



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

April 1, 2024

Volume 12 Issue 4 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

5604 Deeson Road
Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: 863 858-7504
Fax: 863 859-9775

Emergency: 863 608-3984

Park Administrator: Stan Welton
(Cell: 863 608-3982)
Email: floridallpark2@gmail.com
Website: lightandlifepark.org

Office Manager: Greg Thomas
greg.t@lightandlifepark.org

Office Assistant: Lori Jones
lori@lightandlifepark.org

Resource Specialist
sherry@lightandlifepark.org
(Cell: 863-255-3776)

Office Hours:
November 15-April 14: 8 am- Noon
April 15-November 14: 9 am - Noon

Lots Available for Lease

There following RV or Park Model lot is now available:

5340 Ebenezer Place

The following lots are available for a modular home to be put on them:

5359 Beulah Land

5885 Shiloh Path

Call the Park Office at 863-858-7504 for information.

News from the Park Administrator

Another winter season is about to come to an end. If someone could not find an activity they were interested in, it wasn't for the many that were available this year. The Park was absolutely abuzz with activities. I heard that on one day, there were five different things going on in Hood Hall. Some of the activities have been going on for years. Others are brand new.

A committee has been formed, for example, this year for the miniature golf course. Like many other activities in the Park, it takes a committed few to make things better for everyone. There have already been improvements to the course, and I know they have many more planned. Is there another activity that needs to be organized and that you might be interested in starting a move-ahead committee? Talk to me so we can see what can be done.

The cleanup of the property next door is moving along. As I write this, five dumpsters have been filled and there are still lots to load up. The cleanup team will be there again in the next couple of days and will continue the effort. Several of the sheds have been removed and the rest should be taken down soon. As the work is wrapped up, the walls of the mobile homes will be torn down. At that time, you should be able to see through to the back of the property from Deeson Road

The people living on the county right-of-way have been moved, and the county has removed all the rubbish along the road. Continue to pray for them as they are still without a place to go.

Two baby goats were delivered to the Park. The mother is the goat that has been missing for the last couple of months. Our goat farmer friend, Rhonda, takes the nanny to her farm for breeding and then likes to keep the kids for a few days to make sure mother and babies are fine. These two goats, a male and a female, were born on St. Patrick's Day.

Many of you will be leaving in the next few weeks to enjoy your other home. It is important that you help us prepare for the hurricane season. Make certain that all objects outside your residence are secured either inside or anchored to the ground. If they are left loose, they can become windblown objects that cause major damage.

Continued next page.

Continued from previous page.

Also, remember that you are responsible for keeping the grass and weeds next to your residence cut. The Park staff will mow the grass, but we do not do any weed whipping around the residences. There are a couple of people in the Park that will do the trimming for you, or you can hire an outside company to do that. If you need help finding someone, please contact the office. We will be glad to help you.

The gate has been mostly working for the last couple of weeks. Occasionally, it seems to enter a rest period from which it seems to wake up on its own. We have not been able to diagnose the cause, but the service company has one more visit to install a couple of new parts. I am hoping that takes care of the intermittent issues.

As I mentioned in an email last month, it is important that no one feeds or teases an alligator. Feeding alligators acclimates them to people, and that often leads to severe injury or death to someone. Teasing them (throwing stones at them, for example) will make them aggressive and that also can lead to disastrous results. Florida law makes it illegal to feed or molest them and, if caught, a person could be fined \$500 or spend 60 days in jail. Please, just leave the alligators alone.

Whether it is a volunteer group, a social group, or a group formed around an activity, it is the committees that involve interested people that make the Park such a marvelous place to live—even if it is for a short three months. Those of us who are here for the year will miss you and will be working to make the Park a great place to come back to. See you all next season.



Office News

The winter season is rapidly coming to an end. This means many are vacating their winter home and heading to their summer homes. It also means the office staff are thinking about what needs to be completed before you leave and what information you may need before coming back next season.

Don't forget to check out with Lori Jones about your departure date. This is how we track to assure the

Continued next column.

Continued from previous column.

the short duration residents get credit for their 30 days here.

The Mail lady has requested that you fill out your forwarding form **online only** 2 weeks before the date it should be effective. This will help things move smoother for the transfer. The old forwarding cards are no longer accepted. Even if you leave her the note in the box, it does mean she is aware that you are gone, and she cannot arrange for the forwarding online. You need to do this yourself and may be asked for ID.

Also, if you are responsible for scheduling your activities for a club or organization, please let us know your dates for the 24-25 season so we can put it on the calendar. As you know, this winter was extremely busy, and it was hard to get dates. Plan ahead to get dates put on the calendar.

If you are responsible for submitting budget requests for your organization or club, please come to the office and fill out the 2025 Budget Request form.

We are accepting "Requests for Lodging" for the 2024-2025 winter season. Don't forget to stop in with your requests before you leave.

The Following places are For Sale:

1. Rex and Bethel Root, 5311 Sharon Trail, Block Home, \$120,000.00
2. Doug and Lori Jones, 5352 Bethany Way, Block Home, \$65,000.00
3. Michael Gardner, 5333 Hebron Ct., Travel Trailer, \$9,000.00
4. Deano and Darlene Pulice, 5337 Ebenezer Pl., Travel Trailer, \$16,000.00
5. Estate of Julia McDonald, 5315 Hebron Ct., Travel Trailer, \$9,000.00
6. Ed and Linda Lamoreaux, 5876 Moriah Place, Singlewide, \$48,000.00
7. Dean and Barbara Rockwell, 5319 Hebron Ct., Park Model, \$35,500.00
8. John and Terri Boda, 5378 Bethel Dr., Doublewide, \$134,900.00

Continued next page.

Continued from previous page.

At the present time, only current members in the park and those approved as Free Methodist waiting to purchase may purchase places in the park. If you meet these requirements and have been looking, let us know so we can connect you with the owners.

We hope you have a little bit of time here to relax before you head to your other home. We will be keeping watch over the Park while you are gone and look forward to your annual migration back next season. Thanks for a good, productive, and exciting season.

The Office Staff

News from the Board of Directors

Spring has arrived and so has the migration north of many in our park. It has been another busy season here at Light and Life Park. Where does the time go?

Exciting news.... We have expanded the area of our Park by another 2 acres. Yes, the property at 5580 Deeson Road is now ours. At our last BoD meeting we approved the contract for an outside company to do the cleanup. As the work began, we had many confirmed reasons why the decision to not risk the health of our own people was indeed appropriate. Many thanks to Stan for his due diligence in seeing this to completion.

We had our last scheduled Residents meeting of the year, March 11. Elections were held and the results for the Board of Directors are as follows, Ida Bunting, Ken Kendall and James Falconer. We would like to thank Phil Moore for his many years of service on the Board.

Committees have been active.

Future planning has begun to discuss plans for our new property. Bylaws are on track to present some changes that will be presented to the membership starting in January 2025.

Continued next Column.

Continued from previous column.

Building and Grounds reported projects completed such as new handrails on Bethel bridge, removal of concrete pillars at the site of the old bridge, and various others. There are many other smaller projects on the "list" that are either in progress or waiting for a volunteer to oversee them. Contact the office if you are interested.

The Financial Review Committee has located a Christian CPA firm to do a thorough review of our finances.

Update on the Spectrum presentation at our February meeting: The "proposed" Spectrum proposal was sent out via Constant Contact on March 5. It included answers to your questions. This will be a process. We intend to send out a **survey** as our next step. If the survey results show significant support by the members, the Board of Directors will oversee negotiation of the best package possible, and we will schedule a membership vote.

Volunteers who help with projects are very important (yes, we have said this many times). Most everyone is aware of the large project at the west end, aka Jordan, out fall. The many hours of work being done by our volunteers, from shoveling, excavator operation, concrete work to slogging in the mud connecting tiles and loading/dumping sand saves us money. This has saved us upwards of **\$150,000+**. Whether large or small, anyone who helps with the many projects here in the Park deserves a special thank you.

Your 2024/2025 Board of Directors

Larry Putnam-President
David Waid-Vice President
Ken Kendall-Treasurer
Roxanne Smarszcz-Secretary
Ida Bunting Byron Davey
Larry Bidwell Ron Foster
James Falconer

God Bless

Larry Putnam

Where to Donate your Goods

The donations given at the Park to help others are appreciated. **Please take your donations to the following places:**

Food donations for Briarwood may be left on the designated table in Hood Hall.

Slightly used linens may be donated for Senior Orphans in Hood Hall. Please refer to Senior Orphans article in this newsletter.

Jean Whipple takes several items to Talbot House weekly. See that article in this newsletter for details.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Metal Cans

There are containers over in the enclosed space by the Garbage containers for recycling your metal cans and are picked up by Errol.

Pop/Soda cans are to be placed in the bins designated for aluminum cans and are to be separated from other metal cans.

Errol uses the proceeds from the metal to support his son who is a Pastor of a very small church.

Thank you for your support.



Talbot House Ministry

The ongoing deliveries of prescription bottles, unused medicines, good clean clothing that you no longer use, and small household items is an ongoing project. Please continue to save these helpful items for the homeless shelter and the Good Samaritan Clinic.

Jean will take your items to Talbot House on Wednesdays. **Please note this change! Donations will be accepted all day on Tuesdays and until 10:30 AM on Wednesdays.** PLEASE leave your items in Jean's screened porch.

Should you wish to help financially the address is: 814 North Kentucky Avenue, Lakeland.

Thank you! Jean Whipple

Stamps for Missions

All donated stamps are sent to Alliance Stamp Ministry in Fort Myers where they are sold to dealers. The money is sent to a publisher in Buenos Aires, Argentina where they publish Sunday school material in Spanish that are sold to at least eight Latin American Countries as well as Spain and the US. They are used by over 40 Protestant Denominations.

Guidelines:

- * CAREFULLY cut 1/4" to 1/3" margin on each side of stamp or strip
- * All varieties: common/commemorative, current/old, domestic/foreign, on/off paper, high value, air mail, presorted, pre cancelled, nonprofit, bulk rate, express, priority, computer generated, pre-printed stamps on envelopes
- * Picture postcards unused or used
- * Collections and albums
- * Do NOT intentionally remove stamps from paper, trim too close, or damage stamps ...but... if you have some that are, please turn them in for reduced value

Suggestions:

- * Develop habit of opening envelopes on left or bottom edges
- * Develop habit of leaving sufficient margins when you adhere stamps for mailing
- * Encourage others to save stamps
- * Take stamps to Hood Hall, west wall
- * Pray for those benefitting from Alliance Stamp Ministry, Fort Myers supporting publishing Sunday School material in Spanish for over 40 Protestant Denominations

Thanks for your support! It is greatly appreciated!

Marilyn Stone

Medical Equipment Available

Maxwell Commons at The Villa has some medical equipment available that can be borrowed by any Park resident. Call someone you know in the Villa to help you. Please sign out the equipment you are borrowing. There are wheelchairs, walkers, rollators, portable pots, and shower seats. Please notify a Villa member when you are returning an item, so we know it has been returned. Please **don't** leave it on the porch. We are **not** presently accepting any equipment donations due to lack of storage space.

SENIOR-ORPHANS

Thank you for your continued support of Senior Orphans through your donations of ***gently used bed linens and towels, no bed pillows, however.***

Senior Orphans helps local, indigent seniors living with no family support and meager monthly incomes.

The drop-off location is in the totes in Hood Hall designated for Senior Orphans.

Please label your linens, as this saves our S.O. coordinator valuable time when trying to determine sizes.

See the example below of how to label the item before it is placed in the tote.

Terri Boda Coordinator



Blood Pressure

Since many people are heading north for the summer, the blood pressure clinics have come to an end.

However, since I am here year-round you can still get your blood pressure taken on a regular basis if necessary.

I can come to your house, or you can come to mine, 5437 Bethel Dr.

JoAnn Willet RN

989-615-8430



Fellowship Dinner



THIS IS NOT AN APRIL FOOLS' JOKE!



The date of the April Fellowship Dinner and Program **has been changed** to April 8th, 5:30 pm to give more space after the Easter dinner.

Bring a large dish (8-10 servings) to pass at your table - and your own place setting. This is a great opportunity to meet new folks and invite them to share a meal with you.



6:15 p.m.

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine"
Proverbs 17:22

Join the fun and laughter whether you come for dinner or not.

Marilyn Stone, chairman jaxstone68@gmail.com

Something to Consider

The Board has authorized several projects to which you can make donations.

1) chairs & tables in Hood Hall, 2) the purchase of 5580 Deeson Road, 3) the improvements to the pickleball court, and 4) installation of a new tennis court.

Check out the park website!

Copies of the newsletter, the Park calendar, places for sale, and much more can be found there.

www.lightandlifepark.org

Gad-About News

The Gad-Abouts is not a club. All ladies in the Park are invited to go on the trips and get to know others!

As Peggy & I wrap-up another awesome season of Gad-Abouts trips, a huge "thank you" to all our lady drivers whom we cannot do without. Many thanks to all the ladies who joined us this season.



Flo Grabowski

Cell 931-797-2639 coachfllc@gmail.com

Peggy Dunn

Cell 248-766-5537 pegjim2000@yahoo.com

L & L Aqua Splash Water Aerobics

Come & enjoy fun in the sun with a low-impact workout in the water to enhance health & wellbeing.

April Aqua Splash will be held twice weekly, weather dependent, and on a rotating basis. The schedule will be posted via neighborhood news & on L&L Facebook. *We will attempt to create a regular schedule when the weather is a bit more predictable!*

Thank you, Doug Jones, for your hard work in keeping the pool operating over these past months!

Happy Swimmers!

Karen Castle-Williams
allforyum@aol.com
704-502-0466.



CHANGE IN DATE: Due to increased activity in Hood Hall during the month of February, the 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration for 2025 is set for SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st from 2-4 pm. Traditionally, the celebration has taken place the Friday before Valentine's Day. Having the celebration on a Saturday will allow for less scheduling conflicts and allow any guests of the anniversary couples additional travel time. Please make a note of this change.

GOLD DOLLAR CHALLENGE: Greeting cards cost anywhere from 50 cents to \$5, depending on where they are purchased. Instead of spending money on a card, why not give each couple a gold dollar and a handwritten note instead? Gold dollars can be obtained at your local bank or credit union and come in rolls of \$25 or individually. If you do not have a bank in Lakeland, you can get them at your bank this summer and bring them with you. Homemade cards will be available at the reception for you to sign if you choose to bring gold dollar coins instead of purchasing cards at a store. Each display table will have a container for gold dollars. Wouldn't it be lovely if each couple receives enough gold dollars to go out for a nice dinner after the reception?

CELEBRATING YOUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY?

We'd love to celebrate with you. Please let me know if you or someone you know was married in 1975.

So far, the couples celebrating are:

Bruce & Debbie Fitch, Chuck & Annie Frankenfeld
Myke & Pamela Merrill, and Mike & Roxanne Smarszcz.

Carolyn Lindley carolyn_lindley@yahoo.com
50th Anniversary Chair

Bucket Listers



What an amazing winter season we have had! Hopefully, The Bucket Listers planned, organized, and implemented Tuesday Night social activities that you and your visitors enjoyed this winter season.

- Thanks to Brenda Miller for her organization and research to make our Tuesday Night Trivia such a success. Thanks to Chris Aurich for her computer skills in keeping all our scores accurate.
- Thanks to Cherlyn Slowey (Richard and Marilyn Osborne's daughter) for her leadership and patience with the Bucket Listers and large group of wonderful volunteers during the Third Annual Cinnamon Roll Bake and the pizza party. We baked and sold 630 cinnamon rolls and 120 slices of pizza!
- Thanks to Dennis Green for making all those delicious homemade cookies for both the pizza party and hot dog roast.
- Thanks to June Voller, Tracy LaBelle and Shelly Falconer for popping all that delicious buttery popcorn we all enjoyed at trivia, movies, and "Tell Your Story" Nights.
- Thanks to Bonnie and Darrell Hardesty for pitching in and helping Janice Augsburg with pouring pop at each of the Tuesday night activities.
- Thanks to Loretta Geelan, Kari Konzen, and Shelly Falconer for selling Haagen-Dazs ice cream bars during the Beautification Parade.
- Thanks to Roy Wight for grilling 200 hot dogs for the Craft Show hot dog lunch!
- Thanks to Carolynn Orrison and Eva Gardner for organizing the Earl Galloway and Willy Ming concert.

But most of all The Bucket Listers would like to THANK YOU for your attendance, financial support, assistance, and encouragement in the above activities. Together we make our park amazing!

Continued next column.

Continued from previous column.

Our current fundraising is going towards a shade structure at the pool. We are currently awaiting Hillsborough County's approval and subsequent issuance of a permit. A construction firm has been hired and they will be able to install the unit shortly after receiving the permit.

We have identified another area of need in the park. Lights along the new sidewalk. Currently, we are awaiting approval from the Building and Grounds Committee.



A Big Thank-you

As a former paramedic the Lord gave me an idea to tangibly thank the local fire and rescue workers that respond to emergencies here in our park.

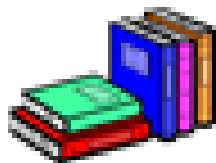
After a short discussion with a men's group here in the park it was decided we will present gift cards for Golden Coral, along with cinnamon rolls to each shift at our local station.

This will be done in the park's name as a small token of gratitude for the many calls they make here in our park throughout the year.

Secondly, we would like for all of us here to pray for their safety, not only for the calls here in the park, but for all the calls they make in the Lakeland area.

Roderick Smithson
804 307-9610

Library Information



Library Notes

We have over 20 library books and DVDs which are late. Notices are going out. If you are unable to find the book or DVD, there will be a fee for the replacement.

If you are leaving for the summer, please return all books prior to your departure. Please do NOT take books out for an extended period especially if you leave the park.

Book Review

The Magic of Sea Glass by Jenny Hale

Whenever there is a story about the beach and ocean it brings back memories of how soothing and wonderful the waves are to watch. Thus, when this book was recommended, I decided to add it to our collection.

It is a story of a young woman, Lauren Sutton, who recently lost her fiancé in a tragedy. She is not sure she can go on being an event planner and chooses to go to the Outer Banks in North Carolina to work with an elderly woman, Mary Everett, who runs an old inn.

Mary gives her a sea glass bracelet as a welcoming gift. She wonders if this might just be the sign that will be the reset she needs. The author uses flashbacks to the 1950s and melds the timelines together with the sea glass.

Enjoy this book filled with romance, second chances and healing. You will be uplifted and thankful you read it! It is located in the new book section.

Continued from previous column.

Synapse by Steven James

AI: Artificial Intelligence. We have computers now, but do you realize that there are already Humanoids which perform different types of jobs, from physical duties to acting as a concierge and ambassador? They are real, programmed to look, act, and feel like humans. There have been novels written about them, far off into the future, yet, who knows what the future holds 30 years from now?

Steven James, in his new book, **Synapse**, takes place around 2054. AIs are prominent throughout the world, interacting with humans. However, one thing the Artificials don't have is a soul.

Kestrel is a Methodist minister who just lost her baby. She witnesses a terrorist attack on a nearby artificial factory and is unknowingly drawn into a world of conspiracies and lies. Along with her own Artificial, Jordan, they attempt to untangle the web around them. With a second, more brutal attack looming on the horizon, their best chance of stopping it is to team up with a federal counterterrorism agent Nick Vernon. But the clock is ticking--and all the while, Jordan is asking questions Artificials were never meant to ask . . . questions that rock Kestrel to her very core. What does it mean to be truly alive? What makes someone truly human?

James weaves suspense and intrigue into a thought-provoking tale that explores faith and what it really means to be human. It causes us to look at deep philosophical questions about humanity, hope, love, and belief systems. **Synapse** is an unforgettable, gripping story of dreams shattered, truth revealed, and hope reborn.

You can find this in the new book section. It is definitely worth the read!

Gloria Welton
Librarian

Library2Go

If you are looking for other books that are not in our Library, Library2go will be in our Park **April 11th from 10 am to 11:30 am** at Hood Hall.

Hillsborough County Library cards are available too.

Pickleball/Tennis



The pickleball and tennis players want to wholeheartedly thank those who contributed money and efforts to improve and resurface the tennis/pickleball courts in our park. Donations and purchasing meals were very helpful.

A huge thank you goes to Dave Blough for his expertise, organization of materials, and hard labor in planning, repairing, resurfacing, and painting the courts this past summer and fall.

A job well done and appreciated. The courts are in full use often throughout the day! Many are enjoying the play and social time together.

It is evident by the laughter, shouts, and smiles. Many new people are playing, and free lessons are available.

Pickleball / Tennis Committee
517-250-1420

Cars and Coffee

2nd Saturday of every month

April 13th 8:00am to 10am.

Everyone is welcome to come and view great restored autos and custom hot rods.

Join us in L&L Park at the Church parking lot!

Come, join the fun, and have a cup of coffee and a doughnut!

Larry Thomas 540-447-0458

Shuffleboard

The Shuffleboard Club wants to Thank Dale Schantz for his amazing leadership over the past years. He has been a diligent leader and encourager.

He has decided to step down as President but will continue to use his expertise in maintaining the courts as well as coaching anyone who wants to learn the game.

The Board:

Bill Sones ----- President

Barb Hartson ----- Vice President

Ruth Bridgeforth – Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Directors, Roy Wight, Frank Bourdo, and Murray Yule.

Nominating Committee: Faith Reesman, Becky Bell, and Jan Pariso.

Our beautiful Park



The newest/youngest members of our park and their fearless leader. Thanks, Doug, for taking charge.



And our constant friend who seems to like it here.

Salvation Army Crafting Event

Join us in Hood Hall

Friday April 19, starting at 1:00 pm

Saturday April 20, starting at 8:00 am

Bring your projects to work on in a light hearted atmosphere.

Come and go as you please. Cost is \$20.00 for a half of an eight foot table where you can work on your project.

All proceeds go to the Salvation Army Transitional Housing Program.

Please RSVP by April 10th to Cindy Lower at cindylower950@gmail.com

We will be collecting **Deodorant and Baby wipes for donation**, which you can bring to HH anytime during those two days **BUT anyone is welcome to just come and watch. Also, some of the ladies have things to sell.**

Best Regards

Cindy Lower

Game Night

Game Night is held on most **Friday evenings** at 7:00 PM in **Maxwell Commons**.

Bring your favorite game and friends and have an evening of fun and fellowship.



Newsletter Deadline

Please be sure that your submissions to **The Life and Times** are delivered to the newsletter editor, Barb Hartson by the **20th** of the month prior to publication.

Please use this email: bhartson@gmail.com Email is the preferred method.

The May deadline is April 20th unless the activity is in the latter half of the month. Then check with me to see if you can still make it in.

WOOD ACTIVITIES NEWS

The season is almost over and those who are winter residents are preparing to go back North. The wood shop is also preparing for a new season starting in the Fall.

Elections were held at the March membership meeting to choose leaders for next year. Lee Stevens and Kathy Kauffman were elected to serve three-year terms on the Leadership Board. Lee will serve as President, Mel Stevenson as Vice-President and Jim Falconer as Secretary/Treasurer.

These elections are held each year in the month of March to select the leaders, per our Bylaws. Anyone who is interested in being a candidate for office in the wood shop for next year, please contact Lee or Jim at the e-mails listed below. Also, if you have suggestions for next year, we would welcome your ideas.

At the membership meeting, Gary Mace was awarded an Honorary Lifetime Membership on the Leadership Board in recognition of his many years of service to the wood shop.

The membership fee remains at \$15.00 for 2025, which covers both husband and wife. If the spouse wishes to use the wood shop equipment, they must also sign a liability waiver sheet.

All members will be asked to give their e-mail address as they sign up in the fall. This will help each member to receive information and updates promptly throughout the year concerning the wood shop.

This newsletter column will be the last one until next fall. Our next member meeting will be held on Friday, January 10, 2025. Mark your calendars and join us in the New Year 2025. We wish you a safe summer and hope to see everyone next year at Light and Life Park.

Lee Stevens
President

icsquality@hotmail.com

Jim Falconer

Secretary/Treasurer

falconer_j@yahoo.com

Beautification Committee

Beautification Committee Members at work to help keep our park looking good. Thanks to the members for helping clean the front entrance, North side, to the park. A job well done.



**Forever In Christ,
Tom Lake
Beautification Committee President**

Annual Craft Show and Bake Sale

Thank you All for another successful Craft Show and Bake Sale. It was well attended and really showed off the talent of our Park Residents.

Blessings
Becky Smith becsmith62@gmail.com
Text or Call: 231.349.2993



Door
prize
winners

Joyce
and
Dennis
Green

Miniature Golf

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in the miniature golf workday.

The course was blown clean, weeds and insects sprayed, leaves raked, the shed and course figures power washed, deteriorated benches removed, almost a dozen golf clubs regripped, some shortened for children, the shed door and trim is prepped and will be painted soon. Everything is looking great. We have more upgrades coming in the future.
Thanks again. Henry Emilio

Light and Life Bowling

Our season has come to an end. We had a great time bowling this year with some great people.

We all enjoyed our end of year luncheon at the Golden Coral while celebrating the achievements of all the bowlers.



Winning
First place

Team
"All Dunn"

Barb Hartson 814-397-6274

Martha's Place News

A big thank you to all who donated fabric so that we could make and distribute:

- 50+ bags to Florida Teen Missions
- 6 Children's Quilts to Salvation Army Women's Transition Unit of Lakeland
- 11 Comfort Quilts to Light and Life members who were grieving.

Thank you also to all who helped with cutting, sewing, and quilting these projects. We so appreciate those who kept Martha's Place beautiful inside and out.

We need your help if you would like to see these projects continue. Donations of cotton material is always needed and welcome, BUT, if you are a sewer we need more willing hands to make the load easier.

A friendly reminder, supplies and equipment are not to be removed from the building. You can use them on the premises any time.

For information Contact:

Elaine Goldsmith,
Cheryl Maculloch,
or Jane Moffitt.

Happy Sewing.



Wednesday Golf

We just completed our last Wednesday Men's Golf Day for the spring season. If you are interested in joining us next season, email me with your contact information and I will add you to our list. We had as many as 20 players on some of the golf days and I expect our numbers will go up next season as some of our regulars are able to return from injuries and medical issues that kept them from playing this year. Also, we will be switching days from Wednesday to Thursday next year to better fit schedules.



First place
with a score of
66 -6 under
par:
Chris Conway,
Kent Enyart,
Ron Foster

Second place
with a score of
69 -3 under par:
Cliff Nicholas,
Keith Fall,
Wade Wilson
and Phil Moore



Third place with
a score of 72
even par:
Lee Stevens,
Dave Waid,
Larry Putnam
and Dan Northup



KENT ENYART Kentenyart@icloud.com

**Light and Life
Free Methodist Church**

5730 Deeson Road
Lakeland, FL 33810
Phone: (863) 858-6361
Fax (863) 858-3982
Email: church@lflmc.org

Pastor: Jeff Bellinger
Associate Pastor: Roger Haskins
Secretary: Pam Hill
Email: church@lflmc.org

A Note from our Pastor

Ellen and I trust you enjoyed a blessed Easter as we celebrated our Risen Lord Jesus! How blessed we are that our God of unfailing love sent His only Son to take our sins so that we might know His forgiveness.

I have been challenged again to reconsider prayer. I blame Ed Stockwell and his merry band of friends who meet every Thursday morning. This winter they have been reading "Soul Revolution: How imperfect people become all that God intended" by John Burke. Ed blessed me with a copy of this book even though I could not join them each week.

This is a great read. Thank you, Ed! I highly recommend it.

The author suggests a "60-60" experiment (sixty minutes for sixty days) "...to stay in continuous connection and radical responsiveness before God."

Why? We remember the biblical admonitions to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17), to pray at all times (Ephesians 6:18), to devote ourselves to prayer (Colossians 4:2) and the list goes on.

But life happens. Our Sunday morning inspiration to pray continually sadly fades away as fast as our New Year resolutions. "Try harder, do better" fails as a life changing strategy.

Continued next column.

Continued from previous column.

And this is exactly where the author comes to us with a hope-filled invitation. Understanding that good life patterns made from well-practiced habits need a structured runway to launch from, Burke suggests an app that will chime every hour on the hour reminding us to pray.

So, I downloaded an app called "Hourly Chime" and put it to work between the hours of 6:00am and 10:00pm. And the chime that I chose was a doorbell (thinking of Revelation 3:20 - "...Here I am! Behold I stand at the door and knock").

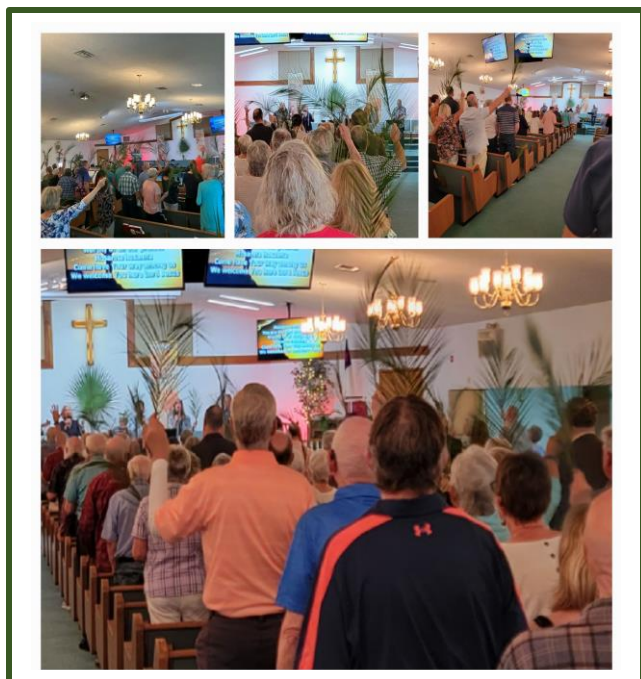
Every hour on the hour when my chime goes off, I am reminded of Jesus at the door knocking. I pause to recalibrate. I thank Father for His presence. I inventory the emotions that I am feeling and bring them to Jesus. I consider the tasks at hand and bring them to Jesus. I ask the Spirit if there is anything He wants to show me or teach me. I thank our God of unfailing love for His countless blessings of the day.

And I am finding that this "60-60" experiment is a joyful habit that has the potential to become a good life pattern where one day I might wake up and discover it is a deeply ingrained lifestyle empowering me to pray without ceasing, to pray at all times and to truly devote myself to pray.

I invite you to join me - and Ed and his merry band of Thursday morning friends. Take up the "60-60" experiment. Download the app. Choose your chime. Put it to work. Little prayer - little power. Some prayer - some power. Much prayer - much power. Watch what happens.

As Burke says in closing, "Reimagine the future you. How imperfect people become all God intended."

Dr. Roger Haskins, Bishop Emeritus
Roger.haskins.jr@gmail.com
585.301.8610 cell (US)



PALM SUNDAY

**BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME
OF THE LORD!**

BRISKET COOK-OFF

WHAT FUN

SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS RAISED!

THANKS EVERYONE!



The Light and Life Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Pam Hill Secretary

HOME BIBLE STUDY

Come join us in the Church Annex for this informal Bible study. **Everyone is welcome.**

We are currently discussing the Psalms and how they can impact our lives.

Cindy Igel: 716-803-3961

Pam Hill: 863-808-3779

Email: church.llfmc.org

SUNRISE SERVICE!

Thanks, Flo, for Organizing this service.

Thanks, Dawn, for that uplifting message.



We have a Choir,

Plan on joining the budding Choir next year.



Outreach Ministry

You were challenged to look in your cupboards and donate one of your favorite things. Mine is pickles or olives. Doesn't matter.

If you can't bear to donate those, donate at least TWO things. Maybe that can of peas and chicken noodle soup?

Then praise the Lord you had choices in your cupboard and leave your donation at Hood Hall.

This has been an exciting month. We have a 15-year-old girl from Briarwood who volunteered to help. She helps shop, pack and deliver to her neighbors. Two weeks ago, her 13-year-old sister joined us.

It has really helped as we discuss what goes in the boxes and why. We talk about what proteins can be and how many things you can do with a bag of rice or potatoes or fruits and vegetables. I learn to consider likes, dislikes and cooking challenges without certain appliances. We do price comparison shopping and can report that one of the girls says she will talk to her mom about where we shop and how we compare for best value.

Many of you donated for the "20 Easter buckets" given to our families. Each bucket had candy, toys, an Easter bookmark, coffee, and a book telling the true story of Easter.

Bruce brought two teen volunteers to help with this packing and distribution.

Some of you took the two-item cupboard challenge and donated. I told you that my favorite was garlic stuffed olives and after asking found that our 15-year-old tried them and reported they were good. Her sister said no way would she eat raw olives!

As the season winds down don't forget to donate any extra cupboard foods. If you have frozen foods let me know and we will take and distribute those as well.

Program Director
Christine Aurich
616 402 8241

Chrisaurich@hotmail.com

Just so you know!

Thank you, Outreach Ministry, for reaching out to one of the youths in Briarwood, Cristal, who some of you met Monday afternoon filling boxes for her neighborhood and praying with us. That meant a lot to her and her family.

Her sister Nana, who had also been coming to church, and Cristal both gave their hearts to the Lord this morning!

I'm not sure if the celebration in Heaven was as fun as the celebration that emanated from the girls accepting Jesus here, but word spread quickly, and we all found ourselves in the sanctuary all laughing and praising Jesus with the other pastors and all the kids.

This is what your prayers and gifts for the outreach ministry accomplish. It has always been about reaching the lost with the Good News of the Gospel and transforming a neighborhood outside the gates. It has never been about the meager amount of food we all help provide, but the Bread of Life that is Christ, who offers everlasting life for those who believe.

Thank you to all that helped and continue to help through the years! You are a big part of this praise report!

Please continue to pray for the lives of those we still need to reach.

In His Grip,
Pastor Randy
704-488-1843
brittandherdad@aol.com

Florida's Light and Life Park

