADULT WINTER RETREAT SPOTLIGHT

Did you know every year on President's Day Weekend the Young Adult Ministry takes a winter retreat with 20 people? We ski, tube, worship, spend time with God and grow together in community. This trip is possible through a large number of young adults through scholarships. Why retreat? I've been thinking recently about the importance of both daily prayer and regular retreat. Our world is so fast-paced, our political reality so divided, and our lives so often full and busy, that it's supremely easy to lose touch with our center, to lose touch with God. I've personally been feeling the need for retreat lately--to let go of distractions and hunker down for a while with my Sustainer, and with my heart. I regularly go on my own spiritual renewal retreats to a monastery for prayer and silence and reflection and find them extremely important and I am so glad to lead you on a retreat this weekend.



The Riverside Church exists to offer you a place to tend that connection. We offer the retreats free because we want everyone to have access to a space to reconnect with their souls, with creation, and with God. If your soul is calling out to you for some time away, consider making it a priority to come on a young adult ministry retreat. Our next retreat will be in June - date TBA. Email Rev. Bruce Lamb at blamb@trcnyc.org to join the next retreat and find out more.

JOIN THE RIVERSIDE YOUNG ADULT MAILING LIST

In this huge city that seems to never pause, it is easy to be overcome by life's busy-ness and lose yourself in the daily grind. At The Riverside Church, we are committed to connecting people between the ages of 18 and 35 to a vibrant community of peers as we pursue the life and hope that God has to offer. All are welcome as we seek to encounter one another in meaningful ways and to enjoy the gift of life and the diversity of God's creation. Regardless of your race, age, socio-economic status, or who you love, you are welcome here. We send out regular Young Adult E-News with the latest events and fellowship opportunities, including Theology on Draft, Sunday brunch, spiritual retreats, and game nights. For more information about Riverside's Young Adult Ministry, or to be added to the email newsletter list, please email Rev. Bruce Lamb at blamb@trcnyc.org.



SERVICE PROJECT "BAGS OF BLESSINGS" COLLECTION- NOW THROUGH EASTER (APRIL 12TH)

Collection Days: Sundays Drop off Location: 313 MLK

We are collecting the items below:

Washcloth

Hand sanitizers

Tissues

Tooth brush

Tooth paste

All supplies collected will go to support the shower project to assemble "Bags Of Blessings" to give to those in need. Our goal is to be able to assembly 100 bags by Easter Sunday! Drop off donations now through April 12th in the donation box located in the youth room.

YOUTH LOCK-IN

The Riverside Youth Ministry will be having a Lent Lock- In, on March 27th from 7:00pm -8:00 am. Join us for a night of followership, Bible discussion, games and more. Dinner, snacks and breakfast will be provided.

Digital Ministry

We all encounter God in different ways. In an increasingly digital world, that includes videos, podcasts, and online media. Engage the Riverside community wherever you are through our original digital content.

Rev. Jim Keat | Digital Minister | jkeat@trcnyc.org

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH WITH RIVERSIDE'S ORIGINAL DIGITAL MINISTRY CONTENT

BE STILL AND GO IS BACK FOR LENT!

Be Still and Go: Meditations for the Movement, Riverside's devotional podcast, returns for its seventh season this Lent. Daily episodes begin on Ash Wednesday (February 26) and continue through Easter Sunday (April 12). Be sure to include these 5-7 minute audio devotionals as part of your daily routine, helping to center your spirit and inspire your work for justice in our world. You can listen to every episode on our website at trcnyc.org/BeStillAndGo or by searching for Be Still and Go in your favorite podcast app.

DID YOU MISS A SERMON OR PODCAST?

Visit trcnyc.org/digitaldiscipleship to check out or catch up with all our engaging audio and video content!



The Riverside Theatre

For more info on upcoming performances and to purchase tickets, please visit www.trcnyc.org/tickets

Founded on the belief that the arts can be a transforming power in peoples' lives, The Riverside Theatre was built inside the historic Riverside Church in 1960. The church's dedication to radical political action and civil rights are as integral to the theatre as they are to the church.

Temishia Johnson | Production Manager | tjohnson@trcnyc.org

Ayisha Etan | Theater Coordinator | aetan@trcnyc.org

The Riverside Hawks

The Riverside Hawks academic/athletic program is a year-round organization serving more than 300 boys and girls who live primarily in the New York Metropolitan area. Founded in 1961, the Riverside Hawks have long been nationally recognized for its success and leadership in the field of youth development. The Riverside Hawks promote athletic achievement, educational excellence and character development for our student athletes. To learn more please visit us at www.riversidehawks.org.

Tony Hargraves | Program Director | AHargraves@riversidehawks.org

Danny Colon | Director of Operations | dcolon@riversidehawks.org

Kevin Steward | Associate Program Director | ksteward@riversidehawks.org



Weekday School

The Riverside Church Weekday School is a progressive, play-based, independent early childhood school serving families with children ages two through five in New York City. To learn more please visit us at www.wdsnyc.org.

Debra Frankel | Head of School | DFrankel@wdsnyc.org

Carla Buranelli-Secor | Director Of Admissions/Exmissions | CBuranelli-Secor@wdsnyc.org

Daina Cernauskas | Director of Communications/Strategy | DCernauskas@wdsnyc.org

Fallon Watson | Director of Programming | FWatson@wdsnyc.org

WEEKDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL GALA

Friday, Mar 6th | 6:00 pm | Assembly Hall

The Weekday School Annual Benefit Auction and Gala is the primary fundraising source for The Weekday School Tuition Assistance Program, which enables us to provide financial assistance to qualifying families at Weekday. Learn more, purchase tickets, or make a donation today at www.wdsnyc.org/gala.



Life of the Community

Riverside Development Committee

The purpose of the Riverside Development Committee (RDC) is to lead the congregation and staff of The Riverside Church in the development of a comprehensive strategic plan to address how our property can be more effectively used not only to positively impact our community but also to ensure our long-term fiscal sustainability. See more of our work at www.trcnyc.org/rdc.

Are you ready to put on your creative thinking hats and imagine the next 90 years of Riverside? As we celebrate our rich 90-year history throughout 2020, the Riverside Development Committee (RDC) is setting the stage to imagine the art of the possible with "The Next 90" campaign. The campaign joins up all the critical paths that facilitates the development of the plan that best leverages our real estate, assets and resources. The RDC – along with you the members and community stakeholders – will create a shared vision that combines money with mission and achieves both our social justice objectives and financial sustainability.

THE NEXT 90 SPEAKER SERIES

This February we kick off our monthly Next 90 Speaker Series. Join members of our community as we begin to think about and discuss how we might use social enterprise to address big justice issues we face in our city such as hunger and poor nutrition, lack of vocational opportunity, lack of affordable housing, mass incarceration, and health disparities.

REV. MARK ELSDON & REV. ERICA LIU: COMMUNITY & HOUSING

Mar 29th | 12:30pm | South Hall

Husband and wife team Rev. Mark Elsdon and Rev. Erica Liu serve as Co-Pastors at Pres House, a faith-based non-profit serving students at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Also serving as the Executive Director, in fifteen years of executive leadership at Pres House, Mark led major programmatic, financial, and organizational growth, and transformed a dormant non-profit into a strong, vibrant, multi-million dollar organization. The revitalization of Pres House and development of the Pres House Apartments has been featured more than 30 times in national and local print and television media including CBS Nightly News with Katie Couric and the New York Times. Mark is also the founder and owner of Elsdon Strategic Consulting. In that capacity he assists non-profit and faith-based organizations with strategic planning, business planning and revenue generation, fundraising, governance, board development, and more. Mark provided significant input and consulting on the Roadmap that Matryoshka Haus put together for The Riverside Church in 2019.

Rev. Erica Liu has served as Co-Pastor of Pres House, a Presbyterian campus ministry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, since 2004. She was called to rebirth the historic campus ministry and develop a new, sustainable ministry model that today includes a unique housing experience for 250 students. Erica is widely credited for having revitalized Pres House and its campus ministries which includes innovative, intentional residential communities for university students. She is also part of the leadership team launching GatherX, a new ministry to young professionals in downtown Madison.

NEXT 90 SPEAKER SERIES LINEUP:

REV. DR. JIM ANTAL

Apr 19th | 10:45 am | Nave

REV. DR. SAM WELLS

May 31st | 10:45am | Nave

FOOD JUSTICE WORK GROUP

The Food Justice Workgroup will hold its next meeting on Thursday, March 19, at 6pm, in 14T. We will be discussing ways to engage the congregation in dialogue over the Bargain Grocery Concept Note. We will also discuss ways to further explore this idea and determine its feasibility. The concept note is now available on the Riverside Development Committee's page of our website.



HOSPITALITY WORK GROUP

The Hospitality Work Group is pleased to report that our **new bell tower tours** have been very well received – and without any paid advertising! The tours have been featured in several local media outlets, such as NY1, CBS2, PIX11 and the 6sqft blog. Learn more at trcnyc.org/tours and trcnyc.org/rdc. In the coming months, we will also be exploring ways to expand Riverside's cultural offerings to expand the reach of our ministry while growing revenues. We are eager to have interested members of the congregation join us as we develop these exciting ideas.

REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

We recently visited two faith-based organizations building housing in order to improve their financial position, while also considering the needs of the communities they serve. During the site visits, we learned how these organizations engaged the community, local politicians, congregations and constituents in order to create housing developments that align with their mission and goals. During these meetings, we probed the key considerations that went into critical decisions and milestones and timelines in accomplishing goals. We were informed of the ways congregation/constituents as well as the community at large were kept informed. As we continue to embark on our fact-finding mission, we are concurrently assessing Riverside's property. To that end, we've recently commissioned a zoning study of our land to determine the opportunities and constraints of our site. We'll report back with our findings.

GREENING SUBCOMMITTEE

Our subcommittee is tasked with the mission of assisting in greening our church and engaging our community in reducing our carbon footprint, while providing greater services to our community. In early January, we had the great opportunity to meet with representatives of the Yale Divinity School to learn about the process that was used to green the school's campus. We learned a great deal! In fact, far too much to publish in this short update. So we will be inviting guest speakers from our meeting to come to Riverside to educate the congregation on opportunities to further our mission of greening of our church. We will keep you posted.

ENGAGE WITH THE RDC

Get involved in our work in a number of ways:

- Attending our monthly meeting on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00 am.
- Contact the RDC at RDC@trcnyc.org to learn more.
- Follow our work at www.trcnyc.org/rdc

Your Riverside Development Committee

Select Commission & Committee Meetings

Below are the typical meeting dates, times, and locations for select Commissions/Committees. Always contact the Commission Committee in advance to confirm meeting dates, times, and room locations, especially for meetings that fall on holidays and during the summer. All dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice.

Audit Committee
Quarterly at Call of Chair

Church Council
Monday, March 23rd at 6:45 p.m.

Education Commission
Monday, March 9th at 6:30 p.m.

MSJ Commission
Monday, March 9th at 6:30 p.m.

Personnel & Salary Committee
Monday, March 2nd at 6:00 p.m.

Budget & Planning Committee
Thursday, March 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Executive Committee
Monday, March 16th at 5:30 p.m.
Conference Call

Nominating Committee
Tuesday, March 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Sharing Fund Committee
Monday, March 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

Stewardship Committee
Thursday, March 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Riverside Development Committee
Saturday, March 21st at 10:00 a.m.

Building Committee
Tuesday, March 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Membership & Parish Life Comm.
Monday, March 9th at 6:30 p.m.

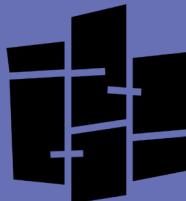
Ordination Committee
Tuesday, March 17th at 6:45 p.m.

Social Services Committee
Sunday, March 1st at 1:00 p.m.

Worship Commission
Monday, March 9th at 6:45 p.m.

For a complete list of Calendar of Events
please visit trcnyc.org/events

Or please scan the QR code below
with your mobile devices.



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Support Riverside by Shopping Online Anytime!

You can now support The Riverside Church's programs and ministries by shopping online anytime at trcnyc.org/shop.

 WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS FAITH FORMATION SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY ABOUT GIVE

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CATEGORIES

All Products

New

Accessories and Gifts

Drinkware

Wearables

Thank you for visiting The Riverside Church online store.

Your purchase, no matter how large or small, helps support all of Riverside's ministries, programs, and social services. Be sure to visit often, as new items become available!

All US orders placed after December 13th are not guaranteed to arrive by December 25th.

All Products

New


The Riverside Church Beanie
\$27.00


The Riverside Church Beanie w/ Pom
\$27.00


The Riverside Church Pride Totes
\$10.00

Welcome Center/Gift Shop & Tours

When visiting The Riverside Church, be sure to stop by our Welcome Center / Gift Shop to learn more about our church, purchase tickets for a tour or special event, or find that special keepsake!

Our hours:

Monday & Tuesday: Closed
 Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 Thursday: 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 Friday: 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday: 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Welcome Center / Gift Shop is closed all major holidays.



TOURS

Experience the beauty and history of The Riverside Church – and the amazing views! – during one of our awe-inspiring tower tours. Or take part in our in-depth Arts & History tours that dive deep into our iconography, art, and sacred spaces. Both are now open to the public – learn more and purchase tickets at trcnyc.org/tours.

WEEKEND WELCOME CENTER / GIFT SHOP VOLUNTEER SOUGHT

The Welcome Center / Gift Shop is seeking a dependable volunteer to assist on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays with general shop operations, including helping customers, running the register, and being a source of information for guests. Prior retail experience is not required, but you must be caring and customer service oriented, and available on most weekends each month. If interested, please send a note with information about yourself and your interest in volunteering to bsimpson@trcnyc.org.

Receive Congregational Care Info

Subscribe to email updates on prayer requests, illnesses, and memorial services at <http://tinyurl.com/trccareupdates>.

Clergy On Call

Pastoral Care is pleased to offer Clergy on Call when there is a life event or crisis which creates a need for pastoral care outside of regular office hours. Congregants may reach Clergy on Call by calling [212.870.6712](tel:212.870.6712), and a member of the clergy will respond as soon as possible.

Clergy On Call is specifically designated for Riverside members who are experiencing an emergency such as illness, death, accident, or hospitalization as well as those who urgently require prayer.

Please be aware that financial assistance and other social service-related calls will not be responded to by Clergy on Call.

For pastoral needs during business hours, contact the Parish Care Office at 212.870.6909.

Alert Compassionate Care

Do you know of someone who can't make it to church due to illness, surgery, crisis, or other challenge? Have you noticed someone missing from their regular seat in the pew? Have a prayer request?

If you think that one of our brothers or sisters might be in need of compassionate care, or if you have a personal prayer request, please take a moment to let us know. If you know something, say something. Contact the Office of Parish Care [212.870.6741](tel:212.870.6741) or email dnorthern@trcnyc.org.

Questions? Comments? Contact Riverside Communications

Have questions about Riverside events? Does your ministry or group have news to share? Send your questions, comments, or news to communications@trcnyc.org.

Brian Simpson Director of Communications & Strategy
bsimpson@trcnyc.org | 212.870.6765

Rev. Jim Keat Digital Minister
jkeat@trcnyc.org

Jones Acquah Communications Coordinator
jacquah@trcnyc.org | 212.870.6813

Whoever you are: You are safe here. You are loved here.
You are welcome into full participation in our life together.

