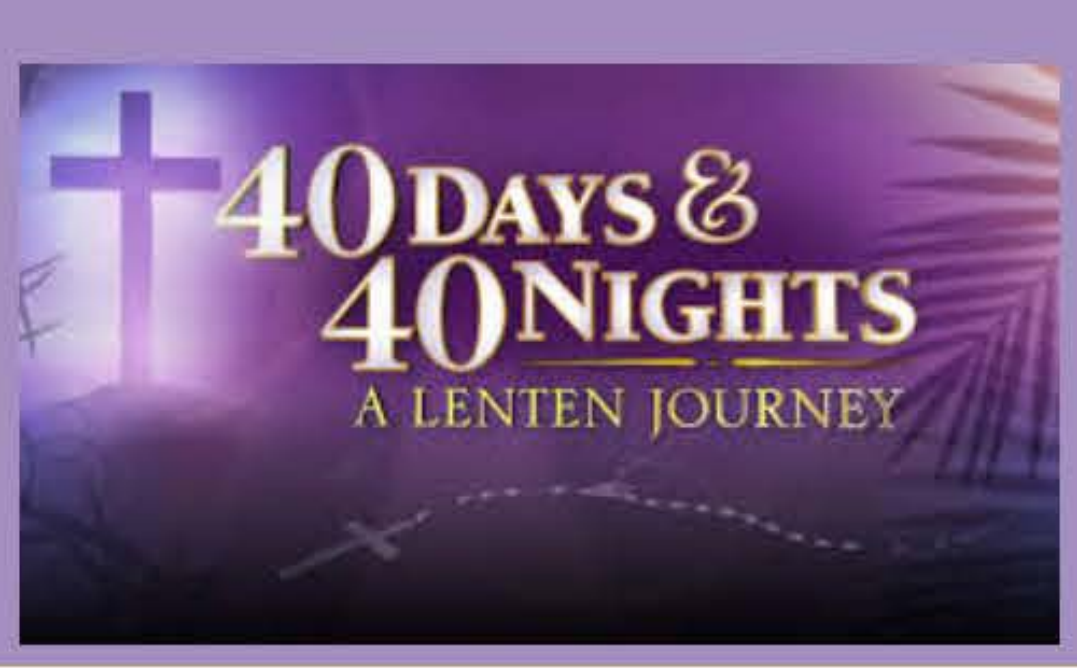
Weekly News From Iona-Hope
February 20th 2026
First Weekend in Lent



Week of 2/23 through 3/1

Monday, February 23rd, 2026
10:30 A.M.-**Arthritis Exercise Program**.
1:00 P.M.- 3:00 P.M. **Mexican Train (Dominoes)**
4:30 P.M.-**Lectio Divina**

Tuesday, February 24th, 2026
9:30 A.M.-**Morning Prayer** (Sanctuary)
6:00 P.M.-**AA Meeting**-Open

Wednesday, February 25th, 2026
10:00 A.M.-**Holy Eucharist Rite I**
8:00 P.M.-Evening Prayer (Compline) (On **Zoom only-**
Meeting ID 831 8753 0969 **Passcode** 029208)

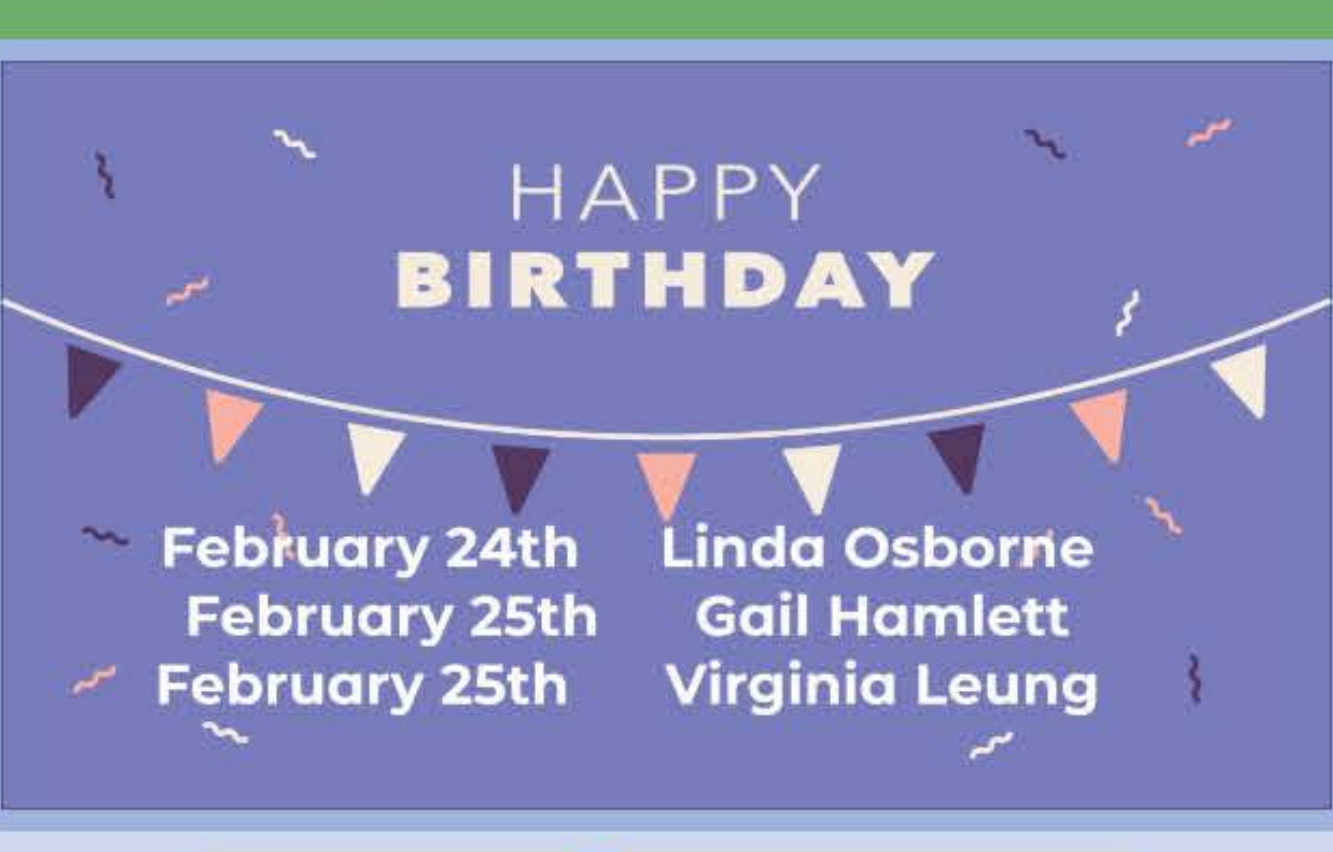
Thursday, February 26th, 2026
8:30 A.M.-**Breakfast Group** (Sunflower Cafe)
3:00 P.M.-**Meditation Group** (Sanctuary)

Friday, February 27th, 2026
10:00 A.M.-**Shawl Ministry**
3:30 P.M.-**Evening Prayer**-In person (Sanctuary)
6:00 P.M.-**Eye On Hope** (AA-open)

Saturday February 28th, 2026
8:00 A.M.-**Steps to Awakening** (AA Open)
10:00 A.M-4:30 P.M.-**AARP Safe Driving Class**
5:00 P.M.-**Rite II Holy Eucharist with Healing**

Sunday, March 1st, 2026
8:00 A.M.-**Rite I Holy Eucharist**
9:30 A.M.-**Rite II Holy Eucharist with Healing**
10:45 A.M.-**Lenten Adult Formation**
"Deep Roots for a Modern Faith"
With Reverend Chris Hardman. (Sanctuary) and on **Zoom Meeting ID** 814 1145 4371 **Passcode** 582601
8:00 P.M.-**Compline with Bishop Scharf (On Zoom)**
Meeting ID 889 8928 7750 **Passcode** Lent

Lent is a season of preparing one's heart and mind for Holy Week and Easter. For this reason there are changes to our worship services: in the order of service, in the prayers and songs we sing, and in the Holy Silence kept for personal reflection before the service. While change can sometimes be jarring at first, please know they are intentionally done to help aid in our communal worship during this Lenten season. If you're curious about any of the changes please feel free to ask Mtr. Jenny or a member of the Liturgy Team.



February 24th	Linda Osborne
February 25th	Gail Hamlett
February 25th	Virginia Leung

Ushers & Greeters

JOIN OUR WELCOMING COMMITTEE!
We are looking for volunteers to join our Welcoming Ministry at all of our services! If you are able to greet people before services, be a welcoming face at our help desk for new attendees, or be able to present the food donations and offerings, please contact Ken Ingram at **jingram05@gmail.com**.

COLUMBARIUM NICHE SALE

What is a final resting place? A final resting place is a permanent, secure, sacred, and public location for the placement of a body or cremated remains. It is usually marked by a plaque or headstone with the name and birth and death dates of the person who lived. Have you thought about your final resting place?

From February 15th - March 31st , Iona-Hope has reduced pricing on our columbarium niches. For these months only Niches will be $1300 for a single and $1500 for a double.
Our regular prices are $1500 for a single and $1700 for a double.

For additional information, or if you have any questions, please contact the church office at 239 454 4778 or email **office@ionahope.org**

Monday Game Days at Iona-Hope!
Did you know our Monday afternoons are twice as fun? Whether you're a seasoned strategist or just looking for some great company, we have a seat saved for you.

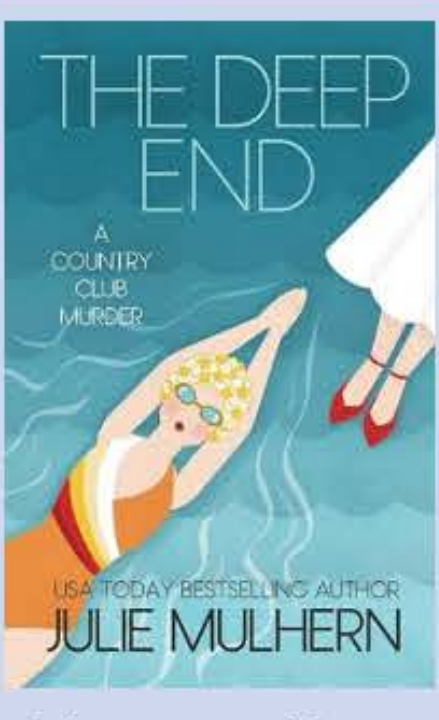
1st & 3rd Mondays: Join us for Mahjong, a classic game of skill and strategy.
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

2nd & 4th Mondays: Switch gears for Mexican Train (Dominoes), a lively and engaging favorite.

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

MARCH BOOK CLUB

The March Book Club selection is The Deep End: A Country Club Murder by Julie Mulhern



Swimming into the lifeless body of her husband's mistress tends to ruin a woman's day, but becoming a murder suspect can ruin her whole life.

It's 1974 and Ellison Russell's life revolves around her daughter and her art. She's long since stopped caring about her cheating husband, Henry, and the women with whom he entertains himself. That is, until she becomes a suspect in Madeline Harper's death.

The murder forces Ellison to confront her husband's proclivities and his crimes—kinky sex, petty cruelties and blackmail. As the body count approaches par on the seventh hole, Ellison knows she has to catch a killer. But with an interfering mother, an adoring father, a teenage daughter, and a cadre of well-meaning friends demanding her attention, can Ellison find the killer before he finds her?

We will meet to discuss **The Deep End** from 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13th in the meeting area in the Iona-Hope Sanctuary. Please call **Helen Sadler** 239-218-5466 if you have any questions.

Forty Days – Forty Items

Wednesday, February 18th is the first day of Lent. Here is a challenge for you! Each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet or home that you no longer wear or need and put it into a trash bag. At the end of the forty days, donate these items to a place that can share them with someone who can really use them!

Pre-Tagged trash bags are available in front of the tech booth in the sanctuary!

Donations can be dropped off at the
Iona-Hope One More Time Thrift Store
8750 Gladiolus Dr. #9C Fort Myers, FL 33908
(239) 437-5333
Hours: Mon-Fri 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.
Saturday 10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

The SEASON OF LENT
40 DAYS

Lenten Practices

In addition to the variety of prayer and worship service that we have, the Daily Offices will be offered twice at Iona-Hope.

Please join us for **Morning Prayer** on **Tuesdays** at **9:30 A.M.** and **Fridays** at **3:30 P.M.** Contact **Debbie Prather** if you have further questions: 239-789-8609.

Sandy Blaine will be leading **Compline** via **Zoom** on **Wednesdays** at **8:00 P.M. Zoom Link:** Meeting ID 831 8753 0969 Passcode 029208

Sundays at 8:00 P.M. Compline with **Bishop Scharf** via **Zoom.** Meeting ID 889 8928 7750 Passcode Lent

Lenten Adult Formation - Sundays at 10:45 A.M. during Lent. Celtic Spirituality: Deep Roots for a Modern Faith by the Reverend Chris Hardman. Zoom Meeting ID 8141145 4371 Passcode 582601

February 22nd – Who were the ancient Celts and what was their life and spirituality like before becoming Christians?

March 1st- How did their conversion to Christianity take place and how did their way differ from the Roman Catholic way?

March 8th- Why are Iona and Lindisfarne so sacred and so important?

March 15th- How does this form of Christianity compare with the Christian mystics of the Middle Ages?

March 22nd-What Celtic practices can deepen our modern faith.

MYSTERY BOX

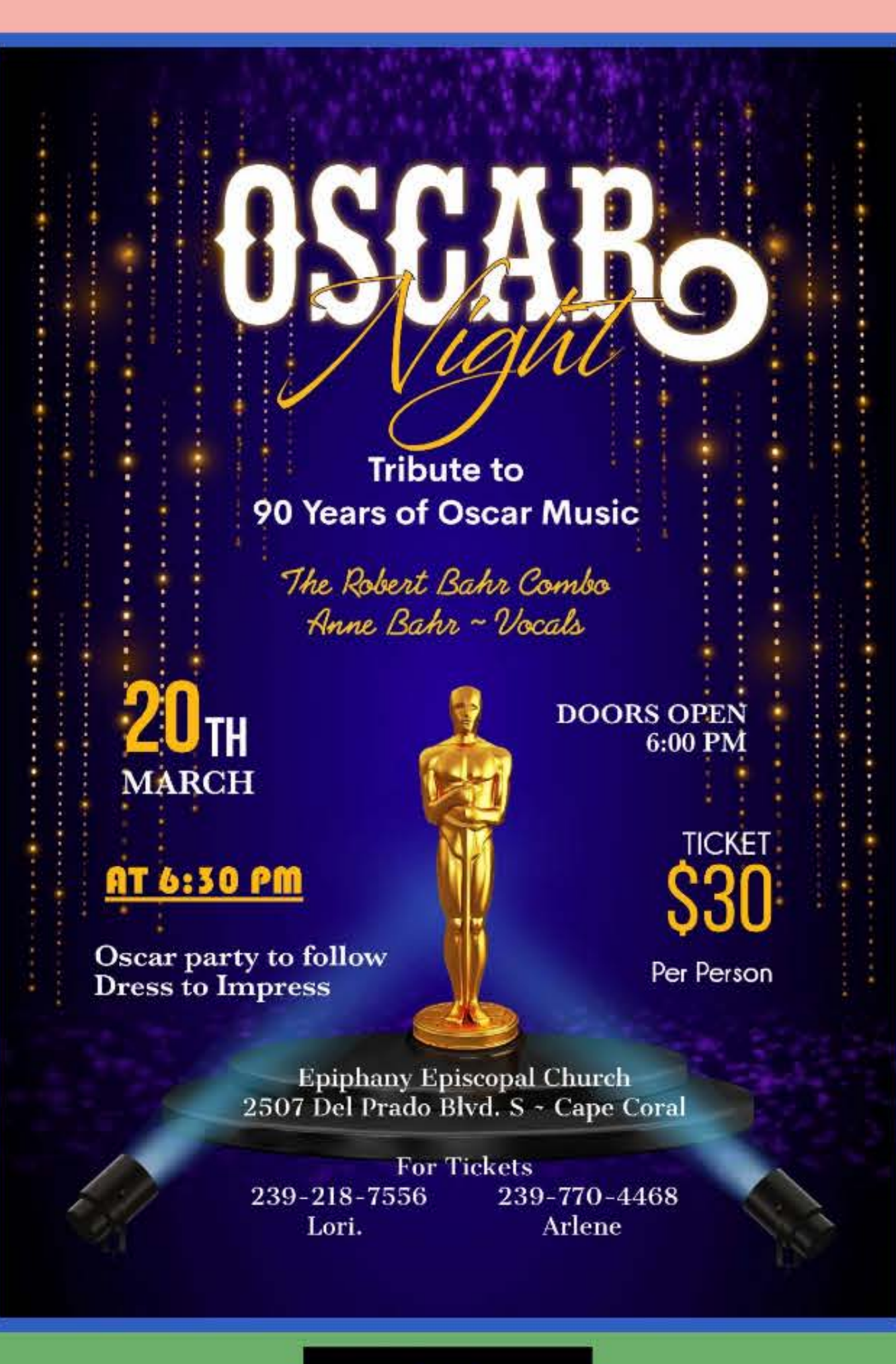
Sunday, March 1st 10:45 A.M.
(After the 9:30 A.M. Service)
For those of you who weren't here last year and those who need a refresher on all the fun – here is how it works.
Music begins and our MC Larry Invites you to start reviewing the bid sheets laid out on tables at the back of the church. Each bid sheet has a portion of a line item from the Iona-Hope 2026 budget.

For instance, "One day of Utilities is $49.00" The minimum bid for that item is $49.00. And the bidding begins. Above each bid sheet is a mystery box. If you win the bid, you win the contents of the mystery box – like a gift card to a restaurant or a boat ride or tickets to the Broadway Palm.

While perusing the tables you can sip on a mimosa, alcoholic or non-alcoholic, your choice. As the bidding winds down, a light lunch will be offered. And then it is time to announce the winners and award the boxes.

There will be an opportunity to have a Yankee Trade led by our own Yankee Trader, Steve Walsh.

As you leave, take your winning bid sheet to the teller and pay by check, cash or credit card. If you forget, we know where you live. Come one and all and bring your friends for a fun time to help Iona-Hope. Let's beat last year's auction of $20,000!



CELTIC FEST

SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 22ND

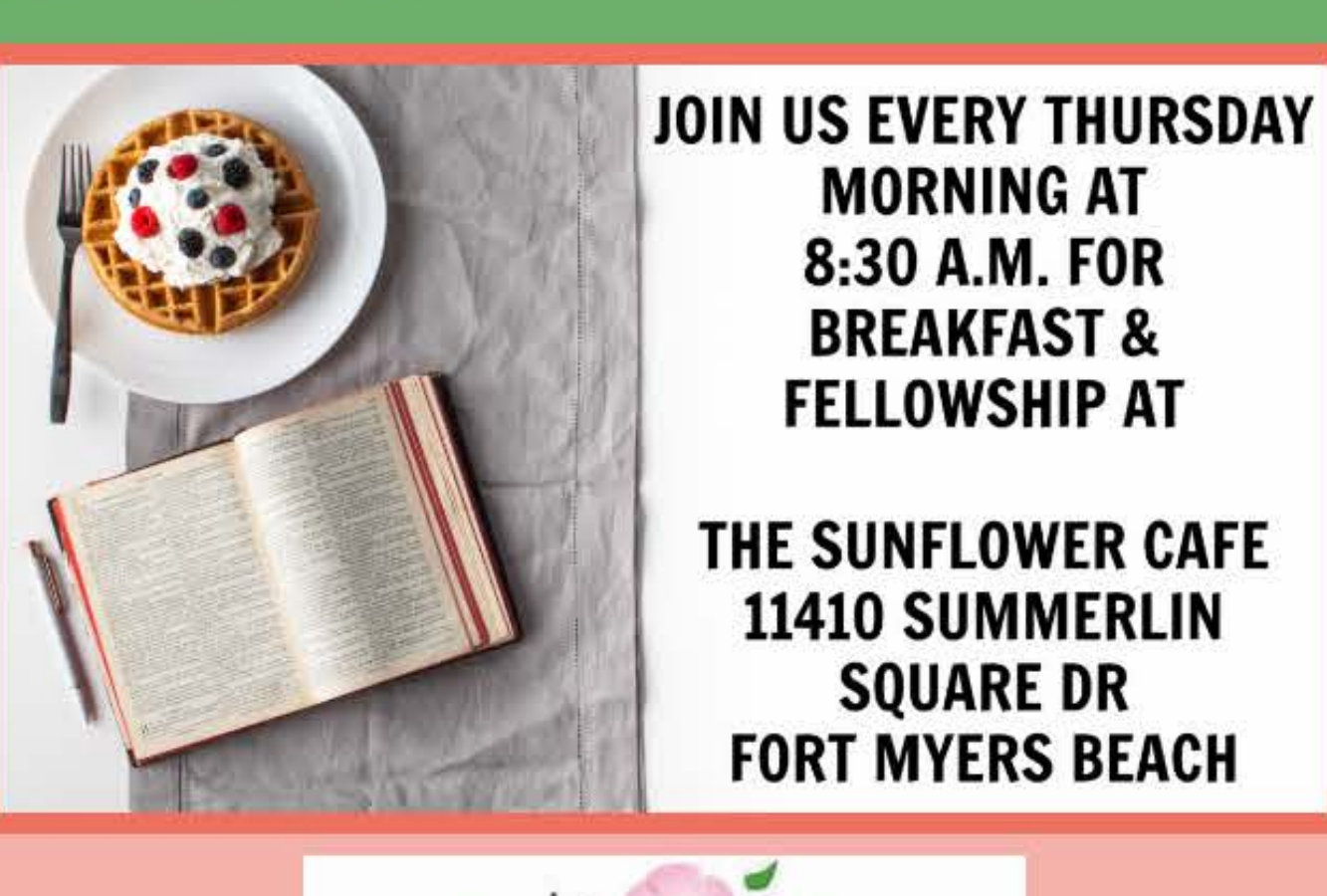
Iona-Hope will have a Celtic Fest in the afternoon of March 22nd.
This is essentially an open house membership drive. The goal is to have many people attend and experience Iona-Hope's welcoming atmosphere. This event is for all ages. We will have free entertainment starting with Irish dancers and a bagpiper in the Sanctuary and then an Irish band will play outside while children do crafts and have fun playing in the bouncy houses.

The FK Your Diet food truck will be here (FK stands for Foster Kids). And we will have a vendor or two –one of whom will sell Celtic crosses and jewelry.

We ask that parishioners bring friends/neighbors with them. If you know of someone who you always thought would enjoy Iona-Hope and possibly make Iona-Hope their spiritual home, this is the event to bring them.

Next weekend, we will have postcards in the Sanctuary with all of the details. Please give these to your friends and neighbors. We will be marketing this event, but nothing beats a personal invitation.

We will need volunteers to help with greeting attendees, crafts and watching the bouncy houses. Please email hufnageljohn@yahoo.com if you are willing to volunteer. Thank you!



JOIN US EVERY THURSDAY MORNING AT 8:30 A.M. FOR BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP AT

THE SUNFLOWER CAFE
11410 SUMMERLIN SQUARE DR
FORT MYERS BEACH

Altar Flowers

If you wish to donate flowers in memory or in thanksgiving of someone special, there is a sign up sheet located temporarily next to the Coffee Hour table in the sanctuary. Look for the sign that says "Sign-up sheets".

The cost is $50.00, which is donated directly to the Hunger Ministry because we utilize 100% silk flower arrangements.

Please note that multiple dedications on the same weekend are welcomed. Any date that is important to you is just as important to us.

AARP
Driver Safety

SAFER DRIVING MAY SAVE YOU MONEY

Saturday February 28th 9:30 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

Take the AARP Smart DriverTM classroom course and you could save on your car insurance!

» Refresh your driving skills and knowledge of the rules of the road.

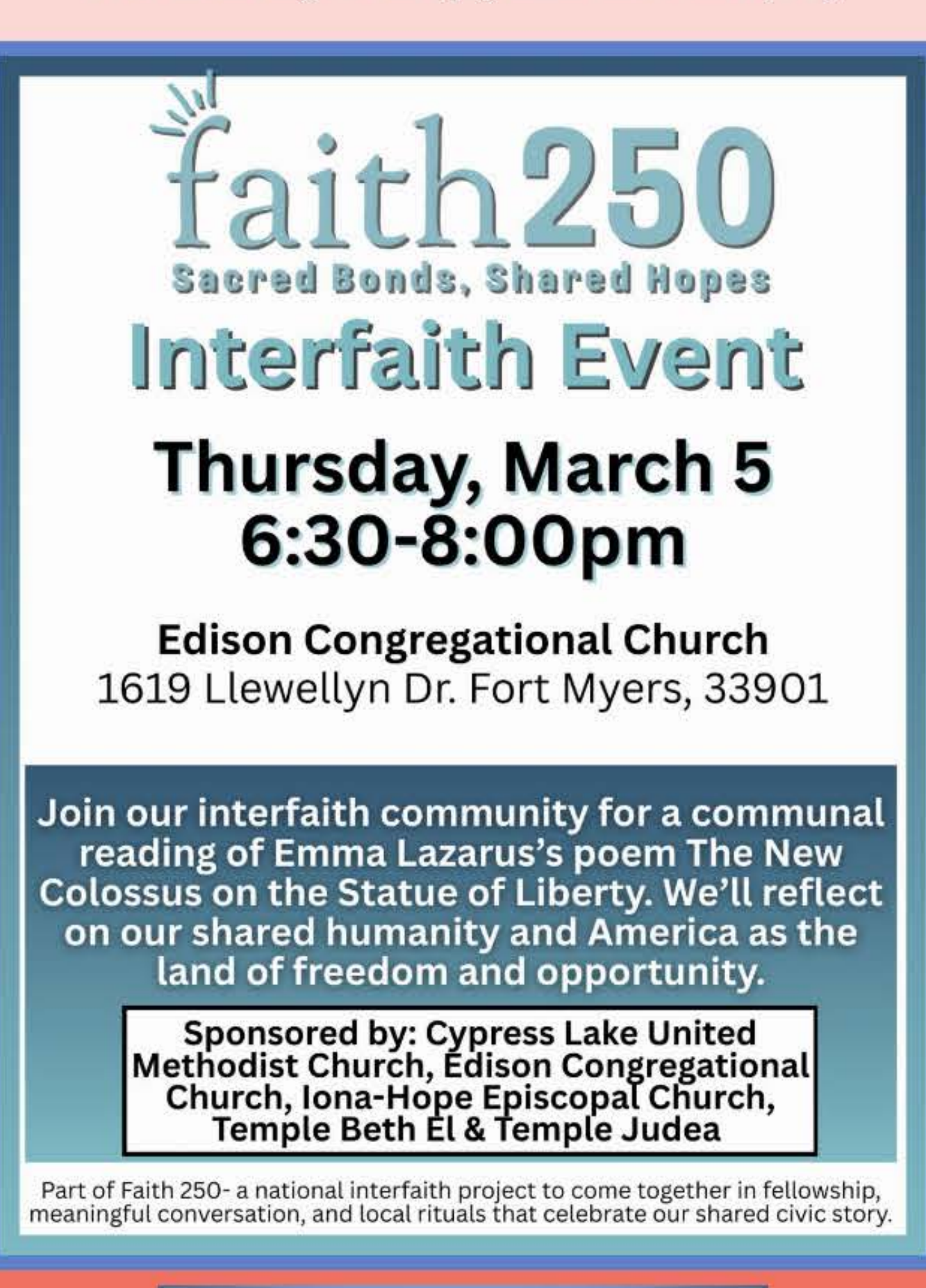
» Learn techniques for handling left turns, right-of-way and roundabouts.

» Discover proven driving methods to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road.

Call: John Schoenhoff, AARP Driver Safety Instructor

612-201-8616

You can also register and pay online at www.aarp.org



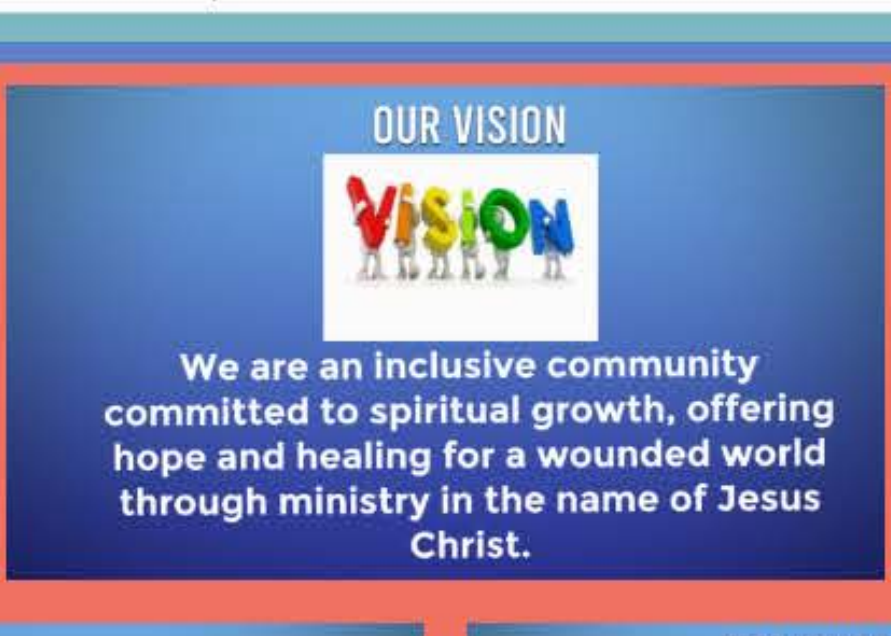
faith250
Sacred Bonds, Shared Hopes
Interfaith Event
Thursday, March 5
6:30-8:00pm

Edison Congregational Church
1619 Llewellyn Dr. Fort Myers, 33901

Join our interfaith community for a communal reading of Emma Lazarus's poem The New Colossus on the Statue of Liberty. We'll reflect on our shared humanity and America as the land of freedom and opportunity.

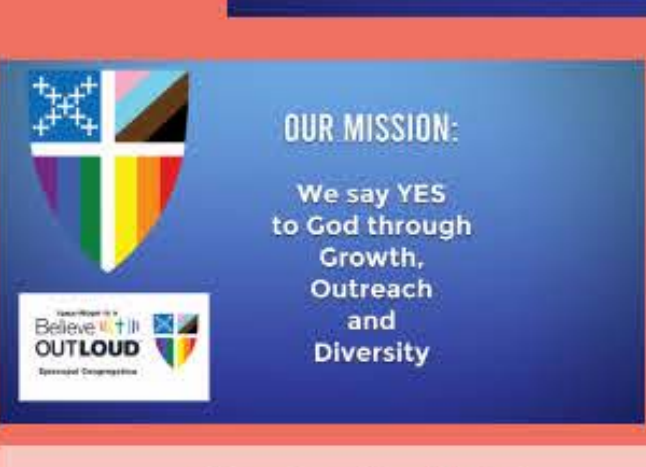
Sponsored by: Cypress Lake United Methodist Church, Edison Congregational Church, Iona-Hope Episcopal Church, Temple Beth El & Temple Judea

Part of Faith 250- a national interfaith project to come together in fellowship, meaningful conversation, and local rituals that celebrate our shared civic story.



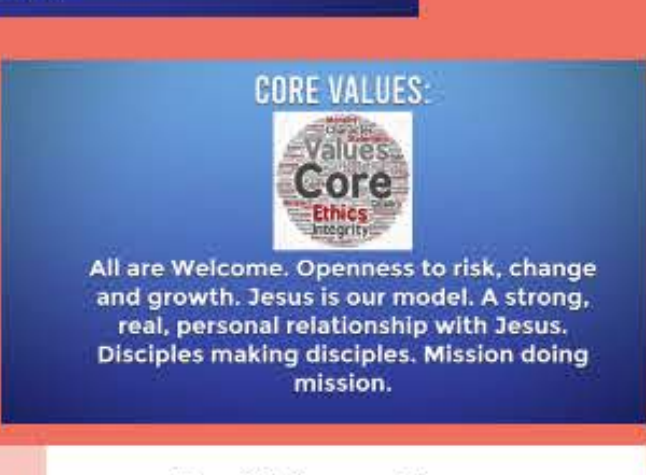
OUR VISION

We are an inclusive community committed to spiritual growth, offering hope and healing for a wounded world through ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.



OUR MISSION:

We say YES to God through Growth, Outreach and Diversity



CORE VALUES:

All are Welcome. Openness to risk, change and growth. Jesus is our model. A strong, real, personal relationship with Jesus. Disciples making disciples. Mission doing mission.

Service Spotlight
Complete Services
Facebook
Prayers of the People
Weekly Bulletin
Matthew 4:1-11
Sermons
Who We Are
Worship Services

Keep Us Updated
Please remember to keep the church office updated on any change of address, phone number, or e-mail address. Contact the Church office at 239-454-4778 or by e-mail at office@ionahope.org

Please visit our website
www.ionahope.org

Weekly Bulletins, Financial Statements, Newsletters, Schedules, Vestry Minutes Calendars, Weekly Readings, Daily Devotionals and Parishioner Resources are all available at the click of a button.

Church Staff

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Ms. Margaret Carr
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Many thanks to our group of dedicated office volunteers:

Susan Crawford
Lorraine Holley
Vicky Dawson

Parishioner Forms, Schedules and Resources
Iona-Hope Calendar
Columbarium Information
Contact and Map
E-Giving at Iona-Hope
Financial Reports
Forward Day By Day
Worship Ministries
Community Ministries
Church Activities
Thrift Store
Vestry Members/Staff Page
Vestry Minutes
Weekly Readings

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Iona-Hope is a Believe OUTLOUD Episcopal Congregation
The Rev. Jenny Scott-Jones
Rector
Office 239-454-4778
9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33908
Located next door to the Lee County Library at the corner of Gladiolus and Bass Rd
Join us for our weekly services!

Wednesday	10:00 A.M.	Holy Eucharist & Healing
Saturday	5:00 P.M.	Holy Eucharist & Healing
Sunday	8:00 A.M.	Holy Eucharist-Rite I
Sunday	9:30 A.M.	Holy Eucharist & Healing-Rite II

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