



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park
August-September Newsletter

August 1, 2026

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FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Mobile Homes for Sale

5416 Zion Ave. – \$128,000

5876 Moriah - \$55,000

RVs and Campers for Sale

5323 Hebron Ct. - \$10,500

5242 Zion - \$19,500

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

From our Executive Director (Park Administrator)

Dear Light and Life Park Family,

As I sit down to write this month's update, I am filled with gratitude. The past several weeks have been busy, productive, and personally significant. God has been faithful through every step, and I am thankful for His provision, protection, and guidance along the way.

The verse that has been on my heart recently is:

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." *Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIV)*

This scripture has taken on special meaning for me over the last month as I completed a major move and continued working alongside our team to move important Park projects forward.

Last month was focused largely on relocating my remaining household belongings from Calgary, Alberta, to Light & Life Park. After several weeks of closing up our rental home, packing boxes, and preparing for the move, I began the approximately **4,400-kilometer (2,300-mile)** journey back to Florida in a U-Haul. The trip took just over four days, and throughout the entire drive I genuinely felt the Lord's hand of protection surrounding me. From the Canadian prairies to the highways of the United States, God provided safe travels and peace of mind, and I arrived back at the Park safely on the evening of **Thursday, July 23rd**.

It is a blessing to now officially call Florida home full-time and to be fully settled into this next chapter of life and ministry here at Light & Life Park. While there is much work ahead, I am excited to be fully present and engaged for all that God has in store. Terri Ann will join me at the end of August, as she spends some final weeks in Canada with her mom and our boys.

On the Park side of operations, we have reached several important milestones. I am pleased to report the successful completion of both the **Hood Hall roof replacement project** and the **road paving project**. These improvements represent a significant investment in our infrastructure and are important steps toward maintaining and enhancing the Park for years to come.

News from Park Administrator cont.

I appreciate the patience and cooperation shown by so many residents during the temporary disruptions these projects created.

Another area showing tremendous progress is the **two-acre lot outside the Park entrance**. Our team has been working diligently to clean, clear, and improve this property, and the transformation has been impressive. It is encouraging to see the pride and effort that our staff and volunteers continue to invest in making the Park look its best.

As summer continues, our focus is increasingly turning toward preparation for the upcoming **fall and winter season**. The office team is actively planning, organizing, & preparing for the arrival of many returning residents and guests. We are looking forward to welcoming familiar faces back to the community and hearing about the experiences and adventures you've had during the off-season.

One area that remains a significant priority for me is **storm preparedness**, particularly related to our **stormwater drainage infrastructure**. As Florida's storm season continues, we must carefully evaluate how our drainage systems perform and identify improvements that may be necessary. Working with our partners and local resources, we will continue assessing options and developing a plan to ensure the Park is as prepared as possible for future weather challenges. While this work is not always visible, it is critical to protecting our facilities, roads, and community for the long term.

As I reflect on the past month, I am reminded that progress often comes one step at a time. Sometimes those steps involve major construction projects, sometimes they involve long drives across the continent, and sometimes they simply involve faithfully preparing for what comes next. Through it all, God remains faithful.

Thank you for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support. It is truly an honor to serve this community, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together during the remainder of the summer and into the season ahead.

With gratitude,

Lyndon Babcock, Executive Director

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I want to start with thanking all involved with the completion of some significant projects (mainly the Hood Hall roof and the road resurfacing). The Board appreciates and would like to publicly thank Lyndon, his staff, volunteers and also all of the members that endured the inconvenience and cooperated with the completion of these projects. I also want to acknowledge that these projects could not have been completed without the forward thinking and planning of our Finance Committee to make sure we have funds when needed. The Finance Committee will soon be developing the 2027 budget and will continue to build in capital funding so that we are prepared for future planned and unplanned projects.

Over the next few months the Board will be addressing some By-Law changes that our attorneys have suggested. The majority of the changes will be "housecleaning" in nature but will also better align with the Rules and Regulations. The Board will be reviewing and considering changes to the Rules and Regulations, as well. We will attempt to streamline the document, but also consider changes needed to address noncompliance by the members. This, unfortunately, may include fines for non-compliance. These subjects will be discussed further as we approach the 2027 Members meetings.

I need to remind all members that you are responsible for keeping your property/landscaping maintained and free of clutter and debris at all times. If you are not present to maintain the property, you must contract to have the maintenance completed on a regular basis (likely on a bi-weekly basis). I have instructed Lyndon to notify members and to move forward with having the maintenance completed, for which the members will be billed. We have tried to be patient on this issue, but have received many complaints from members. Throughout the year the Park has many visitors and we want the Park to be aesthetically pleasing and well maintained all year round, for the benefit of full time members and as a point of community pride in our Park.

Continued on next page

News from the Board continued

We are right in the middle of Hurricane season. Before the end of the winter/spring season a notification went out to instruct people to prepare for hurricane season and to put objects that could potential become airborne during a storm or hurricane inside their homes or ensure that they are properly anchored. The Maintenance Staff will be surveying the Park to identify potential issues. If necessary, they will remove and discard any item that is not secured. The members will be charged for this as necessary.

I hope everyone can agree that we all need to do our part to keep the Park properly maintained and as safe as possible.

The next Park Board meeting will be the first Monday in August (8/3/26) at 9:00 am. Zoom instructions will be distributed prior to the meeting. If you want to attend, click on the link to be provided, identify yourself and wait for the host to connect you to the meeting.

Ron Foster
Acting President and Board Vice President
607-765-7541

NEW MEMBER PROFILES



DAN AND JULIE WENSLEY

reside at 5886 Mizpah when at Light and Life Park. They are originally from Michigan but now make their home in Roanoke VA.

Dan and Julie have always been self-employed, making their living in marketing & manufacturing.

The Wensleys have been married for 51 years, after meeting at a Covenant Cove Youth Camp when they were just teens. They both grew up in East Michigan, and had many friends and acquaintances at Light & Life before they became members of the park. Julie is sister to Ken Kendall, and close friends with Roxanne Smarszcz.

Both Dan and Julie are musical – Dan plays guitar, Julie plays the piano, and they both sing. They lead the worship in the Hispanic service at their church. Julie has already played for worship at Light and Life Church.

Besides music, both Dan and Julie enjoy walking, reading, and swimming.

The Wensleys are blessed to have three children and three grandchildren, and enjoy the time they get to spend with family.

We're delighted to have Dan and Julie among our membership – let's all make them welcome.

ROB AND FRAN

KINGSLEY have visited Light and Life Park many times, as Rob's parents were residents, and they have many Spring Arbor friends that are members.

While in Florida, the Kingsleys reside at 5875 Mizpah, and in Spring Arbor, Michigan the rest of the time. Their son and his wife have three daughters, and their daughter and husband are expecting her first child this fall.



Rob retired from Spring Arbor University, where he was a registrar and an adjunct history professor. He and Fran led nine student groups on cross-cultural studies trips to Hungary (where they had lived for two years).

He loves organizing and planning trips and traveling, as well as bicycling and golf.

Fran worked for a famous toy store (the Toy House) in Jackson Michigan for 11 years. She retired from a business called Fitness Finders, a company that aids schools in fitness programs for children.

Rob is brother to Janet Bunting. Fran teamed up with in-law Butch to demolish campers after Hurricane Milton's flood.

Fran also enjoys travel and bike riding, as well as gardening. Both Rob and Fran are blessed with great voices for singing. Rob can be a bit of a cut-up at times, so if you want to have fun—get to know Rob and Fran!



BILLY AND PAM WICKMAN are New Yorkers who renovated the former home of Phil and Lorraine Moore at 5328 Bethel.

Billy was a carpenter by

trade, having served for 52 years with Local 281. Pam worked in the medical profession as a biller for a hospital and later at a doctor's office.

The Wickman's have two sons and six grandchildren, and they all call Vestal, New York home.

Billy and Pam's oldest son is also their pastor at New Life Ministries, which is a Free Methodist Church. His daughter, Cassie, is also an ordained Free Methodist pastor who serves in Seattle, Washington.

Both Pam and Billy enjoy camping, and hanging out with their grandchildren.

Billy loves riding his motorcycle and working with wood.

Pam's favorite pastimes include reading and entertaining.

The Wickman's came to Light and Life because their dear friends, Ron and Lana Foster winter here, and because it is a Free Methodist community.

So far, Billy and Pam have thoroughly enjoyed life at Light and Life Park and all of the various activities. They look forward to getting involved in areas where they can be of service. Pam has already joined the Bucket Listers in fund-raising efforts.

The servant attitude that the Wickman's display is inspiring. Thank you, Billy and Pam, for making Light and Life Park your home away from home.



EARL & WILLIE CONCERTS IN MICHIGAN

If you live in Michigan, be sure to come out and support Earl and Willie at one of their free concerts.

August 22	5:00 pm	Four Corners Benton Harbor
August 23	10:00 am	Somerset FMC Somerset Center
August 29	6:00 pm	Racy FMC Elsie
August 30	10:00 am	Yankee Springs Bible—Middleville
September 6	11:00 am	Living Promise Flushing
September 6	6:00 pm	Covenant Hills FM Otisville

For directions—go to earlandwillie.com and click on the "Tour Dates" tab.

Earl and Willie will also be leading worship at the Golden Living Senior retreat at Covenant Hills Camp on September 9-11. Guest speakers for the retreat are our own Roger Haskins and Glen Teal.

The retreat is FREE! (Offerings will be taken to cover expenses, and campsites and cabins are on a fee basis)

You may register one of three ways:

Go to [covenanthillscamp.org/golden living](http://covenanthillscamp.org/golden%20living);
call 810-429-8915 or
email guestservices@covenanthills.org

Can You Interpret My Dream?

By Chris Conway

It starts with me seeing a bright **Light**. It nearly scared the **Life** out of me, but as I started to walk towards it, I found myself walking through an opened gate and down a road...

I came upon an older guy getting ready to box with his grandson...

I said to him, Why are you boxing with your grandson?

He said, honestly, I think this is the best chance that he has for any success. He's gotten **Deeson** every test he's ever taken.

Then the kid came over and it wasn't long before I could see what he saying...he was about 3 bricks **Shi, loh** by a quart or so if you know what I mean. Maybe grandpa had hit him in his noggin a few too many times.

Then the kid said, "Put up your **Mitz, Pah**!"

Since I just couldn't bear to watch any **Mor, I ah** went on my way.

As I continued my walk, the surroundings were beautiful. The sky was **Beu, lah land** was green.

I came upon a field surrounded by trees. As I looked out, I saw several female pigs gathered, then several male deer joined them. Before I knew it, I was looking at over 100 sows and bucks!

Walking a bit further, I came upon a man named Mel and his wife, Beth. They had just come home from picking strawberries and were unloading them from their car.

I said, " Nice **Car, Mel**, and those strawberries look goooooood!

Mel said to his wife as he was looking at me, "He **Zion** our strawberries."

As he looked at me, I saw him **Joppa** berry on the ground.

Hebron a few berries over to me and told me that his wife **Beth el Drive** some more over to me later.

I said, "Thanks for **Sharon**!"

They were always very generous with giving away their food...and I thought, that must be why **Bethany Way** only about 250 pounds between the two of them!

As I walked a little further, I came upon a small pond and saw a gator resting on the shore beside it.

I said, could you tell me how to get out of here?

He said, how am I supposed to know?

I said, "I thought you were a navigator."

He said, "No, I'm an instigator!"

My mother told me not to hang out with those types of gators, so I thought I'd better get out of there.

So, I continued on with my journey down that road and eventually came back to the gate that I had passed through earlier.

A man near the gate shouted as I left, "That was a long walk... **Jor dan** already?!"

I said, "I guess so, that was **Ebenezer** than I thought!"

And I walked out the gate.

(Chris read this original composition at the Fellowship Dinner Comedy Night in April.

Just in case you have trouble getting the jist of it, here is a glossary:

Deeson: D's on

Shi loh: shy, low

Mitz Pah: mitts, pa

Mor, I ah: more, I ah

Beau, lah land: blue, the land

Zion: he's eyein'

Joppa: drop a

Hebron: he brung

Beth el Drive: Beth will drive

Sharon: sharin'

Bethany Way: Beth and he weigh

Jordan: You're done

Ebenezer: even easier

(Now read it again)

Nice play on words, Chris—thanks for your contribution!!)

NAME THAT PLACE

Here is a little quiz I put together for our small group at Light and Life a couple of years back. As I recall, David Waid got all of them right without even having to look up the scripture verses. See if you can do the same. Hint: all of the answers are names of Light & Life streets.

1) One of the four Holy Cities of Judaism – where Abraham settled and was buried. It is also believed to be the place where David was anointed king. _____ Genesis 13:18

2) A stone monument erected by Samuel after defeating the Philistines. It's name means "hitherto the Lord has helped us." _____
1 Samuel 7

3) Hometown of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. _____ John 11:1

4) A declaration that represented God's watch care over Jacob and Laban when they parted ways. _____ Genesis 31:48-49

5) The mountain where Abraham took his son Isaac to be sacrificed to God. _____
Genesis 22:2

6) A fortress that David captured from the Jebusites, called the City of David. _____
2 Samuel 5:7

7) Joshua crossed it with the Ark of the Covenant and later it was the place of Jesus' baptism. _____
Joshua 3 & Matthew 3:13-17

8) A prophetic, symbolic name for the land of Israel, it means "married," and signifies the ultimate restoration of God's people, where the land is no longer desolate but joyfully united in a covenant relationship with the Lord. _____
Isaiah 62:4

9) A fertile plain located in the central coastal region of ancient Israel, extending from the

Mediterranean Sea to the foothills of the central highlands. _____ Isaiah 35:2 speaks of its glory and splendor.

10) The prophet Jonah traveled to this seaport to board a ship heading to Tarshish, attempting to flee from God's command to preach in Nineveh. _____
Jonah 1:3

11) An ancient city in Ephraim that served as Israel's first religious capital. For over 300 years, it housed the Tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant. It also appears as a prophetic title for the Messiah. _____
Joshua 18:1

12) Jacob had a dream in which he saw a ladder ascending to heaven. He believed that the place was "the gateway to heaven." He poured oil over the rock on which he had rested his head and declared this new name, although the city had been called Luz. _____
Genesis 28:18-19

13) An early settler named **Cincinnatus Winchester** _____ (often known as C.W. or Chester) served as the Sheriff of Polk County during the Civil War (from 1863 to 1865). Over generations, members of his extended family farmed and resided in the rural landscapes north of Lakeland, eventually leading to the naming of the thoroughfare that ends at Light and Life Park. Google

H A P Z I M H I W Y G Z S X E	ZION
Z A X O W A X A A J F R C L B	MIZPAH
J H P O T G R W I Q P C B E E	HEBRON
L U T P C Z Y B M R F X N H N	JOPPA
H N J Y O N O I Z S O J E T E	MORIAH
R E X Q A J J R H P Z M L E Z	BETHEL
P Q K H L H F I H W Z Q M B E	DEESON
D J T B E U L A H L A N D V R	SHARON
J E O B Z O A U U D B U G Z A	TRAIL
B A R L H Y O J H V E X U Q Z	JORDAN
U O U P F M X J Y W D E J M G	
N N A D R O J E N K Y D S I N	
I T S H A R O N T R A I L O R	
H W H P L H U B X Q O J T S N	
Y T D U J E A P N H R L B E O	

BETHANY WAY SHILOH PATH EBENEZER BEULAH LAND

LIGHT AND LIFE FRIENDS PICNIC

Michigan friends:

Pack your picnic basket with your own place setting, a table cloth, a beverage and a large dish to pass.

Then head to Brown City (Missionary) Camp on August 6th at noon, for a great time of food and fellowship. Carol Zeller will be hosting.



GADABOUTS 2027 SCHEDULE

It's not too early to mark your calendars with the dates for this winter's Gadabout activities. All ladies in the park are welcome on these fun day trips. All you have to do is sign up in Hood Hall a week or so before the activity.



January 14 & 28; February 11 & 25; and March 11 & 25! These are all Thursdays. Times will vary according to drive times and the event.

Some trips may include: Boggy Creek Airboat near Kissimmee; Picassoz - Ceramic and mosaics in downtown Lakeland; a Thrift store expedition to Dade City; Bob's Train Museum and Train ride near Sarasota; Amazon warehouse tour near Lakeland; Silver Springs glass bottom boats; Solomons Castle, or The Tabernacle at Tarpon Springs.

Contact Peggy Dunn for more information or to help with planning. pegjim2000@yahoo.com (248)766-5537.



Greetings Aqua Splash Crew!

August Aqua Splash continues based upon availability of participants. Meanwhile, we are counting down to our Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 8th at Noon. All are welcome to join us. Blessings!

Karen Castle-Williams,
ASFA Water Aerobics Instructor



CONSOLIDATED NEWSLETTER For August/September

You may have noticed that this edition of the Life and Times combines the months of August and September.

Lyndon Babcock and Ron Foster felt that preparing two reports during these slow months would be a challenge, as we don't really have much news to report in the summer months. Therefore, we will not have another newsletter until the October 1st edition.

Any announcements that you need to make can be sent to Neighborhood News or posted on the Light and Life Facebook Group page.

I hope that you enjoyed the quiz and word search puzzle about our unusual street names that I included in this edition.

I pray God's blessings on you as you enjoy the rest of your summer. I'll see some of you in the fall and hopefully the rest of you this winter!

*-Carolyn Lindley, Editor
Life and Times*

Articles and submissions for the Life and Times October Edition must be received by September 20 to ensure publication. Please email: carolyn_lindley@yahoo.com DO NOT send information for the newsletter via text or voicemail.