



August 22, 2017

Dear Fellow Chapel Members:

Even with the lingering summer heat and with a cautious eye on the tropics for hurricane activity, the seasons are changing with fall definitely being in the air with excitement building for the upcoming season here at the Chapel. Here's a brief snapshot review of summer 2017 from the Stewardship Committee along with a quick look over the horizon.

The Chapel continues to run very smoothly with there being no substantial blockbuster issues to divert or to dilute our full focus and attention on serving God, our congregation, and our community through the work of the Chapel. All this is the product of having strong spiritual leadership from the Reverend Bill Friederich along with a united congregation and a united Board of Trustees. All of us are blessed to be in this situation as this allows us to more effectively and more productively leverage our spirit, our resources, and our energy as never before.

To wit, the Chapel received a delightful letter of thanks and appreciation for our generous contribution from the Roots Summer Arts Program for the young underprivileged kids in our area. They wrote that our contribution was a critical factor in the outstanding success of the summer program with the kids learning so much and having so much good old-fashioned clean fun. More good news followed with a second letter received about our contribution for guide dog training for the visually impaired. Can you imagine the dramatic impact on someone dealing with blindness suddenly having new dimensions of mobility, independence and self-esteem which previously were little more than just a dream!

Going forward, the Chapel is on the right track. We are doing good work. We are making a difference. What's the secret to our success that brings so much happiness and gratification, and that generates so much goodwill throughout the community?

The real secret is there is no secret...it's all about staying focused on the real needs of real people needing real assistance in one form or another and it's about collectively maintaining high standards of humility and modesty in our own individual lives so that our vision remains clear.

Get ready for thrilling fall/winter/spring seasons! Reverend Bill and his team have action-packed plans with the holiday season promising to be especially meaningful. This is why the Chapel is "The Place to Be" with there being no shortage of excitement and enthusiasm.

Don't forget...you're important! Your Board of Trustees is never more than one minute away through mobile telephones and instant email. We are keenly interested in your thoughts and ideas. Let us hear from you!

Yours sincerely,

Alan R. Boudreau

Alan Boudreau
Co-Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Fuller".

Steve Fuller
Co-Chairman

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I am so thankful that all of our Chapel family and property are safe. We can grow trees again and flowers will bloom, but the safety and welfare our Chapel and its friends are foremost.

I will leave Richard Engel to update you on the progress of the cleanup, but let me say thank you to each and every one of you who has volunteered time to help us in some way during these past few weeks. I can't begin to name everyone because I'm sure to leave someone out, you know who you are and it is deeply appreciated!

We look forward to seeing each of you and joining us in giving thanks. Blessings, *Rev Bill*

We have again been blessed by sustaining minimal consequences from Hurricane Irma. The Chapel has no significant structural damage, no water intrusion from the storm, no members have been injured, and services were held last Sunday as normally scheduled. The campus suffered wind damage in the form of several uprooted/fallen trees and there was significant limb, leaves, and other debris littering the grounds. Chapel volunteers, staff, and our landscaping and tree service contractors have made great inroads towards clearing this debris. We have a significant pile along Gulf of Mexico Drive that the city will remove. Prior to the storm the decision was made to cancel services and several volunteers moved items upstairs to save from rising water. We learned several things from the preparation and will document these for future use should we be threatened by another storm. *Richard Engel, President of the Board of Trustees*

Here are some photos before and after of tree removal especially in the Friendship Garden,

