



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.

Newsletter

July 1, 2024

Volume 12 Issue 7 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Lakeland, FL 33810

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Park Administrator: Stan Welton
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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 are currently no lots available to lease for a RV or Park Model.

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

We haven't really been spying on you, but we have been observing you all scurrying about. So, we are reporting what we have seen.

The other day, a couple of us saw, and reported back to headquarters, several big boxes outside of Hood Hall. Since this was new, we stuck around to see what was in the boxes. Chairs. Tables. Now, why would the Park need tables and chairs? Listening in, we learned that the old tables were too heavy, and the chairs were uncomfortable and hard to move. But then we learned that the Park still needs to raise over \$6,000 to pay for the chairs! Our ruling authority concluded that there will be fundraising efforts to meet that need.

We heard that the Park bought some property next door, so a group of us went over to investigate. Wow! What a difference. Nearly all the buildings are gone and there aren't nearly as many places for us to hide as there were before. There is still a lot of activity over there. People are picking up concrete and pavers. Other people are picking up the remaining trash. There was one guy driving a tractor and leveling out the ground. Pretty soon there won't be any place to hide and we'll have to go back to our old abodes.

Speaking of places to hide, we've noticed several residences around the Park that haven't been trimmed. We're not sure, but we believe that everyone is required to make sure that the area around their residence is trimmed all summer. It was reported that the Administrator was out checking for high grass and weeds. Our observers even said he was taking pictures! After a meeting of our leaders, it was concluded that some people will be getting notices that their residence needs to be trimmed, and that must be why he was taking photos.

We've been watching the Weather Channel—when someone has it playing. The forecasters tell us that a busy hurricane season is here, and the first tropical storm has a name. We have places to go when a hurricane strikes, but do you have a plan when a hurricane is predicted in our area?

Continued next page.

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The other day, people were here from Polk County Fire Training department reminding you how to prepare for a hurricane event. They stressed that people check the preparedness list—we're pretty sure one has been seen in the office—to be certain you have an evacuation plan, and everything packed up and ready to go. We have been told that if you want to know more about getting ready, you should visit the FEMA web page.

Know who we are yet? You have grown to hate us. You try to avoid us. You love to kick our homes. You try to eradicate us. We are your ever-present fire ants.

As I write this, it is the first day of summer. Have a blessed summer. Enjoy the outdoors. Get close to Jesus. "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

San

Office News

Summer is in full swing. We are finally getting the afternoon thunderstorms that come with summer. This is much needed rain. A good tropical storm with rain and lighter wind would be good for our water levels. We just don't want any hurricanes. It is important that we have accountability of the people in the park during hurricane season. Please let the office know if you are a year-round resident and you are leaving the park for more than just a few days. If you are having guests or family stay at your place, please let the office know.

The reservation confirmation letters went out to those people who were assigned to a motel room, cabin or RV site for the upcoming 2024-2025 winter season. Please read the letter thoroughly and call us at the office if you have any questions.

We are excited to be hosting a retreat for missionaries from Haiti here in the park during the month of July. Jamie Sinsmyr is leading this retreat. It will be nice to see families enjoying our facilities and getting a much-needed vacation. The park has a proud history of housing missionary families.

Continued next column.

Continued from previous column.

There were no closings during the month of June.

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, \$6,300.00
4. Deano and Darlene Pulice, 5337 Ebenezer Pl
Travel Trailer, \$12,500.00
5. Estate of Julia McDonald, 5315 Hebron Ct,
Travel Trailer, \$8,000.00
6. Dean and Barbara Rockwell, 5319 Hebron Ct.
Park Model, \$35,500.00
7. Debbie Roberts, 5326 Ebenezer Place,
Travel Trailer, \$38,000.00
8. Criag and Cindy Ewing, 5833 Moriah Place
Singlewide, \$50,000.00

Greg Thomas

Office Manager

The 2023 Drinking Water Quality Report (also called the Consumer Confidence Report) is **NOT** being mailed to the Park's residents. Instead, a copy of the report is located on the counter at the communications center in Hood Hall and online at <https://lightandlifepark.org/2023-Drinking-Water-Report>. If you have difficulty locating any of these resources, please contact the office.

Stan Welton, Park Administrator

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

News from the Board of Directors

Summer has arrived in Michigan a little early this year. You would think it was August in Florida with weather forecasts for the rest of the week of highs in the 90s and very humid.

We held our first summer BOD meeting via Zoom on June 3. The summer agendas are primarily intended for us all to keep in touch with the staff to see how things are going in our Park and address any items that need to be taken care of.

So here are some highlights of that meeting:

The 8 acres along the north side of Deeson have been surveyed. The next step is to install fencing. Here is another “**volunteer**” opportunity. To keep the cost down, the contractor has asked us for help clear a path for the fencing.

Much of our conversation centered around the properties at 5580 and 5570 Deeson Road, aka, the newest property just outside the gate and the former Lower house.

There still is much work to be done at 5580, such as raking, filling holes, trimming, reshaping the pathways, etc. The future of this area has not been determined yet.

The discussion about 5570 centered around what to do with the house and the larger lot it is on. A motion was made to sell the house “as is”. As we reported last month, there are some zoning questions that need to be answered with the county as to the lot size. So, stay tuned.

The moving of the chairs and heavy tables continues to be an issue. As a result of a request from Becky Smith, we passed a motion to approve funds for the purchase of the remaining tables and chairs, and Becky has agreed to be the “champion” to complete the fund raising for this project. Many of us who have had to move those tables over the years will be pleased.

Continued from previous column.

Continue to have a good summer and be safe from hurricanes and summer storms.
Pray for us as we seek direction and vision to decide the future of our “Eastern border”.

God Bless

Larry Putnam

Summer Dinners

Thursday, July 4th at 5:30 pm.
The cost is \$6.00.

It will be July 4th fare as follows: Burgers and Brats, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, and dessert.

Sign up in Hood Hall by Friday, June 29.

If you are willing to help with set-up or clean up, please let Dave Cook know.



Dinner at the Max!

6:00 pm Friday evenings

Bring a dish to pass and
enjoy both Dinner at the Max and
Game Night at 7:00.

Of course, you may enjoy either dinner or
games...whatever fits your schedule!

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.

Please put all clean, washed clothing as well as all other items in bags and leave it in my porch on Fridays. We will deliver on Saturdays. If it is not clean and/or bagged it will be thrown out. I am not able to do that part anymore. Thanks for your cooperation.

Should you wish to help financially or take your own items yourself the address is: 814 North Kentucky Avenue, Lakeland.

Thank you! Jean Whipple

Stamps for Missions

Alliance Stamp Ministry has generated over **ONE MILLION DOLLARS** towards Spanish Sunday School curriculum used by forty different denominations in Latin America, Spain, and the USA since its inception in 1972. It took 46 years to reach that first million-dollar goal; that's \$21,739 average per year, \$1811 per month.

Obviously, as with most ministries, it took a while to get the ball rolling. Since 2018 this organization has been working towards its second million-dollar goal: \$35,000 was raised in 2023 alone. We at **LLFM Park** who take time to save postage stamps are doing our part to **MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** If you haven't already, please save your stamps.

YOU can MAKE a DIFFERENCE by doing something as little as:

carefully cutting (1/4 - 1/3-inch border) postage stamps.

Save them until fall;

take them to Hood Hall.

Thank you for your participation!

Marilyn Stone
Coordinator



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**In need of your help:**

As you know, John and I have moved to an area about 2 hours east of Lakeland. Therefore, I am looking for someone to oversee the Senior Orphans donations ministry here in the park. It would require that you transport things from Hood Hall on an as-needed basis when the bins have enough donations to warrant a trip to the coordinator's house right off N. Galloway Rd. It is right on our way to Wal-Mart, so it is very convenient to drop things off if/when we're

making a Wal-Mart run. 😊 **I ask that you prayerfully consider becoming the coordinator of Senior Orphans donations in our park,** and if you have any interest or any questions, please contact

me. 🙏

Thank you, and God's blessings to you.

Humbly,
Terri Boda

Fellowship Dinner with Programs

The Nov-April season for our monthly event is over. We greatly appreciate your attendance, support, and encouragement. The numerous volunteers are warmly thanked for graciously contributing ideas, inviting others, participating in programs, greeting, hosting, promoting, providing food, setting up/cleaning up etc. Our committee thanks ALL of you for helping in big or small ways. This is especially

for those who like reviews, closure. 😊

The fall schedule begins Nov 4 with Carol Zeller planning another interesting program, then a Dec 9 Christmas event under the guidance of Carolyn Lindley. 2025 dates: Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, Nov 3, and Dec 8. **Easy way to remember** always the first Monday except Dec when we give more time after Thanksgiving dinner. This is especially for you

future planners. 😊 God bless you all and hope you join us in the fall!

Marilyn Stone, chairman jaxstone68@gmail.com

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.

Blood Pressure

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

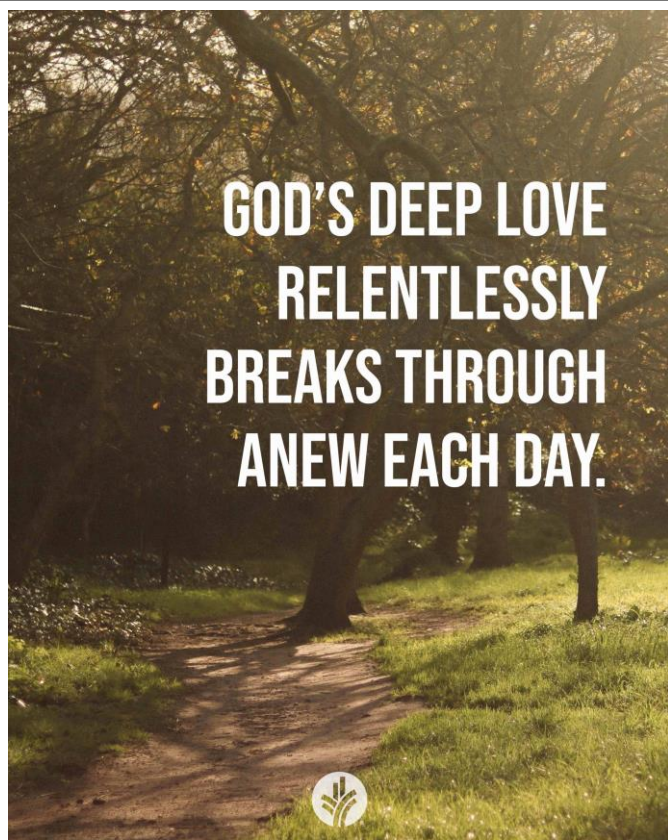
However, since I am here year-round you can still get your blood pressure taken on a regular basis if necessary.

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

JoAnn Willet RN
989-615-8430



**GOD'S DEEP LOVE
RELENTLESSLY
BREAKS THROUGH
ANEW EACH DAY.**



Gad-About 2025

- Jan 09 IKEA Shopping n lunch
Bahama Breeze in Tampa
- Jan 23 Circle B-Bar Reserve Trolley n
Lunch in Bartow
- Feb 13 Scenic Boat Tour n lunch at
Harborside Restaurant in
Winter Haven
- Feb 27 Christian Movie n Lunch at local
restaurant in Lakeland
- Mar 13 Russell Stover's Outlet n lunch
Sumner Lake in The Villages
- Mar 27 Lake Mirror Gardens n lunch
Garden Bistro

Flo Grabowski Cell 931-797-2639
coachfollc@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.

Hello L&L Friends! Happy Summer!

Thanks for your patience during VBS. Praise report: It went well last week with several salvations and "re-dedications". The decorations are down & I am looking forward to resuming Aqua Splash this month. So let's beat the heat and dodge the pop-up showers...Watch FB and neighborhood news for times..

As always, remember to go at your own pace, modify moves as needed and drink water after participating

See you poolside. 🌴🕶️

Happy Swimmers!

Karen Castle-Williams
allforyum@aol.com



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

**CALLING ALL MODEST GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COUPLES**

If you are celebrating your 50th anniversary in 2025 and are too shy to say so, let me encourage you. You might not like the spotlight, but it is a blessing for the park residents to honor you on this accomplishment. For many, it reminds them of when they celebrated 50 years. For others, it is an inspiration that your faith and commitment has kept you together through good times and bad. For some of us, it is just an opportunity to have a party.

Last year there was at least one couple that wasn't sure they wanted to participate - but remarked afterward that they were happy they did because it was a lot of fun.

We all know that it is a blessing to bless others. When we allow people to celebrate with us, we are allowing them to share in the blessing.

You won't be alone - there are at least four other couples who are being honored, so that spotlight won't be fixed squarely on you.

Think about it, and please let me know if you will allow us to honor your marriage in this way.

Carolyn Lindley
carolyn_lindley@yahoo.com
 50th Anniversary Chair

Bucket Listers



Happy 4th of July from the Bucket Listers!

You know if we were in the park on the fourth, we would have a hot dog fundraiser! But we are not, so you will have to wait until the winter season for those fundraisers to start up again.

Because of your support for our fundraisers, we can make improvements in our park.

Next year, (January, February and March), we will have Tuesday Night Trivia and Tuesday Night Movies in Hood Hall and of course we will bake some cinnamon rolls along the way.

Enjoy your summer! See you in the fall!



Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to those who have donated to Operation Christmas Child/ Shoe Box Ministry. It is a joy to find the wonderful items you dropped in the tote at Church.

We are almost halfway through 2024 and I am looking forward to boxing up 200 plus shoe boxes this year. So, we need at least 200 of everything.

Remember you can box the plastic shoe boxes too.

Please continue to purchase items. We have storage in Hood Hall. Your donations are also welcome.

Please keep praying 🙏 for Operation Christmas Child. We want every child to know God and to receive this blessing.

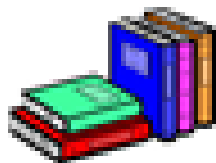
With all glory to God, I found a Barbie size shoe box and put them on a tiny tree at the Church. Photo below for your enjoyment too.

Sometimes it is hard for me to wrap my mind around all we have (like tiny Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes) when some children have nothing and do not know how much Jesus loves them. Let us use this tree as a reminder to show as many children as possible the love and the message of Jesus.



Kathy Miller
716-598-1924
Kathymiller5159@gmail.com

Library Information



Library Notes

What's Happening

We have updated the fiction books in the library. At present, we are working on doing the same with the nonfiction which is in the front room. The database is being updated and each book will have typed labels. In some instances, books may have new numbers and the goal is to make them easier to find. Look for changes to 242 and 244 which will be respectively devotionals and inspirational writings such as true stories of faith.

The goal is to have all the books in the back room with sign-out cards and we will no longer be able to take them out if the card is not there. The goal is to provide an opportunity to research the book and find it easier.

Have a great summer and see you next fall!

Book Review

Did you ever read **The Shack** by William Paul Young? It is a great book! Well, the author has written another great book, **Eve**, which entices you to see the creation story in another light.

This is a well-researched novel; God is personal and sees each and every one of us, just like He has from the beginning. The story begins with a tragic event in a world other than earth that leaves the reader intrigued but on edge with confusion. It is about three key points: believing in God, evil is everywhere, and loneliness. It describes the fall of man in a very detailed, compelling & heart pounding way. The author depicts and describes Biblical events beautifully - like the Garden, Creation, the births of Adam and Eve.

Continued from previous column.

When a shipping container washes ashore on an island between our world and the next, John the Collector finds a young woman inside—broken, frozen, and barely alive. With the aid of Healers and Scholars, John oversees her recovery and soon discovers that her genetic code connects her to every known race. No one would guess what her survival would mean.

This book will challenge you intellectually, speaking to God about creation in a whole new way and showing how much we are loved by God. It will also touch your heart and mind if it has been bruised and broken and remind us that we have a Healer who will restore us if we return to Him. This is an easy read and is a compelling story of the love of God. You can find it in the new book section!

Gloria Welton
Librarian

Library2Go

Library2Go **will not be in our park** this month because it comes the first Thursday of the month and that is a the 4th, a holiday.

Each stop provides an opportunity to:

- Register or renew a library card.
- Place holds on library materials.
- Pick up materials placed on hold.
- Return library materials.
- Check out from a selection of popular materials: regular print fiction & nonfiction books, large print fiction books, magazines, and DVDs.
- Use wireless Internet access for personal devices.
- Print wirelessly.

2025 CPC Golf Tournaments!
Mark your calendar!

January 17th, 2025

Two-person (men and women) Tournament (18 holes Scramble)! Bring your partner! Men & women divisions. New date (Friday) Start time 10:00 AM

February 21st, 2025

Club Championship Tournament (two flights each for Men & Women (18 holes) (Friday) 10:00 AM start time.

(Note: closest to the pin and longest drive contest will be held as part of the Club Championship)!

March 21st, 2025

Two-person Blind Draw tournament (18 holes) Men & Women Categories (\$50 to each winning team). Plus, names on a trophy in Hood Hall.
(Friday) Shot gun start at 10:00 AM.

April 1st, 2025

Three club Co-Ed tournament (Play your own ball).
(Monday) 18 holes. 10:00 AM

FYI, the above dates are subject to change if they conflict with more important events in the park.

Cars and Coffee

2nd Saturday of every month

July 13th, 8 am to 10 am.

Everyone is welcome to come and view great restored autos and custom hot rods. There will be vehicles of all years, sizes, and shapes.

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

In Case you missed this.



Dear Members,

Following the announcement of the sale of the residence at 5570 Deeson Rd, I received requests for pictures of the unit.

Follow this [link](#) to see some pictures.

Sincerely,

Stan Welton

Annual Park Christmas Craft and Bake Sale set for Friday, Dec 6th at Hood Hall. More information to follow.



Thank you,
Becky Smith
231.349.2993

Salvation Army Crafting Event

**This event will be held July 11,12, and 13
However, it is Full... All the tables have been
bought out. Praise the Lord.**

All proceeds go to the Salvation Army Transitional
Housing Program.

We will be collecting **School supplies**, which you
can bring to HH anytime during those Three days
BUT anyone is welcome to just come and watch.
Also, some of the ladies have things to sell.

Best Regards
Cindy Lower

The Bowling League

Our next season will start January 7, 2025, the
organization meeting will be January 6 at 1pm
at Hood Hall.

If you haven't joined our league, please
consider doing so.

Just before we left town in May, they had started
to remove and replace the seating area. By next
month I should have pictures to share.
Stay tuned.

Barb Hartson, President. bfhartson@gmail.com

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: bfhartson@gmail.com Email
is the preferred method.

**The August deadline is July 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.**

Our beautiful Park

We were privileged to see....



six wild turkeys...



and four deer...

on our cart ride.

Love seeing wildlife!!!

Marva Peck

Beautification Committee



Beautification Parade

The Beautification Parade for 2025 will be on the 27th of February.

The theme for the parade will be.

"Individual Entrees Choice".

You decide what you want your theme to be, remembering that the scoring is based on originality, 360-degree visualization, identifiable theme, and an incorporated biblical affirmation.

If you have any questions, contact:

Tom Lake

Laket001@yahoo.com

Beautification Committee President



Thank you to all who helped get the Mini Golf court looking so nice.

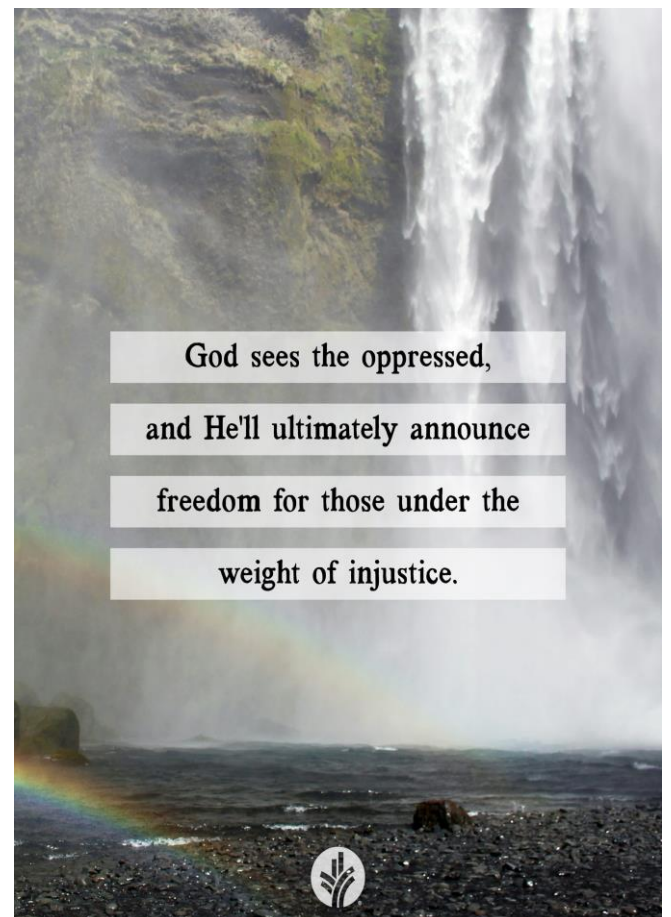
Shuffleboard

Welcome to the amazing Florida summer - The courts **are always open**, and the pucks will be waxed. You are always welcome to play regardless of the sun, heat, humidity, and the typical afternoon rain deluge. Enjoy! Looking forward to resuming a regular schedule in the Fall.

□ Regular Tournament:
January 30, 31 and February 3, 2025

□ Challenge Tournament:
February 27, 28 and March 3, 2025

Bill Sones President



God sees the oppressed,
and He'll ultimately announce
freedom for those under the
weight of injustice.



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

Here you go, friends. Ellen and I trust you are enjoying a blessed summer. See you in a few months...

³⁵ "Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. ³⁶ You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate." - Luke 6:35-36

There was a trial in NYC that recently announced a verdict. My heart grieves as I don't hear many fellow Christians speaking with grace and mercy. I hear too many pointing at fellow believers as if they are enemies because of which political stance they take regarding this trial and its participants.

I find myself asking a question...are there any situations in life that are exempt from Jesus' commands?

"Love your enemies." Fellow Jesus followers look across the aisle at one another and consider them the enemy because of how they vote. Enemies?!

If we both love Jesus and want to better look, live and love like Jesus, how can we consider one another enemies? And how can we speak of one another as enemies?

Continued next column.

What person makes you the angriest right now? What person has hurt you the most? That is exactly who and what and where Jesus wants to direct our love.

My love will never be enough. But the love of Jesus flowing in and through us filled with grace and mercy ... that is the love that is needed for a time such as this.

Dr. Roger Haskins, Bishop Emeritus

Roger.haskins.ir@gmail.com

585.301.8610 cell (US)

Missions Moment

Successful Missions Event!

Our June 9th mission event was very successful! Michael Long, FM missionary from Greece, spoke in the morning service, and then there was a delicious BBQ dinner following the service at Hood Hall.

We received \$1654 for missions from the mission's event. Thank you very much for your generosity. Also, thanks to all the individuals who prepared the meal and hosted the event. Thank you for your service.

Interested in serving on the missions committee?

The mission's committee is still looking for 1-2 men who would like to serve on the mission's committee. If you have a love for missions and computer skills, we could really use you on our committee.

If you are interested in serving on the mission's committee, contact Vonnie Denton.

Blessings,
Vonnice Denton
dentonbv@gmail.com
231-429-9697

The Light and Life Church Office Hours

New hours for the summer.

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday

9am – 2pm

Pam Hill Secretary

HOME BIBLE STUDY

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

Tuesday at 2:30

We are currently studying **Romans**.

Cindy Igel: 716-803-3961

Pam Hill: 863-808-3779

Email: church.llfmc.org

Hello Friends,

I wanted to announce that there is a new website for the Light and Life FM Church.

It is not completed quite yet but 90% of it is up and running. The Activities / Church schedule page is still under construction.

There are three people that I want to publicly thank for making this happen.

First **Don Moore** for all the work that he has done since 2005 to capture and keep all of the sermons that have come from the platform of Light and Life FMC for nearly 20 years. Don was responsible for building and maintaining our church's website and all its content since before websites were commonplace. He laid the foundation of what we have today.

This new website was built in partnership between **Phil Allen** and my wife **Theresa Bellinger**. They worked many, many hours developing the new pages and getting them up online. In my wife's words, "Phil built the house and I decorated it." Check out all the great work these three have brought to the table.

Check it out here... llfmc.org

Blessings,
Pastor Jeff Bellinger

Hello and Blessings,

I wanted to take a moment to personally thank the Light and Life Park Board of Directors for their action taken during their last meeting on July 2nd, 2024.

One of the greatest challenges that we face as a church here at Light and Life is trying to minister to needs of the community while being behind closed gates. This has been the struggle for Pastor El Kelley, Pastor Chuck Frankenfeld and all of us in church leadership as we labor to fulfill the vision and mission of The Free Methodist Church and the great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To help alleviate this situation, the Board of Administration of the church and the pastoral staff composed a letter to the Park BOD requesting that moving forward the main gate be opened daily from 8AM until 6:30PM. This would allow for the people who live outside the gate and call Light and Life FMC their church home to enter and have access while the church building is open.

After some questions and discussion, the Park BOD voted to allow the gate to remain open during the requested hours.

So, I want to say a big Thank You on behalf of the Church leadership and on behalf of the people whose eternity may be forever changed because of your leadership. Thank you for seeing the vision and leading well through this issue.

In His Service,
Pastor Jeff Bellinger

REMINDERS

If you are leaving the park or shopping and find a great deal the refrigerator is available for your donations. It is located inside the storage room where the ice machine is.

Donations placed in this refrigerator are for the food ministry not general use. Milk and eggs have disappeared recently.

We don't begrudge anyone food items but please ask first or we are left to scramble to figure things out. If you are in need, it is confidential please call Christine Aurich,

Outreach Ministry

Glad to report we are sending 20 boxes to Briarwood instead of 22. This is because a couple families have improved job situations and no longer need extra help. Their honesty sets a great example as having appreciated the help, and consequently ask us to please bless others.

Five bags were distributed within the park in Winter and now three. This fluctuates based on need.

We have added one small distribution to a neighbor. We want them to see God's work and love in action.

Friday goody distribution continues at Light and Life Park but so many are gone for Summer we have leftovers. We take leftovers to Lighthouse Ministries homeless shelter in downtown Lakeland and also stop at the gas station on Deeson where a few homeless hangs out. Please pray specifically for Mike a homeless neighbor as his heart is slowly opening to the Lord.

What can YOU do.

Our shelf stable supplies are depleted all donations help.

We like to make hygiene kits for teens so save those hotel shampoos, lotions etc. Or consider watching for "stock up" sales.

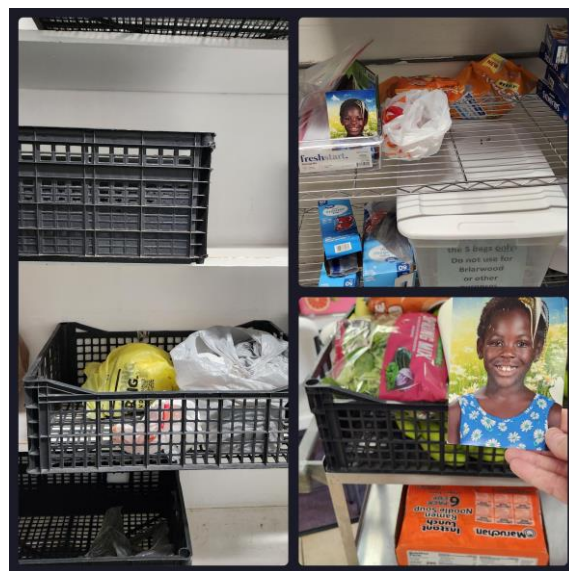
Consider volunteering to pick up bread donations from Publix in the mornings we pick up daily so any offers help. We need someone to pick up Wednesday evenings from Panera. Or maybe you want to help pack or distribute food on Monday afternoons?

We always need banana boxes for distributing the food. It costs nothing to pick up a box when shopping. Check when shopping here in Lakeland if a few get boxes, it would be great. Lately I have gotten a couple each time I shop at Aldi's for example.

PRAY, definitely the most important part. Pray for volunteers, finances, and the people receiving the supplies. We want each one to know the love of Jesus.

Continued from previous column.

Personal update from Chris: It is exciting to be able to spend some time with folks in need. Have you heard of Flat Stanley? I have been taking my great niece Flat Ana on some of our adventures. A great way to involve your family. Send a photo and donations so your family can join the adventures. Flat Ana likes ramen noodles and bananas, so she helped with that.



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