



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

October 1, 2025

Volume 13 Issue 9 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Office Manager: Phil Allen
phil@lightandlifepark.org

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Mobile Homes for Sale

5347 Bethel Dr. — \$4,000
(needs rebuild from flood)
5892 Moriah Place - \$69,000

Block Homes for Sale

5352 Bethany Way — \$65,000
5416 Zion Ave. — \$189,900

Lots for Lease

Three lots are available for RV's
on Hebron Ct. and two mobile
home lots on Shiloh Path and
Beulah Land.

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

News from the Park Administrator

Hello, from Florida's Light and Life Park. The humidity is finally lowering. The temps are dropping to around 70 degrees at night. Fall weather is starting to creep in.

This past month, I sent emails to homeowners that need to have the weeds and grass trimmed around their homes in the park. It is the homeowner's responsibility to make sure this is done throughout the year. The park will mow grass on your lot in the summer where the zero turn mowers have access. But the park is not responsible for the trimming.

The park has rented out all the guest rooms and just about all the RV Camping sites from January 1 to March 3, 2026. The only thing left to rent are cabins. We have a list of people looking to stay in private residences. If you want to be on that list please let the office know. If you are a member and you wish to rent your home this winter season, contact the office and we will provide you with a list of people who are looking for a place to rent.

If you have events you want to schedule and enter into the park calendar for the 2025-2026 season, please contact the office. We can let you know which dates are available for your event and enter it on the park calendar.

The gate is working properly and in service. Make sure you have a remote when you return to the park this winter.

Since Hurricane Milton, the park has added at least 26 new couples/singles as members to our community. That means that 10% of our membership will be new to the park this season. Please be patient with our new members as they navigate the park and learn how the park operates. Show your new neighbors the Love of Christ. That is what makes this community so special.

If you are looking to make some extra money this fall and winter, we are looking for one or two people to help with the cleaning. The cabins, guest rooms, Hood Hall, bathhouses, fitness center and pool bathrooms need to be cleaned regularly. If you can help with this, please contact the office.

The volunteer organization, Inspiritus sent the park fliers looking for work. If you need assistance in rebuilding your home, you may contact them at (404) 875-0201 Ext. 1023. They will let you know if they can help you with volunteers.

Have a blessed day,
Greg Thomas, Park Administrator

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Oh, my goodness!! I cannot believe that it is October already!

It's been a calm summer here at Light and Life, and I'm grateful there's little to report. By this time last year, we had already felt the outer bands of two hurricanes and endured heavy rainfall, which contributed to the damage from Milton. We're keeping a close eye on Atlantic storms to ensure we have ample warning if one approaches. Please join us in praying for a continued peaceful season! Some may have noticed that the Hillsborough County Library2Go hasn't visited the park since last fall. With our park library out of service, I missed this resource and contacted them. They explained that they don't plan to resume visits due to declining interest at the park in recent seasons. I've been using the Libby app for e-books, but for those who prefer physical books, they provided two options for receiving books by mail.

The first is called Borrow by Mail. Anyone can use this service, and the information is here: <https://hcplc.org/services/borrow-by-mail>. Essentially you place a hold on a book and instead of a location, you select Borrow by Mail. Residents can call or do this online. Our main line they would call is (813)273-3652. The only snag is residents would either have to pay on their own to mail back, or someone would have to return them to the closest library, which is the Bruton Memorial Library in Plant City.

The second option is Homebound Books. Homebound Books allow for participants to have items mailed to them and we send a bag that they can use to mail the items back to us at no cost. A customer would have to qualify for this, and there is an application. Information is here: <https://hcplc.org/services/homebound> and their direct line is (813)273-3609.

She mentioned that if enough residents express interest in restarting the Library2Go service, we should inform her, and they might consider resuming it. I plan to conduct a survey this winter to gauge interest levels.

I obtained a library card from the Lakeland Public Library since my address is in Lakeland, which could be an option for you too. There's a conveniently located branch near Watson Clinic. We are looking forward to the return of our friends and neighbors!

Becky Smith, Board President

(The following article was written by one of our new park members, Kathy Cole. Jim and Kathy Cole have purchased the Rockwell's place on Hebron Ct. Jim is an uncle to Jayme Sinsmyr. The Coles volunteered their services as we recovered from Hurricane Milton and Kathy shares her impressions as a newcomer to the park.)

Anticipation

Jim and I are new owners at Light and Life Park. Our first visit to the park was in 2014 when we spent two nights with Larry and Lorna Angus. We got right into the thick of things because we were able to observe the community meeting to discuss voting on building the new pool – a sneak peek at the community input and the decision-making model of the community.

Then we came down again in 2024 to spend a month with my brother and his wife who rented a suite in the guest house. Our days were filled with games, conversations, eating out, potlucks, and puzzling. We drove around Lakeland getting to know the area, seeing some of the local parks, and attending a Tiger's preseason game. It was a wonderful time, but we were not convinced that life at Light and Life Park would be what we wanted for every winter season in our life.

When we came for six weeks in 2025, after the devastation of Hurricane Milton, the landscape and daily life were remarkably different. To see a community suffering, grieving, and yet rebuilding, revealed the character and hearts of the residents. We sensed the hope of returning to the fun and fellowship of the past, the desire to create a safe place for future generations, the longing to build more memories with like-minded people, and the expectation of participating in joyful worship.

The hope, the desire, the longing and expectation spoke to our hearts and sparked a real interest in belonging. Yes, we are new owners and happily anticipate not just rebuilding but creating something new and meaningful in our own lives.

-Kathy Cole

What is Your fit?

Over the summer months, we have focused on various activities and committees at Light and Life Park, and explained their purpose. So what is your fit? What area of service can you provide? This article will reiterate some of the volunteer opportunities where you might be able to get involved and make a difference.

Beautification Committee—help with planting and cultivating the grounds. Contact: Tom Lake @ 269-207-5776.

Sugar Creek Gang—assist with special needs projects as they arise or step up to be the “gang leader.” Contact Jim Falconer at falconer_j@yahoo.com and come to the informational meeting in January.

Fellowship Dinner Committee—have creative ideas for programs? Contact: Marilyn Stone at jaxstone68@gmail.com

50th Anniversary Committee—looking for a person to serve on committee and take the lead in one to two years. Contact: Carolyn Lindley at carolyn_lindley@yahoo.com

Bucket Listers—help with various fundraisers throughout the winter months. Contact: Janet Wight at rewight@aol.com

Baked Goods distribution—pick up baked goods from Publix and Panera or help distribute them to park residents. Contact: Earl and Karen Wright @ 863-859-0347.

Athletic/Activities—Leaders needed for Corn Hole, Horseshoes, Walking for exercise, and Mini Golf. Contact: Larry Angus 517-740-4085.

Future Planning Committee—help set the vision for future growth and development of the park. Contact: Ken Kendall at ken.kendall@gmail.com

Building & Grounds Committee—help keep our facilities maintained. Contact: Jim Falconer at falconer_j@yahoo.com

Did you find your fit? If not, contact Pastor Jeff at the church office. He is always looking for folks who are willing to serve in various capacities including Bible Study & Prayer groups, help with the Library, drive folks to and from appointments, sit with shut ins, take meals to folks, assist with conference activities, run the sound equipment and ppt. presentations etc.

If you're new to the park—jump in and get involved. There's no better way to make new friends and be part of a team.



TEAM—Together Everyone Achieves More. For more information on these committees, please refer to the June, July, and August newsletters, which can be found by clicking the “information” tab on the Light and Life Park website (<https://lightandlifepark.org>) Drop down to “newsletters” and then click on the month.

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are available at the church—please take one to fill if you can!

Kathy Miller is recovering from surgery, and needs someone to come along-side her with the Shoebox Ministry. If you can help her out, please contact her! 716-598-1924



Kent and Ann Enyart hosted the fourth and final Light and Life Friends picnic in Michigan for this summer. The event took place at the Mullenhurst Golf Course near Grand Rapids.



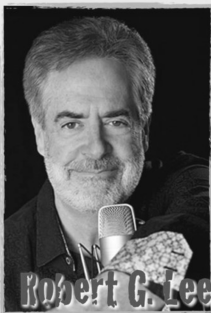
All of the Michigan Light and Life friends picnics were well attended, which shows just how much we love each other!

Lighthouse Ministries Presents

FAMILY COMEDY NIGHT FIRST BAPTIST PLANT CITY FRIDAY OCT 10 @ 7:00 PM.



Mike Williams



Robert C. Lee



John Brannan

OUR FOUR MOST REQUESTED COMICS
COME TOGETHER FOR A NIGHT OF HILARITY!

FREE, FUNNY, and CLEAN COMEDY!

FIRST BAPTIST OF PLANT CITY

3309 James L Redman Pkwy, Plant City, FL 33566

www.LighthouseLaughs.com

Giving Hope That Changes Lives
LIGHTHOUSE
ministries



CD Smith



Get FREE tickets at
www.LighthouseLaughs.com



February 13th of 2026 seems a long way off, but will be here before we know it. Save that date for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration at Hood Hall.

Collect those gold dollars and bring them to the anniversary celebration for each of the couples being honored. There will be a card available for you to sign there, so you don't need to purchase a card unless you want to.

If you, or any park resident that you know was married in 1976, we'd love to include you in the celebration. Please let me know ASAP so that we can get the informational materials out and gather what we need for the program.

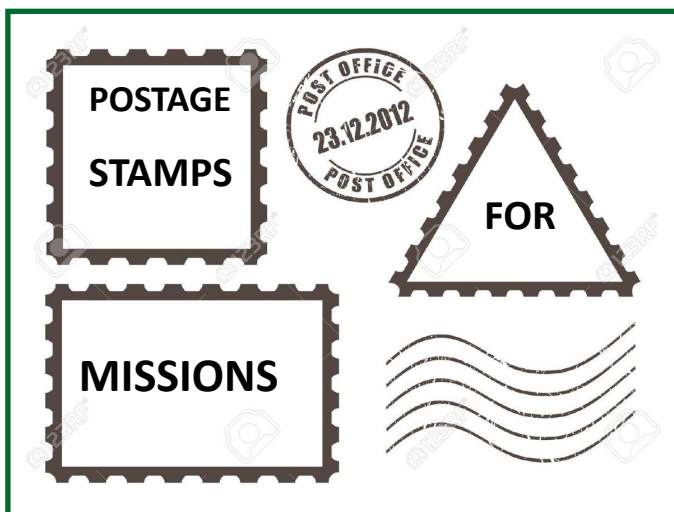
If you love planning events, join us on our committee, we'd love to have you!

Carolyn Lindley
carolyn_lindley@yahoo.com

Holiday Craft & Bake Sale



Friday, December 5
10 am—2 pm
Hood Hall



Many of you faithfully save postage stamps which are then sold to collectors; proceeds provide funds for the distribution of Christian literature in Spanish. As you snowbirds begin packing to come to our park remember to bring along the stamps you and others have been cutting and collecting throughout the summer. It's a small way you can make a huge impact on others; little is much when God is in it!

Marilyn Stone, coordinator

Jaxstone68@gmail.com



A men's breakfast is held on the first Saturday of each month at the Golden Corral restaurant on 98N.

Meet at the church at 8 a.m. to carpool to the restaurant.

For more information contact Dale Schantz at 989-975-6710

Gadabouts 2026 Schedule

Lakies—mark your calendars for the upcoming Gadabouts trips. More details will be given as each trip draws near. If you have questions or have ideas for excursions, please contact Peggy Dunn at 248-766-5537 or e-mail: pegjim2000@yahoo.com



Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026 - A Thrift Store Expedition & lunch
Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026 - Weeki Wachee Springs Park & Mermaid Show
Thursday, Feb. 12, 2026 - Flea Market and lunch, Zephyrhills
Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026 - Silver Springs Glass Bottom Boat tour
Thursday, Mar. 12, 2026 - Fancy Farms Visit
Thursday, Mar. 26, 2026 - John's Pass Pier (optional) Dolphin Boat Ride

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP DINNER

The October Summer dinner will be the last one of the Summer Season. It is scheduled for Monday, October 6 at 5:30 pm in Hood Hall.

The menu will be Meatloaf, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetable and Dessert for \$8.00 a person. A beverage will also be provided. If you would like to help with the dinner, please let Sherry LaBrie know at 863-255-3776.

Please sign up for the dinner in Hood Hall by Friday, October 4. If you are not currently in the Park but will arrive by Monday the 6th and you would like to be counted, please let Sherry LaBrie know at 863-255-3776.

We would like to thank Dave and Gail Cook for preparing such delicious meals all summer.



Come and support Earl and Willie in concert if you live nearby.

10/5—Asmbly of God, Newville PA 10:30am
Harvest Time Temple, Hanover PA 7pm
10/12—Carmel UB Fellowship, Fulks Run VA
11 am

Dinner at the Max **Thursdays 5:30 pm**

We will continue to have Dinner at the Max throughout the summer (which in Florida means all year). Potluck—bring a large dish to pass.

However, during the off season months of June through October, Dinner at the Max will be held on THURSDAY evenings at 5:30 (as we used to do) in order to accommodate some of our neighbors who are unable to attend on Friday.



Seasons come and go; our snowbird season is here.

We are looking forward to each of you attending our events which are November through April.

As you gather the last from your gardens, pack your luggage, etc. please collect any props and costumes you'll need to participate in our programs and ideas to share with our committee.

Marilyn Stone, chairman

Jaxstone68@gmail.com

L& L Aqua Splash Water Aerobics...

Come & enjoy fun in the sun with a low-impact workout in the water to enhance health & well being. Routines are choreographed to music and designed to promote improved muscle strength, endurance, flexibility & core balance without the stress of land exercise.

No previous experience required!



Splash times are offered year round and free of charge. Remember to go at your own pace, modify moves as needed, drink water after participating and consult your healthcare provider before starting any exercise program.

Our October schedule is "To Be Determined", as to not interfere with upcoming Park Events. Please look for more updates via L&L Facebook and Neighborhood News.



Articles, announcements, and items of interest must be submitted by the 20th of each month to ensure publication in the following month's newsletter. Please email carolyn_lindley@yahoo.com Please do NOT send announcements via text.