



Dear Church Family,

In May of 1955, the Presbytery of St. Johns chartered our congregation. They decided that anyone who joined until December would be a charter member. The fledgling congregation met in the Wilbur by-the-Sea Clubhouse (now called a Boathouse.) Some of our current members were charter members: Frankie Tresher Hughes, Marianne Timmons Sabatka, and James Hunt! Some in our congregation are still in touch with the first Pastor's wife too: Suanne Sauerbrun now lives in Sun City Center, Florida! In 1958, the congregation left the Boathouse and moved to their new building- what is now our Fellowship Hall, closets, and kitchen! (The Fellowship Hall floor is original!) The closet off of the Hall was the original nursery, and the closet off of the new section of our sanctuary (which was a later expansion of our worship space, and was part of the original Hall) was the office! In 1959 the Sunday School wing was added, including a storage room that would become the Chapel; un-heated, and un-air conditioned restrooms that now house our modern main restrooms existed; and rooms 8 through 12B. In 1964 a sidewalk was added to connect the restrooms to the brand new sanctuary. Since then we have continued to add buildings and property to support our Christian ministries and classes.

Beyond the property on this 63rd anniversary of this congregation, people matter the most. Did you know that I am just the fourth Pastor of the church, and Kristin is just the fourth secretary of the church, in 63 years? Thanks be to God.

Take a look at our "Wall of Fame" in Fellowship Hall. These classes of young people were photographed, starting in 1993, when we expanded our Confirmation Class from six weeks to nine months. As an anniversary labor of love, Mary Ann and I have gone through our memory banks (and old bulletins as necessary) to create a little booklet that will be placed under or beside the photos. We will identify all those young faces! We wonder where they are today and how they are doing? That's where some of you can come in! If you know any of those class members, we would be glad to have you contact them for us, ask how they are doing, and ask what they are doing! We'd look forward to an update.

That's our plan for May! Let us give thanks to our Ascended Lord this month, and celebrate 63 years of telling others the Good News of Jesus Christ!

In His Service,

Jeff Sumner

The next page was included in a promotional piece given to the congregation in May 1963, recommending the building of the sanctuary and office!