

Weekly Email From Iona-Hope Episcopal Church



October 16th, 2026

THIS WEEK AT IONA-HOPE

Monday, October 19th

1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.-Mahjong Group (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, October 20th

6:00 P.M.- AA Meeting (Open-Adler Gathering Place)

Wednesday, October 21st

10:00 A.M.- Holy Eucharist Rite II (Sanctuary)

Thursday, October 22nd

8:30 A.M.- Breakfast Group (Sunflower Cafe)

6:30 P.M.- Interfaith Group (Sanctuary)

Friday, October 23rd

6:00 P.M.- Eye On Hope (AA Open) (Adler Gathering Place)

6:00 P.M.- Al-Anon (Office/Library)

Saturday, October 24th

8:00 A.M.- Steps to Awakening (AA Closed)
(Adler Gathering Place)

5:00 P.M.- Rite II-Holy Eucharist with Healing

Sunday, October 25th

8:00 A.M. -Rite I Holy Eucharist

9:30 A.M. - Rite II Holy Eucharist with Healing



THE IONA-HOPE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

**Click Here to Download the October Edition of Our Monthly
Newsletter "The Hope Connection"**

**If you have a pastoral need or
emergency, please call or text Mother
Jenny at
239-980-3994**

Pastoral Care



**October 17th
Donna Kress**

October 23rd
Tyler Morales



**This weeks Altar Flowers are donated by
Vicki Lewis in memory of her son Christopher
and by
Steve Studybaker
in memory of
Kirsten and Bob.**

**If you wish to donate flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for
someone special, there is a sign up sheet in the sanctuary.**

**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.**



Our next **Interfaith Discussion group** will
take place **October 22nd at 6:30 P.M.** at
Iona-Hope Episcopal Church
Thursday, October 22nd, 6:30-8:00 P.M.



Bill Zeeb and **Larry Giltman** will lead the
discussion. However, all participants will be
invited to contribute to our dialogue.

**Topic: “What are the core beliefs of
our religion- and what does it teach
and require of us? “**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!



Trunk or Treat with Gladiolus Food Pantry
Help Us Spread Halloween Joy! 🎃 🍬

We are collecting Halloween candy donations to support the Gladiolus Food Pantry! As always, a huge thank you to all of our parishioners for continually stepping up and sharing your generosity with our neighbors in need.

If you'd like to contribute, please drop off unopened bags of candy in the collection box located in the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you, everyone, for your wonderful support!



**Welcome to the
2026-2027 Season!**



9-5 Thursday November 12th

5:30pm Dinner 7:30pm

Dinner & the Show are only \$70.00.

**Sign-up sheets are located in both the
sanctuary & in the**

Adler Gathering Place.

PAYMENT IS DUE AT SIGNUP

All Reservations due by October 25th



**Sign-up sheets for food and
volunteering are located in the
Sanctuary and in the
Adler Gathering Place.**

ALL ARE WELCOME



An Evening with Zamir Gotta - Travel Companion & Friend of Anthony Bourdain!

ABOUT THIS EVENT

Southwest Florida food lovers, travel enthusiasts, and television fans are invited to **"An Evening with Zamir Gotta - Travel Companion & Friend of Anthony Bourdain" on Monday, November 9th, 2026, at 6:30 P.M. right here at Iona-Hope Episcopal Church in Fort Myers.**

Best known to international television audiences as Anthony Bourdain's charismatic Russian travel companion and fixer on Travel Channel's "No Reservations" and CNN's "Parts Unknown," Zamir Gotta shared unforgettable culinary and cultural adventures with the late chef across the globe, accompanying him to Russia, Ukraine, Romania and notable locations in the US.

This special, free-admission community gathering combines behind-the-scenes storytelling, a moderated Q&A session, light hors d'oeuvres, and a book signing for Zamir's memoir, "The Fixer & The Chef: My Adventures With and Without Anthony Bourdain."

STORYTELLING WITH A PURPOSE:

Beyond food culture, and television anecdotes, Zamir's visit to Fort Myers centers on a deeply personal mission: fostering human connection, cross-cultural understanding, and open dialogue around mental health.

In honor of his friend's enduring legacy, the event brings together the SWFL community to raise awareness and support for local mental health

organizations. Admission is completely free, with optional donations collected on-site to directly benefit local community partners:

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) – SWFL Chapter
Crisis Prevention & Empowerment (CPE)

WHAT ATTENDEES CAN EXPECT:

Live Storytelling & Moderated Q&A: Hear Zamir's firsthand accounts of becoming a fixer for television and movies in Russia, traveling the world with Anthony Bourdain, filming iconic television moments, and navigating life behind the camera.

Book Signing: Purchase or bring your copy of "The Fixer & The Chef" for Zamir to personally sign.

Light Hors D'oeuvres: Enjoy complimentary light bites during the program.

Community Connection: Meet representatives from local suicide prevention and crisis support organizations.

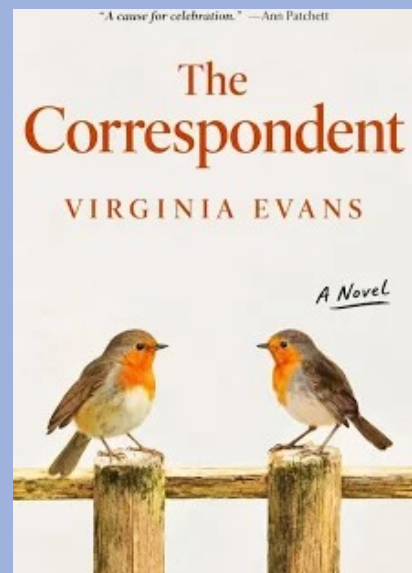
**ADMISSION IS FREE! PRE-REGISTER BY CLICKING ON THE
BUTTON BELOW**

Register Here!

The November Book Club selection is The Correspondent by Virginia Evans.

“Imagine, the letters one has sent out into the world, the letters received back in turn, are like the pieces of a magnificent puzzle. . . . Isn’t there something wonderful in that, to think that a story of one’s life is preserved in some way, that this very letter may one day mean something, even if it is a very small thing, to someone?”

Filled with knowledge that only comes from a life fully lived, *The Correspondent* is a gem of a novel about the power of finding solace in literature and connection with people we might never meet in person. It is about the hubris of youth and the wisdom of old age, and the mistakes and acts of kindness that occur during a lifetime.



Sybil Van Antwerp has throughout her life used letters to make sense of the world and her place in it. Most mornings, around half past ten, Sybil sits down to write letters—to her brother, to her best friend, to the president of the university who will not allow her to audit a class she desperately wants to take, to Joan Didion and Larry McMurtry to tell them what she thinks of their latest books, and to one person to whom she writes often yet never sends the letter.

Sybil expects her world to go on as it always has—a mother, grandmother, wife, divorcee, distinguished lawyer, she has lived a very full life. But when letters from someone in her past force her to examine one of the most painful periods of her life, she realizes that the letter she has been writing over the years needs to be read and that she cannot move forward until she finds it in her heart to offer forgiveness.

Sybil Van Antwerp's life of letters might be “a very small thing,” but she also might be one of the most memorable characters you will ever read.

We will meet to discuss **The Correspondent** from 12:30-2:00 P.M. on Friday, November 13th in the Adler Gathering Place. Please call Helen Sadler 239-218-5466 if you have any questions.



Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

**Wednesday, November 25th,
5pm Service**

Pie and Cider reception to follow
Iona-Hope Episcopal Church
9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers Fl 33908

JOIN THE PEOPLE OF TEMPLE BETH EL, TEMPLE
JUDEA, IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, EDISON
CONGREGATIONAL, CYPRESS LAKE UMC, AND
FRIENDS FOR AN INTERFAITH SERVICE OF
GRATITUDE.

Please consider bringing a non-
perishable item to donate to the
local food pantry and/or a Pie to
share at the reception

Call 239-454-4778 or email
guest@ionahope.org with questions.





COLUMBARIUM NICHE SALE

From October 15th -December 1st

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?

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

**PREPARING THE STABLE, PREPARING THE HEART An
Advent Retreat Day
December 5, 2026**



There are so many ways to prepare for Christmas. Gifts to buy. Cards to write out and mail. Cookies to bake. Presents to wrap. Menus to plan . . . But the most important preparations we can make as we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Christ, is the preparation of the heart. This Advent, why not take time to join Rev. John Danner for an Advent Quiet Day? John will lead us in using music, art, meditation, silence, story and scripture to help us settle into a time to focus on the deeper realities of the season. Our day will conclude with lunch and a time of worship.

John is a retired pastor in the United Church of Christ, and a spiritual director. After forty-five years of ordained ministry in parish settings in the Northeast and here in Southwest Florida, he retired and is a Pastor Emeritus at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. Before he moved to North Carolina, he was active here at Iona where he led retreat days several times and has been called on to preach. He has also often preached at several UCC churches in the area.

John is the author of *Angels Dancing on the Roof*, a collection of seasonal stories, and has contributed to several publications including *The Christian Century* and *The Upper Room*.

**The Retreat Day will be held at Iona Episcopal Church,
9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers,
Saturday, December 5, 9:00 AM-1:30 PM.**

**Registration can be made by calling the Church Office at
239-454-4778 or by emailing office@ionahope.org.**

The \$10 registration fee includes lunch.

All are welcome to attend.

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.



Iona-Hope is a
Believe 
OUTLOUD
Episcopal Congregation

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.

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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.**

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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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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