



THE WORD

MIAMI BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH
MARCH 2021



GREETINGS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF MBCC

We are happy to announce that we will be starting in-person worship services again on Palm Sunday March 28, 2021 at our usual time of 10:30 a.m. We have missed you all so much and we look forward to seeing everyone. However, due to the continued risk of contracting Covid-19 and the need to ensure social distancing, we will be taking reservations. **Make sure you call the church office at 305-538-4511 to confirm your reservation today!!** There will be limited seating and it will be on a first come first serve basis.



If you have decided not to attend in person just yet, you can catch the service Live on FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/miamibeachchurch/>. If you miss the live broadcast, the recording will be posted after the service to watch at a later time.

Time of Reflection

Dear Members and Friends of MBCC:

This past year has been a challenging one to say the least. The pandemic has changed our lives in ways unimaginable. Our worship experience went from in person to virtual in a matter of weeks. The one good thing that happened from this was that it allowed us to reach individuals who would not normally come to church. Many of us were not allowed to visit with our families and friends which left us feeling sad and lonely. Each of us had to find creative ways of keeping our businesses afloat. If it were not for the social media outlets and zoom I can't imagine that churches would have survived. Now that things are getting a little better we can finally look forward to a brighter future and that is so exciting.



Another bit of news is our church organist Jim Littrell has retired and moved to Melbourne Florida. Jim was a faithful employee of the church for more than thirty years and he will be greatly missed. On January 1st 2021 we hired Jose Arrebato as our new Director of Music and thus far he has done a wonderful job. As we continue to journey through this season of Lent please take time to breathe, pray, meditate and read the Bible. Third John 1:2 reminds us “Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in good health, even as your soul prospers.” In these times of uncertainty know that God is still speaking even in the midst of this pandemic. We must continue to trust that all things are working together for our good.

As a reminder our church services will resume on Palm Sunday March 28th at 10:30 a.m. Due to Covid-19 restrictions we ask that you call the church office to reserve your seat. We will also be following the CDC guidelines of wearing masks, hand sanitizing, and temperature checks. Our choir and praise team will continue to bless us with wonderful music for all to enjoy while also adhering to the mask mandate. Along with that I will be delivering messages that will hopefully help to inspire and uplift your spirits. As always it is my pleasure to serve as your pastor and spiritual leader and I pray that you will continue to be well and stay safe. Remember “We are more than conquerors through him who first loved us!” I look forward to seeing all of you real soon.

Peace and blessings,
Cynthia Lee, Designated Term Pastor

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE CHURCH?

Feeding Program:

MBCC has been busy feeding the members of our community that have been most affected by Covid-19 pandemic. The church is using the donations from Trader Joe's and what we purchase, to feed families in the community two days a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays). A big thank you to **Andrew Ogden** who has been instrumental in picking up the food donation from Trader Joes every Sunday!! The food distribution is by appointment and we are providing some deliveries on Thursdays.

“What should we do then?” The crowd asked. John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same”

Luke 3:10-14



Music Program:

As many of you know MBCC has hired a new music director, Jose Arrebato. He comes to us with his master's degree in music and a wealth of experience leading praise and worship teams. He is also a music and vocal teacher and is fluent with playing the piano, organ, violin, guitar and saxophone. We are very excited to see where our music program will expand to once we are fully reopened.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God

Colossians 3:16

The Church's Centennial:

This year; 2021 marks Miami Beach Community Church's **100 years!** As we finalize the renovations of the sanctuary, we plan to have a centennial celebration. Stay Tuned! We will provide more information when it becomes available.

built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

Ephesians 2:20-21

Blessings and Grace be upon you

UPCOMING EVENTS!



MIAMI BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

APRIL 2, 2021

7:00 PM

SANCTUARY

**CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 305-538-4511 TO
CONFIRM YOUR RESERVATION!**

EASTER SUNDAY

HE IS RISEN

CELEBRATE THE SAVIOR

Sunrise Service

6:45 AM

In the church courtyard

Easter Sunday Service

10:30 AM

In Sanctuary

**Call the church office @ 305-538-4511
to confirm your reservation!*



WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU COME FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE:

Upon arrival:

- Temperatures will be taken. If someone has a temperature of 100.4F or higher, they will be asked to return home.
- Hand sanitizer will be given to each person as they enter (we ask that you wait for the hand sanitizer to dry before touching the pews).

During Worship:

- Masks must cover your nose and mouth and remain on for the entire service (we will have extra masks if you come without one)
- Must maintain a distance of 6 feet from others at all times.
- Ushers will seat you in a designated pew (seating areas will be identified by markings on the floor and pews will be roped off)
- A bulletin will be placed on your pew or chair, please take it with you when you leave (no sharing of reading materials)
- There will be no hymnals or bibles in the pews.
- The A/C will be on however, the side windows will need to be open to ensure good ventilation (dress accordingly).
- Restrooms; only one person at a time can use the bathroom (entrance will be through the kitchen door)
- Hice Hall/Kitchen/Chapel/library will be closed for coffee hour or any kind of congregating
- The extravagant welcome must be done in a way that does not require physical contact; verbal greeting, gestures such as smile or bow.
- Communion will be suspended as a safety precaution.

After Worship Service:

- After worship service both east and west middle doors will be opened to exit.
- Pastor Cynthia Lee and/or Deacons will dismiss members and guests by rows to avoid crowds at the exit doors.
- Everyone will be asked to leave the sanctuary immediately after service is over.

The service will be streaming live on FaceBook at

<https://www.facebook.com/miamibeachchurch/>. If you are unable to watch it live, the recording will be posted after the service to watch at a later time.

OUR MISSION

“Modeling the teachings of Jesus Christ, Miami Beach Community Church is a progressive ministry of inclusiveness and compassion, committed to faithfulness, service to the community and life-long spiritual development.”

OPEN AND AFFIRMING (ONA)

“Open and Affirming is a public covenant of welcome and invitation to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.”

1620 Drexel Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33139
(Mailing Address)
305-538-4511 (Office)

STAY CONNECTED

contactus@miamibeachcommunitychurch.com
www.miamibeachcommunitychurch.com
facebook.com/miamibeachchurch
instagram.com/sobeucc
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Write Great Reviews on Yelp and Google!

The WORD Newsletter will be published quarterly. Please keep a copy for yourself or to share with family, friends, and visitors.