



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

March 1, 2026

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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 Lyndon Babcock
lyndon@lightandlifepark.org
Cell: 863-608-3984

Email: floridallpark2@gmail.com
Website: lightandlifepark.org

Office Manager: Phil Allen
phil@lightandlifepark.org

Office Assistant: Lori Jones
lori@lightandlifepark.org

Mobile Homes for Sale

5317 Jordan—\$140,000
5892 Moriah—\$69,000
5801 Moriah—\$54,500

Block Homes for Sale

5332 Bethany Way – \$120,000
5423 Zion Ave. – \$129,900

RV's for Sale

5323 Hebron Ct.—\$10,500
5242 Zion—\$24,900
5308 Ebenezer—\$8,900 w/lease

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

News from the Park Administrator

Dear Light and Life Park Family,

As I reflect on these past seven weeks, my heart is full. When I wrote my first message to you back in January, I was still new—learning faces, learning the rhythm of the park, and learning the many stories that make this community so special. Today, those early impressions have deepened into genuine connections, gratitude, and a growing sense of calling.

A verse that has carried me through this season is:

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” — Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

Every day here at Light and Life Park reminds me that the “good” we do—whether through physical labor, prayer, encouragement, or collaboration—produces real fruit in our shared life together.

🌸 Accomplishments & Highlights

These past seven weeks have been busy, productive, and encouraging. Here are a few of the major milestones I'm excited to share:

🏠 Martha's Place – Completed!

I am thrilled to say that **Martha's Place is now finished**. Walking through that space and seeing it fully renewed brought a real sense of joy. Many hands worked together to make this possible, and it stands as a beautiful expression of what it means to serve the Lord and each other.

🔧 Cabin 5209 – Roof Completed & Renovations Progressing

Cabin **5209** has seen some much-needed care, beginning with a brand-new roof now fully installed. Interior upgrades are moving along well, and we're looking forward to this cabin being fully refreshed and ready for use soon.

🌿 Shiloh Path Project – Strong Progress

Our work on the **Shiloh Path storm water & culvert system** continues with encouraging progress. This project is both practical and forward-looking, improving safety and long-term durability. I've been blessed by the teamwork and perseverance I've witnessed from everyone involved.

(cont. on next page)

From our Park Administrator cont.

📌 How This Ties Into Our 90-Day Plan

As I've settled into the role of Administrator, many of these efforts directly reflect the goals we set together for these first 90 days:

People

- I've continued building strong, trusting relationships—with residents, volunteers, Board members, and committees.
- I've deeply appreciated the conversations, prayers, questions, and wisdom many of you have shared.

Process

- We're becoming more intentional with planning, communication, and visibility around ongoing projects.
- We've begun strengthening how we measure progress so the community remains informed and empowered.

Infrastructure

- Several high-impact maintenance projects have advanced, aligning perfectly with our long-term improvement strategy.
- We are evaluating operations more holistically, ensuring we steward the park thoughtfully and responsibly.

💖 A Personal Word of Thanks

I want you to know how grateful I am for the warm way you continue to welcome me into this community. The quick greetings during morning walks, the conversations on porches, the laughter during committee meetings, and even the challenging discussions that help shape our future—all of it has shown me how deeply you care for this place.

Thank you for your prayers.

Thank you for your patience.

Thank you for your partnership in this season of growth and renewal.

My door remains open, and my desire is to serve you with humility, integrity, and a heart led by Christ. I look forward to the months ahead as we continue building, improving, and growing—together.

With appreciation and a grateful heart,

Lyndon Babcock, Park Administrator

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

I can hardly believe it's already March! At our last Members Meeting, we heard about the many wonderful activities happening right here in our Park, and I hope you've had a chance to get involved in something that interests you.

The candidates for the Board of Directors have been announced: Roger Allen, Ron Foster, Lynn Roberts, Glenn Teal, Stan Welton, and Steve Zimmerman. Their biographical information is now available at Hood Hall. Four candidates were also nominated for the Nominating Committee: Christine Aurich, Marilyn Barrett Otto, Janet Wight, and Barb Lake.

All of these candidates will appear on the ballot for the annual election, which will be held at Hood Hall on Monday, March 9th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Election results will be announced that evening at the Members Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Light and Life Church Sanctuary.

We also held the first reading of a proposed Bylaw change. The vote on this change will take place on March 9th as well. The purpose of the revision is to allow more time for the annual review of Park funds.

Current Bylaw 9.2 reads: The standing Financial Review Committee shall consist of three (3) Members elected on the date of the Annual Meeting to three-year staggered terms. It shall conduct or supervise an annual review of Park funds and report the results at the February business meeting.

Revised Bylaw 9.2 would read: The standing Financial Review Committee shall consist of three (3) Members elected on the date of the Annual Meeting to three-year staggered terms. It shall conduct or supervise an annual review of Park funds and report the results at the March business meeting.

It's a privilege to serve as your Board President and to witness the energy and care you all bring to our Park every day. Thank you for being part of this wonderful community.

With appreciation,

Becky Smith, Board President

How to get to know the candidates.....

- ◇ Read their autobiographical information in Hood Hall.
- ◇ Attend Tell Your Story in Hood Hall on 3-5-26 at 7:00 pm. (Banana splits available by donation to the Bucket Listers)

Vote on March 9, 2026. Closer to the vote there will be directions on how to vote absentee, if you are a member of Light and Life Park.

BUCKET LISTER NEWS

Tuesday Night Trivia and Tuesday Night At The Movies occur on alternate Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm in Hood Hall and will continue through March. Pop corn and pop are available for a donation.

Projects the Bucket Listers are currently working on include purchasing new serving tables for Hood Hall, obtaining an additional AED for the park and purchasing heat resistant safety equipment for Hood Hall,

The Bucket Listers made 540 CINNAMON ROLLS on February 4, 2026! We are planning another bake sometime in March.

Since, February 2025 to the present, Bucket Listers have put \$7610.00 back into Light and Life Park!

How did we do that? With YOUR support at or movies, trivia, cinnamon roll bakes, hot dog lunches, pulled pork dinner, root beer floats and banana splits.

We were able to provide a pizza party for student volunteers from St. Bonaventure, provide the park with new flags, purchase three picnic tables, two chair racks, four sidewalk solar lights, cabin furnishings to three cabins and eight puzzle shelves.

Bucket Listers also donated four nights of concessions to missions, tables at Hood Hall, Martha's Place and to the heavy equipment fund.

We hope you continue to enjoy the activities and because of YOUR support at these activities we are able to improve our park in many ways!

We are glad you are here and if you have any suggestions for projects or activities let us know.



SUGAR CREEK GANG

The Sugar Creek Gang has been revived and is going strong. The new chair person is Steve Sayers.

One of the first projects they tackled and are still completing is the reroofing and restoring of a cabin that was damaged by one of the hurricanes (Picture below).



Another project that has been completed is new drywall and painting of Martha's place, as well as some renovation in the bathroom. Pictured below are Jill Smith and Sally Jablonski, who spent countless hours at



work. Steve has a long list of projects that need attention here at Light and Life. If you can join the Sugar Creek Gang, even if you can only commit a few hours, your help would be much appreciated.

WOOD SHOP NEWS

Just a reminder that the next wood shop members meeting will be **March 6, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.** in the wood shop. All members are urged to attend.

1. The woodshop will be hosting a pancake dinner as a fundraiser on March 19, 2026. More information to follow.
- 2, The board will propose the purchase an air cleaner for the shop to remove floating particles that escape the dust collection system.
3. Discussion about the new table saw. A new Laguna table saw has been purchased and we are waiting for some of the parts to be shipped so we can complete setup of the saw.
4. A new Jet 6-inch Jointer has been purchased thanks to a donation from David Bierdeman. The jointer is installed and ready to use. If anyone needs instruction on how to use it please contact one of the board members.
5. An oscillating spindle sander has been donated to the woodshop by Paul Ferguson. This is helpful for sanding parts with radius's or rough edges when making projects on the scroll saw or band saw.
6. We are currently conducting classes on wood turning in the woodshop. Feel free to join us or sign up at the woodshop.

Board elections for two of the board members for 2027 will be conducted at our next meeting on March 6, 2026.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
Larry Putnam, Leadership Member		2026
Mel Stevenson, Vice President		2026

We are selling some older equipment that has been replaced or not needed at this time:

Delta 10-inch table saw w/52-inch table	\$400.00
Rikon 12 x 16-inch Wood lathe	\$150.00
Atlas 6-inch Jointer	\$75.00

(All machines must be removed from the woodshop once purchased)

Anyone interested contact one of the board members.

We encourage you to take advantage of the wood shop for your wood projects or just for an opportunity to learn a new skill in wood-working.

-Lee Stevens, Woodshop President

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Two couples celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with us this year—new residents Billy and Pam Wickman., along with Randy and Diana Mason.

If you, or any park member you know is celebrating 50 years of marriage this year or in 2027, we'd love to honor you at next year's Golden Celebration.

Contact: Carolyn Lindley 517-262-1482 or carolyn_lindley@yahoo.com

Cars & Coffee



March 14th 8 -10 am

Vehicles of all years, sizes, and shapes can be seen in church parking lot under the trees on the left. Come and have coffee and donuts. Hope to see you there!

-J A Thomas 540-447-0288

MISSION SUNDAY March 8, 2026



Dennis and Kyle Leon, Free Methodist missionaries to Costa Rica will be with us on Sunday, March 8th in the 10 am Morning Worship Service.



MISSIONS for MARCH!! 10 DAY PRAYER CHALLENGE

Choose any 10 days in March and pray for our missionaries.

1. Josh and Suzy Fajardo – FM missionaries - Europe
2. Dennis and Kyle Leon – FM missionaries – Costa Rica
Children: Elias, Seth, Curis, Lucas
3. Michael and Maria Long – FM missionaries – Greece
4. Seth & Hlawn Hlawn Van Tifflin - FM missionaries - Asia
Children: Jason, Noah, Abigail
5. Tim & Kellie Dorr –Wycliffe Bible Translators – Vanuatu
Children: Lydia and Esther
6. Phil & Charity Karnes–Missionary Flights Intl.- Caribbean
Children: Steven and Tiki
7. Tim and Andrea Ullum – Ethnos 360 – Indonesia
Children: Dina, Abby, Titus, Torin
8. Camping Stick Kids – parachurch ministry
9. Teen Missions – parachurch ministry

10 Things to Pray about for our Missionaries

1. Love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind.
Seek God first.
2. Wisdom, guidance, discernment
3. Families: marriages, children
4. Good health
5. Protection- physically and from the evil one
6. Personal needs
7. Finances
8. Grateful hearts, encouragement
9. Not to be fearful. Be courageous. Trust God.
10. Ministry

Attention SAU Alumni and Friends



Enjoy pastries and coffee with fellow SAU alumni, friends and staff.

11President Ellis will also be providing a greeting along with SAU updates.

March 7th 10-11 am Hood Hall

(President's remarks 10:30 am)

**1:05 pm Tiger Ball Game—Pepsi Pavilion
Joker Marchant Stadium**

We hope to see you at either or both events!

Contact alumni@arbor.edu 517-750,6673 for more information or to reserve Tiger tickets.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER AND VARIETY SHOW

The March Fellowship Dinner will be the first Monday, March 2 at 5:30 at Hood Hall. Your place setting may be taken over in the afternoon after the Board of Directors meeting. The front row of tables will be reserved for program participants. Each table will seat 8-10.

To accommodate various disabilities (mobility, vision, hearing, etc) & dietary concerns, (diabetes, heart, allergies, etc) some people prefer to plan a balanced meal (one single/couple making main entree, another a side, another a salad, another dessert). Other attendees like more spontaneity and bring food not knowing who else will join them nor what they will bring.

The Variety Show will follow at 6:15. You'll enjoy seeing several from our park in a different light. Residents whose address is Deeson Rd will do set-up/clean-up of the hall. This includes the guest rooms, cabins, and RV area.

Begin to think ahead to Joke/ Comedy Night on April 6 which will again feature our residents. It will be another fun time as you share your favorites.

> Our committee looks forward to seeing all of you at our events.

- Marilyn Stone, chairman

LIBRARY NEWS

Volunteers Desperately Needed

We need volunteers volunteers to help with tasks at the library. We are asking for people to come to the library for one to two hours a week. These are the tasks which need to be performed:

- Straighten books shelves
- Shelve Books
- Sit for 2 hours to answer questions when the librarian isn't there
- Clean and restock Coffee Bar
- Place labels on books
- Enter Data into the computer
- Organize magazines
- Serve on a committee of 3 or 4 to organize Park Archives, Newsletter, Pictures and Old Records

If any of these tasks interest you, please let Gloria Welton know. There are volunteer Sign up Sheets in the Library.

Checking Out Books

Fiction books are ready to check out. Please be patient as we are in the midst of entering the nonfiction in the data base. We have asked for patience and for other books not to be taken out of the library. However, some folks think it does not pertain to themselves. You are on your honor to follow our instructions. It is very disconcerting to have books brought back that we not checked out.

Library Cards

In order to make it easy to check out books, you must fill out the form for a library card. They are on the counter as you come in the front door. A card will be printed with your name and a bar code. The directions are right on the counter for checking out a book. The cards can be found in the drawer under the printer. Please do not take them out of the library. One less thing to carry around!

Coffee Bar

The coffee bar has been a big hit. If there is a certain flavor of coffee, tea, cappuccino or hot chocolate you would like, please leave a note for the office. Donations are requested so the church does not have to purchase the supplies needed.

Printer

The printer is there for everyone. However, it costs money to purchase the ink. We are asking 25 cents per page, 50 cents for colored and 75 cents per photo with photo paper. As with any honor code, we ask that you pay for copies made as you make them. Any papers copied for park activities need to be printed at the office as they can be done for free.

Hendricks Library Book Club

We are having our first book discussion on February 23rd for The Ultimate Gift by Jim Stoval. We would like this to be a monthly event while you are here, just Gathering for the low key discussion of a book read by many. Snacks will be provided. We will choose another book for March at this meeting. If you would be willing to lead a group discussion on a book, please let Gloria Welton know. Also if you would like to recommend a book to be read, please relay that information to Gloria also.

Library Hours

We have a few volunteers who will be in the library office on a regular basis. During peak season when we have most of our residents, the office will be open from 9:00 – 1:00 on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday. Other volunteers will be here from 9:00 – 11:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. On Tuesday and Thursday we will be open from 1:00 – 3:00. If these hours don't meet with your availability, you may contact Gloria Welton and she will make arrangements to meet you at the library.

New Computers

We have 2 brand new computers for your use. However, due to people wanting to save information on them for personal use, we elected to have computers where you may not save your data. We have many issues to work out, so please be patient with us. Hopefully we will soon solve the issues with using your data stick in the near future. Thank you for being patient!

New Password

We have a new WiFi password for the Library. You must go to Hendricks Lib and then type in the password perfectcomet217. The correct printer to use is HP Office Jet Pro 8030.



IN CONCERT

Earl Galloway
&

Willie Ming

March 15th 6:00 pm

Here at Light and Life Church

Check out their new website at
earlandwillie.com

L& L Aqua Splash Water Aerobics...

Join us for a low-impact workout in the water to enhance health & well being. Routines are choreographed to a variety of tunes and designed to promote improved muscle strength, endurance, flexibility & core balance without the stress of land exercise.

Monitor L&L Facebook and Neighborhood News for the updated schedule.

Karen Castle-Williams,
ASFA Water Aerobics Instructor
allforyum@aol.com

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORS CHALLENGE

The Beautification committee has a challenge for you and our park! For the next week (March 1-7), try to Love Your Neighbor 2 by 2!! Try to show acts of kindness to your neighbor on 2 lots to your right and 2 lots to your left (even if no one is there or go around the corner).

Ideas: rake, sweep, clean, run an errand, stop and talk, invite them over, pray with them, buy flowers / small gift, bring treats, etc. Be creative!

So, take the challenge to Love Your Neighbors 2 by 2! Just one act of kindness can make a difference ! It starts now!

The Beautification committee
517-250-1420

CRAFT SHOW

Spring Craft Show & Bake Sale

Friday, March 27th

Hood Hall 10am - 2pm.

Please contact Becky Smith
at becsmith62@gmail.com or text
231.349.2993 for more information or to
reserve a table.

GAD-ABOUTS EVENTS

Ladies, We have two fun outings planned for March! On Thurs, March 12, we plan to go to the Showcase of Citrus, 15051 Frank Jarrell Rd, Clermont, FL 34714. This is a large Citrus Farm with quaint shops selling Citrus ice creams, fruity drinks, local honey, souvenirs, and some vintage items. The Farm has a tour of the grounds and history on a very large open air Monster ruck. They have a large collection of exotic animals and wild animals and even farm animals. It seats about 30! We will tour the groves and property and if in season, they have U-pick.

The tour group rate will cost \$20 each. There will be a variety of food Trucks at the Grove or we may go to a local Restaurant!

On Thursday, March 26, we plan to go to the 301 & 56 Flea Market in Zephyrhills. We can shop the flea market for the morning and then have lunch at Sonny's at 1:00 pm!.

Be sure to check Neighborhood News for announcements and information. Sign-up is always asked for so we can carpool and ride together. These outings are for all our ladies and guests. Everyone is always invited! Contact Peggy Dunn for more information. Call or text 248-766-5537 or email me at pegjim2000@yahoo.com,

STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to save postage stamps for Alliance Stamp Ministry which sells stamps to collectors and uses the profit to publish and distribute Christian Sunday School literature in Spanish here in the US and throughout the world. Through your efforts and the active involvement of volunteers in Fort Myers area the first \$1 million was raised for this program in 46 years; now nearly 1/3 of \$1 million was gained in only the past eight years. Every little bit does help!

Unfortunately, the two metal containers that were in Hood Hall on the west wall have mysteriously disappeared and are not there for your convenience however, the white paper box is still on that table. Turn in your stamps during March and April before I go north.

IF YOU CAN LICK IT OR STICK IT WE CAN USE IT: canceled or not, still on the paper or not, standard or commemorative, express, priority, domestic or foreign, damaged, postcards, and stamp albums or collections. Don't remove stamps from paper, cut 1/3" border on all sides but don't separate strips or clusters of stamps.



ATTENTION!

Do you love to play corn hole or horse-shoes?



Call Larry Angus 517-740-4085 or

Gordon Kadmas 701-290-2466

LIGHT & LIFE CHURCH WORKBEE

March 13 9:00—11:00 AM

We will be washing windows, changing A/C filters, installing new paper towel dispensers, and removing dead plants and trees.

Barry and the trustees will provide all the necessary supplies and tools; we just need your help.

SHUFFLEBOARD NEWS

We have completed our tournaments for the year. The winners for the men's regular tournament are: 1st place—Dale Schantz, 2nd place—Joe Pariso. We had a tie for 2nd place and had to have a play off. The winners for the ladies regular tournament are: 1st place—Trish Hamilton, 2nd place— Judy Stevenson.

The winners for the challenge tournament were: men's 1st place—Les Bell, 2nd place—Chris Conway. The ladies were: 1st place—Barb Hartson, 2nd place—Jan Pariso.

We are having our spring meeting on March 19, 2026 at 12:00 pm in Hood Hall. We have a luncheon at this meeting, and everyone is welcome to attend. At this meeting we pass out trophies and make plans for the coming year. We also elect the officers for the next year. We had many new players for the challenge tournament this year. We still meet on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm to practice.

- Dale Schantz



TWO-PERSON BLIND DRAW TOURNAMENT

(18 holes)

March 13th, 2026



Men & Women Categories (\$50 to each winning team).

Shotgun start 10:00 AM, plus winner's names will be added to the trophy at Hood Hall. (Only one spot remains on the trophy). Also last year for cash prizes.

Registration required please sign up by noon on Tuesday, March 10th.

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.