

APRIL 2024



Siesta Key Chapel
God's Treehouse



Key Notes

NEWSLETTER

4615 GLEASON AVE, SIESTA KEY ■ 941-349-1166 ■ SiestaKeyChapel.org

From the Pastor's Desk

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen Indeed!*

On **Palm Sunday**, we joyously waved palm branches and shouted “Hosanna!” Before sunset on **Maundy Thursday**, we took a seat at the table as disciples of Jesus, and experienced the Last Supper through scripture, history, foot-washing and song. **Good Friday** was somber, with a black drape on the cross and candles extinguished as we read the Seven Last Words of Christ, undergirded with reflective Taizé music. And then... finally... it was **Easter Sunday!** We greeted one another with the timeless Easter greeting: *Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!* With thankfulness to our Savior, and with gratefulness for our church family and visitors, we stood and sang as one: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today! Alleluia!*

Now it's April. Post-resurrection. How then do we live?
What does it look like to live as Resurrection People?

Here at Siesta Key Chapel, living as Resurrection People looks like rallying around one another in times of hardship and loss; celebrating the lives of our friends who have passed on to their eternal home; cheering one another on as we undertake new Mission and Outreach programs; finding joy in our shared lives as Christ-followers; and reaching out to our neighbors with loving kindness, as Jesus taught us to do.

What does it look like to live as Resurrection People? We worship God—on the Beach, in the Chapel, and via Livestream—as a **community of gratitude**. We continue to be life-long learners, participating in lively Bible Studies; inviting others to Men's Fellowship, Knit & Sew, and Choir; attending All-Church brunches and Greet & Eat sunset gatherings; and volunteering around the Chapel and with our Mission partners in the community.

In our caring and sharing; telling the Gospel story in word and deed; standing in the gap for others; and walking alongside one other; we hear the strains of the angels surrounding us, singing:

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen Indeed!*

*Grace & Peace this Easter season,
Pastor Ruth*





BIBLE STUDY: "Learning with Jesus" Spring/Summer 2024

One Wednesday/month at **10:30am**

(Note new time, so as not to conflict with Choir rehearsals)

Refreshments provided; no RSVP needed; come and bring a friend!

Wed. April 17	John 10:11-18 & Psalm 23	Jesus the Good Shepherd
Wed. May 1	John 15:9-17	Love One Another
Wed. June 5	Mark 3:20-27	The Strong Man
Wed. July 10	Mark 6:6b-13	Two by Two

New Member Gathering

March 27 in Fellowship Hall

L-R: John Shobert, Mark Schepler,
Susan Schepler, Pastor Ruth, Jim Kraft



Linda McDonald Funeral

Sunday, April 21 at 11:30AM

Immediately after worship, followed by
a luncheon reception in Fellowship Hall.

All Welcome!

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY - March 10



Out-of-Door Academy Daisies and Brownies meet at Siesta Key Chapel twice a month. On Girl Scout Sunday they participated in the Sunday Worship service and recited the Girl Scout pledge led by Pastor Ruth who was also a Girl Scout and Girl Scout Leader.

MUSIC DIRECTOR & ORGANIST - Conner Stigner



Happy Easter!

My sincerest thanks to all of our SKC Chapel Choir members, community singers and instrumentalists that joined us for Palm Sunday and Easter this year. This marks my third Easter at Siesta Key Chapel and I could not be any more excited for the direction of our music program. Many congratulations to Tim Smith who debuted his brand new cantata, *Jesus the Man*, several weeks ago as a part of our SKC Music Series.

Our next event, an **organ recital** that will showcase our Schantz organ, will be given by Florida State University student **Gavan Mcvey**. Mark your calendars. The date has been **rescheduled to Saturday April 27th at Noon** rather than the originally scheduled date of April 20th. Hope to see you there!

We will resume **choir rehearsals on Wednesday April 10th at 9:30AM** for those who wish to sing for our **Jazz Pentecost Celebration** to take place on Sunday May 19th. All are welcome to participate.

For those traveling to other homes for the summer, please travel safely and we look forward to your triumphant return to us at Siesta Key Chapel.



BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & TECHNOLOGY - Barry Cline



Hazeltine Nursery did a beautiful job designing and planting the center bed of the Memorial Garden. In addition to the new plantings, the Garden area was power washed. In preparation for Holy Week the Chapel deck was power washed and all the Chapel windows were cleaned.

Prep and painting of the two Ramp decks leading into the Chapel and the Admin building is scheduled for April. A sand-like grit will be added to the paint for traction, especially in wet weather.

We lost two more campus trees recently (an Oak and a Pine). The Pines have been subjected to hurricane stresses and Pine Bark Beetles. Two pines were treated with an injection to hopefully save them from the Beetles, and the rest of the Pines were sprayed as a preventative measure.



Moderns That Matter

Siesta Key Chapel was nominated for inclusion on Architecture Sarasota's "Moderns That Matter." Moderns That Matter identifies the Sarasota landmarks - from iconic structures to everyday places - that give Sarasota its architectural character and distinct sense of place. A team from Architecture Sarasota came to visit Siesta Key Chapel in December, and

SKC member Craig Holliday gave us all a personalized history of the design, construction and early history of the Chapel. The Architecture Sarasota team came away very impressed with what they saw that day.

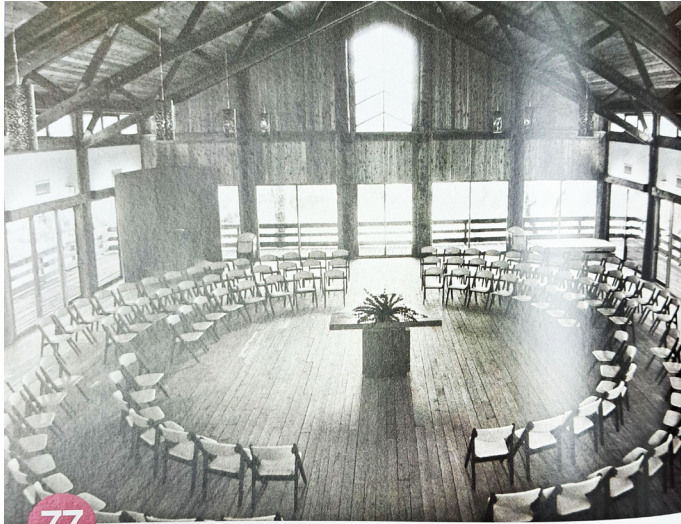
"Designed by Frank Folsom Smith and James Holliday, both members of the church, Siesta Key Chapel is affectionately known as God's Tree House. The Sanctuary is a beautiful, soaring space built entirely in wood. The windows, rather than stained glass, are clear and open up to our beautiful Florida habitat of palms and oaks. The space is restful and connects inside with the outside."

Nomination by Sherry Davis

"We wanted a simple, rustic structure that would blend in with the trees, textures and colors of this beautiful wooded area. We made a strict rule not to cut a single tree if possible. We plan no concrete or asphalt on the grounds"

James Holliday for M.A. Fottler,
Sarasota Herald-Tribune, October 12, 1974

Siesta Key Chapel opened on June 22, 1975. Over the years, Sunday School rooms, a nursery, meeting rooms, a fellowship hall with kitchen, and an office and study for the pastor were added. In 2008, an expansion was completed that included a larger outdoor deck.



77

2008 (1975)
Siesta Key Chapel – God’s Treehouse
Architects: Frank Folsom Smith
and James Holliday
4615 Gleason Avenue, Siesta Key

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Nomination by Sherry Davis



Honoree Reception at Architecture Sarasota, March 20
L-R Pat C-S, Frank Folsom Smith, Scott Getty, Pastor Ruth,
Sherry Davis, Frances Smith (Frank’s daughter)

MISSION COMMITTEE - Tim O'Neil visits Beth-El

I am writing to relate my experience upon my initial visit to Beth El. Beth El receives the largest portion of SKC mission contributions. It is located in a very rural area near Parrish and is a complex of several buildings offering various social and religious services to underprivileged children and adults.

My visit entailed working in their largest building, which serves as a warehouse for distributing various food stuffs to families and individuals in need.

I came away from my experience with a very satisfied feeling. The open, grateful demeanor of those we served made me come away from this experience feeling **I had received more of a gift and blessing than these people did by receiving the foods they so eagerly wanted and needed.** I would encourage you to go for at least one day and serve if you want to see **true mission work in action.** -Tim O'Neil

Beth-El
Farmworker Ministry, Inc.

Beth-El The Mission

Feeding the Mind, Spirit, and Body of the farm-working community and our neighbors in need, through opportunities for hunger relief, education, healthcare, and spiritual growth.

Beth-El Heritage

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry began in 1976 when a small group of Cumberland Presbyterians rented a tiny house in Ruskin, Florida and began holding Spanish-language church services for migrant farmworkers. When the families came to worship, their many other needs were obvious: they were usually hungry, often cold in winter, some slept in cars or trucks, many could neither read nor write, and most lived in fear of deportation.



Art by Suzanne Roth

In its effort to meet some of those needs, Beth-El grew.

CHAPEL ON THE BEACH - Rick Chenoweth

Find **faith and fellowship** at *Chapel on the Beach* every Sunday at 9AM. The half-hour contemporary service offers a variety of music and musicians, scripture, prayer and an inspiring message, along with free coffee and bakery. Join us, and invite your friends and neighbors to meet at the beach on Sunday mornings. All are welcome to join in the joy of worshiping God in nature at Patriots/Sunset Pier, 10 Beach Road.



MEMBERSHIP - Margie Kraft

New Members welcomed in March



Steve & Betsy Bartlett



Judy & Dixon (Dick) Hoogendoorn



Don Hughes & Sharon Collins
(& Woody)



Dana Larsen



Susan Oles

Betsy & Steve Bartlett

Betsy grew up in the Methodist church in Indiana. She met Steve on a blind date in college and they have been married 52 years. In the early 80's they started coming to the west coast of Florida vacationing on Lido Key. Six months ago they bought on Siesta Key. Their 2 children and 4 grandchildren enjoy visiting them here on the Key. Betsy taught second grade for 25 years and now enjoys walking the beach and reading. Steve is a golfer and enjoys antiquing. The two of them have an insurance agency that helps seniors.

Judy & Dixon (Dick) Hoogendoorn

Judy is very involved in the Presbyterian church in Potsdam, NY and is also a Deacon in the Rhode Island church. Her parents introduced her to Siesta Key Chapel many years ago. She is retired and enjoys golfing. Dick was born and raised in Rhode Island. He is a lifetime member and choir member of First Presbyterian Newport. As an ordained Deacon and Elder, he enjoys church life. Dick owns and runs a 100-year-old nursery business. They come to Siesta Key each winter. They have 2 daughters and 4 grandsons.

Sharon Collins & Don Hughes

Sharon and Don live in Ohio in the off-season and four months here on Siesta Key with their dog, Woody. Sharon is a Speech-Language Pathologist with her own practice and enjoys travel, golf and Pilates. Don served in Army intelligence and is President of the Smith-Hughes Company. In his spare time, he enjoys travel and golf.

Dana Larsen

Dana grew up in the Methodist church in Augusta, Georgia. She loved her beach house in Savannah, but after getting married moved to Florida and worked in St. Petersburg. Dana is a semi-retired radiation therapist. She has 3 children, 2 stepchildren and 2 grandsons. Previously she was a member of Northeast Presbyterian Church, now called The Gathering Church located in St. Pete. Dana loves the beach and our beach service and is ready to guide SKC with our upcoming Earthbox project.

Sue Oles

Sue has a non-traditional church background. Originally from Yonkers, NY, she has also lived in Pittsburgh, PA and Nebraska. A recent widow, she is on a spiritual journey and attends the beach service regularly. She has 7 grandchildren and travels back and forth to Nebraska often to visit family.

PATRIOTS PIER - Celebrating New Members, March 13



L-R: Mickey Shoop, Susan Oles, Dana Larsen, Pastor Ruth, Jim Kraft, Margie Kraft, Sharon Collins, Don Hughes, Janie Pratt, Barry Cline

Veterans Flag Ceremony



Folding the flag



New Member Don Hughes with flag

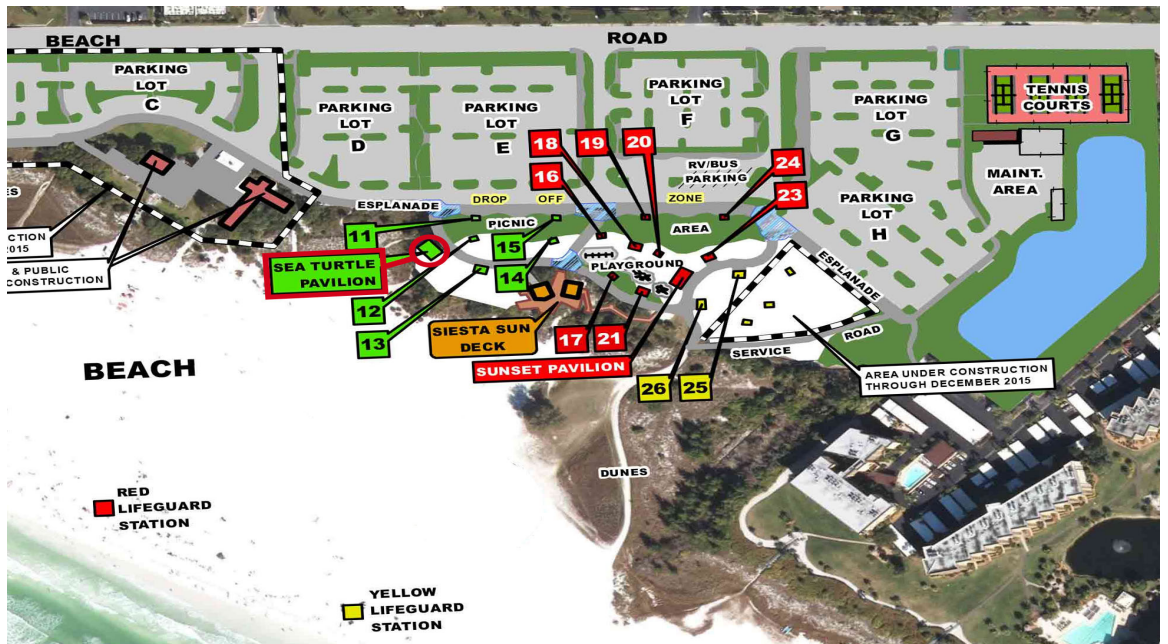


You are invited to join Siesta Key Chapel Members and Friends for our **Springtime Fellowship Event** at the Sea Turtle Pavilion, Siesta Beach, Wednesday, April 3, 2024 from 4pm-8pm.

The Pavilion is handicap accessible, including ramps, and is located immediately off the sidewalk at the dropoff area by the playground (see map). A great sunset view!

Please bring an appetizer or dish to pass. Set-ups, utensils, and soft drinks will be provided. The pavilion has picnic tables, or you may bring your own chairs for the beach/sunset at 7:48 PM!

No RSVP needed. Questions? Call Margie Kraft, 941-323-5900.
We hope to see you there!





SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Easter Monday Office Closed	2 6:30pm NA	3 4-8pm All-Church Sunset Greet & Eat at Siesta Beach's Sea Turtle Pavilion	4 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	5	6
7 9am Chapel on the Beach 10:30am Worship in the Chapel with Communion	8	9 8:00am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knit & Sew Chrismon Workshop 6:30pm NA	10	11 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	12	13
14 9am Chapel on the Beach 10:30am Worship in the Chapel	15	16 6:30pm NA	17 3:30pm Girl Scouts	18 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	19	20
21 9am Chapel on the Beach 10:30am Worship in the Chapel 11:30am Linda McDonald Funeral	22	23 8:00am Men's Fellowship 6:30pm NA	24	25 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	26	27 12 Noon SKC Concert Gavan Mcvey Organist
28 9am Chapel on the Beach 10:30am Worship in the Chapel 12 Noon All-Church Brunch	29	30 3pm Session Meeting 6:30pm NA				

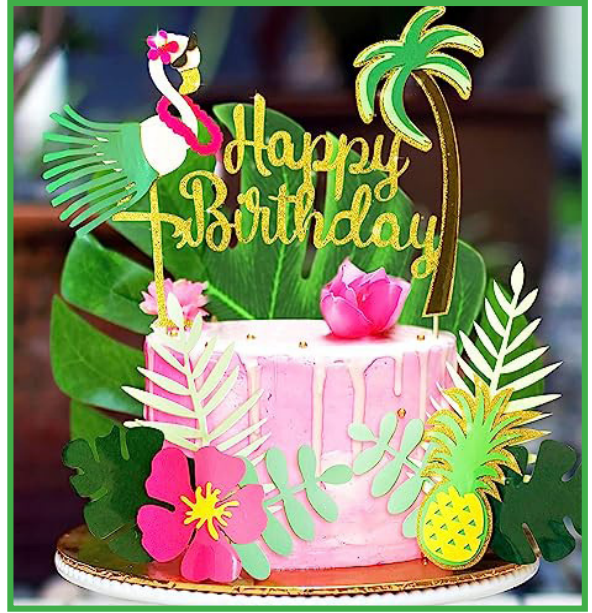


New
Worship
Service Times

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	3	4 Girl Scout Bridging Ceremony
5 8:30am Chapel on the Beach 10am Worship in the Chapel with Communion	6	7 6:30pm NA	8	9 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	10	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY 8:30am Chapel on the Beach 10am Worship in the Chapel	13	14 8:00am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knit & Sew Chrismon Workshop 6:30pm NA	15	16 Presbytery at Bonita Springs 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	17	18
19 8:30am Chapel on the Beach 10am Worship with Kevin Celebi & Jazz Band	20	21 4pm Session Meeting 6:30pm NA	22	23 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	24	25
26 8:30am Chapel on the Beach 10am Worship in the Chapel 11:30am All-Church Brunch	27	28 8:00am Men's Fellowship 6:30pm NA	29	30 7pm Ukulele Group 7pm AA	31	

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Gerald Padfield
- 2 Susan Koch
- 3 Robert Bossert
- 5 Maggie Veeneman
- 8 Susie Wills
- 9 Dana Larsen
- 11 Cliff Menezes
- 12 Frank Mountcastle
- 14 Tim O'Neil
- 17 Robin Shobert
- 18 Martha Daley
- 25 Louise Cashman
- 26 Judy Hoogendoorn
- 30 Helga Williams



Happy Birthday!
Linda McDonald

