Our Faith. Our Vision. Our Future.

Celebrating 50 Years of Faith

Preparing for generations to come

Dear Lost Tree Chapel Members and Friends,

We are pleased to share important news about the future of our beloved Lost Tree Chapel!

As we approach the Chapel's 50th anniversary, we have a remarkable opportunity before us: to honor our past, strengthen our present, and prepare our Chapel for generations to come.

Over the past several months, discussions about needed improvements to our sanctuary have grown into a broader vision for the future of the Chapel. With strong early encouragement and support, it became clear that this is the right time to address not only our sanctuary, but also the gathering, meeting, and administrative spaces that support our Chapel community.

Plans are now taking shape for a two-phase project, carefully scheduled over two years to avoid disrupting Chapel activities:

- Phase I – Summer 2027: Renovation and improvements to the sanctuary.
- Phase II –2028: Improvements to gathering and meeting spaces, along with administrative areas.

We have secured our architect and construction firm, and planning is underway. Equally important, we have begun establishing an endowment to sustain the Chapel's ministry, music, programs, and benevolence for decades to come.

More details about these plans will be shared when we gather in the Chapel in November. In the meantime, feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

We are especially grateful to those whose early vision and generosity helped launch this effort, and to our Chapel Board for embracing the opportunity. But the success of this undertaking will depend on something that has always made Lost Tree Chapel special: all of you. We are a community united in faith, purpose, and commitment.

This promises to be one of the most consequential chapters in our Chapel's history. We believe God has placed before us an extraordinary opportunity to build upon the legacy entrusted to us—and to ensure that the Chapel continues to serve as the spiritual and cultural heart of Lost Tree Village for generations to come.

To learn more about the vision and plans, please follow this link to Bob and Casey's overview.

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to our Chapel and the important role you will play in shaping its future.

Peace,

Annesley MacFarlane
Chapel President

Lost Tree Chapel

Dear Friends,

We stand on hallowed ground, we members and leaders of Lost Tree Chapel in 2026. We are inheritors of an audacious dream. For nearly half a century, Lost Tree Chapel has not simply existed—it has thrived with purpose, built by visionaries whose faith was bold enough to imagine a spiritual heartbeat at the center of our community. They didn't just build a building; they crafted a sanctuary of hope, a wellspring of meaning, a beacon for the restless soul.
And what a heart—furious, insistent, alive—our Chapel has become. Each season, pews brim with seekers and skeptics alike, drawn not just by tradition but by a hunger for something transcendent. The sermons from our pulpit each Sunday are challenging, spiritually charged, and motivating in their call for us to follow Christ's path. Each Sunday our Choristers, with their music, lift our souls to higher ground. Outside of worship our Speaker Series doesn't just attract luminaries from commerce, faith, sports, politics, and philanthropy, to name a few —it has also become a crossroads where big ideas collide, and new convictions are born. Our Library, Chapel Talks, Bible studies, and prayer groups, along with other chapel gatherings —are not mere programs; they are lifelines for those yearning to grow, to wrestle with life's biggest questions, to be transformed. Every initiative began with a God-whispered dare: What if faith could change everything? Now as the bell tolls for our 50th year anniversary, the question echoes: Will we play it safe, or will we dare as we dream about the next 50 years —as our founders did—to imagine the impossible as now God's spirit stirs, urging us past nostalgia toward renewal. The legacy we've inherited with our Chapel is not a relic; it's a charge to ensure that Lost Tree Chapel pulses with life and relevance for another fifty years.

The initial phases of our vision—The First Phase, renovation of our sanctuary. Then, the Second Phase, the modernization of the rest of the building —are necessary. But they are not enough. Let's be brutally honest: Buildings decay, needs mutate, opportunities arrive and vanish. The real test of a community is not whether it can cling to what it has, but whether it can risk for its future--whether it can invest, even sacrificially, in a destiny not yet seen and that will underly what is our third, and most daring, phase of our dream for Lost Tree Chapel for the next 50 years. That Third Phase is to build a substantial endowment that is not just prudent, but rather a bold stand of commitment. It is the leap of faith that transforms maintenance into mission. It ensures that, long after we are gone, the next generation of seekers, skeptics, servants, and visionaries can find here not only refuge in the loving presence and spirit of Christ, but also a rallying point for their own bold journeys. Without it, we risk future chapel goers simply becoming caretakers of decline. With it, we become architects of resurrection!

Right now, our stewardship is careful. Our budget is built for meeting current needs, not for splendor. We fund what we must, not what we might. It is adequate, but not imaginative. Let's name the anxiety that lingers beneath our gratitude: Each year, in leadership we scramble, stretching to make ends meet, relying on the same loyal few to bridge the inevitable gap. With these gifts there is gratitude, yes, but also a quiet dread—what if, one year, the generosity runs dry?
The cost of caution is steep. Our staff—who pour heart and soul into this place—receive no benefits, not even basic help with health insurance. What caliber of leaders and teachers might we lose in the future because our arms might be too short to offer them what they deserve?

Lost Tree Chapel

Our repairs on the building are sometimes deferred, our ambitions rationed. Imagine what we could preserve, and what we could build if we planned not just for survival but for future repairs? Right now, our budget straitjackets our dreams of perhaps a music series or programs that could electrify the imagination and deepen faith?

Here's the hard truth. Trends tell us church attendance will continue to slip nationwide in the decades to come. Our own community will change—new faces, younger families, different needs. Right now, we have no financial margin to dream about new avenues to meet those times. Perhaps Sunday morning programs for children, or opening our doors for spectacular youth events? Increased funding to bring in orchestras or guest preachers who could set spirits soaring. Famous Poets or Literary figures that might brighten the world with their word? And there is so much more.

If we settle for status quo, we will simply drift while the world changes around us. It is our belief that the Lost Tree Chapel should not merely endure in the future; if it is going to continue to thrive it must astonish, provoke, and welcome all of God's beloved with worship, programs and gatherings that dazzle and transform lives. This is why a significant endowment is more than prudent planning. It is a declaration of intent, a wager that Lost Tree's brightest days are ahead, not behind. It is the razor's edge between decline and resurrection, between flickering survival and blazing purpose.

The future will demand more from us: more vision, more courage, more resources. Without endowment, our future members are at the mercy of fate. With endowment, we seize destiny and shape a legacy that electrifies, inspires, and endures. Imagine it: an endowment our leadership could call on and utilize to make certain that no God-inspired dream is too wild, where every Spirit-whispered idea is met with a resounding "yes!", where the next half-century is ablaze with even greater courage and vision than the last.
This is not just about funding—it's about unleashing possibilities for the spirit of Christ to be set free even more deeply into our community within these gates and beyond! In our humble opinion this is why this endowment must be born: not so the story of Lost Tree Chapel merely continues, but so it blooms with new life—transforming hearts.

So, let's sum it all up in one short paragraph…To revitalize the sanctuary, reimagine our community and administrative spaces, and create an endowment fund for our Lost Tree Chapel is to say, with defiant hope, that God's pen is not yet lifted from our Chapel's story. That we are bold enough to give, to dream, and to sacrifice—not for ourselves, but for futures we may never see, for children yet unborn, for a legacy that outlives us. This is what we have received. This is what we must dare to give. And the time is not tomorrow. The time is now.
To close our thoughts, let us share one of our favorite poems written by William Allen Dromgoole. We believe it speaks to this moment. If you have heard it. Forgive us for being redundant.

Lost Tree Chapel

The Bridge Builder
An old man, traveling a lone highway,
Came, at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast, and deep, and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim;
The sullen stream had no fears for him;
But he turned, when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim, near,
"You are wasting your strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again must pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide—
Why build you this bridge at evening-tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head:
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today
A youth, whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm, that has been naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

Thanks for listening.
Bob and Casey

11149 TURTLE BEACH ROAD · NORTH PALM BEACH· FLORIDA 33408
PHONE (561) 626-9100 · FAX (561) 626-9234