



St. Columba Episcopal Church

Summer @ St. Columba



It's Summer @ St. Columba!
Beginning this Sunday, April 30th
we join together to worship and share the love at 10 am.
The service will be followed by a delicious early lunch.
All are welcome!



2 Big Thank You's!

The Hammock House is so happy to announce that we have
been awarded a generous grant of \$8,800 from
The City of Marathon.

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Thanks to the generous folks at **Keys Fisheries**,
\$1,500 was donated to The Hammock House from their
Stone Crab-eating contest!

Thank You All! Please help us say thank you when
you are out and about.

\$5 Bag Sale

We look forward to welcoming the community at our \$5 Bag Sale, Saturday, April 29th, 8am-Noon. We are setting up all week so please stop by if you want to help or come by on Saturday to hang out, enjoy the day and maybe even pick up some beautiful treasures!



We received the report from the structural engineer we hired to complete the EBR (existing building recertification) following the collapse of the balcony at The Apartments @ 1655. The inspection mandated significant repairs be made to the buildings before we can resume renting the apartments. George Calder, our Senior Warden and Rev. Debra have been working with the inspector, the contractor (G&A Contracting), Josh Mothner and the Building Official from the City of Marathon in order to find the best way forward.

All of the people in the buildings are being given constant notification about the situation. We have refunded all the families their April rent, as well as their last month's rent and security deposits. We are doing the best that we can to help people find new places to live but it is very difficult and sadly 1 resident (Home Depot and Bealls employee) is already making plans to relocate.

We are so very thankful to our congregation! St Columba was able to offer

emergency shelter at the church and then provide a night in a hotel along with many meals provided by our congregation. Partnering with KAIR, the families in hotels were extended till the end of the 1st week. KAIR has also offered to provide relocation assistance, grocery store gift cards and are in constant communication with our staff. The families have also received a very large contribution from Coldwell Banker Schmitt Charitable Foundation to aid in keeping folks in hotels for an additional week as well as other necessary expenses.

With regard to the repair of the buildings we are now in the hands of the repair process which will require additional engineering, estimates on the cost from the contractor and an estimate on a time frame for the repairs. This will not be a quick process, but in light of the collapse it is a necessary process.

The City Manager, Building Official and members of the City Council have expressed their sympathy and desire to help. We have spoken to First State Bank and at this point in time it seems like they are planning to help us with either interest only payments or some type of forbearance while we explore all of our options to continue paying the million dollar mortgage on the building. We are also exploring many state and local grant options to help with additional funding opportunities.

We are moving forward in the only way that we can with grace and hopefulness during this really hard time.

We are most thankful that no one died or was hurt on Saturday, April 15 and remain hopeful that we will be able to create a new opportunity for people with the help and Grace of God. Thank you for your patience in this matter and please keep everyone in your prayers. This has all been very sad and difficult for our community.

St. Columba Episcopal Church | 451 West 52nd Street, Marathon, FL 33050

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