

CHRISTMAS EVE



Holy Eucharist: Rite II

2:00 p.m.

Christ Church Among the Oaks

A second site worship center for Christ Church,
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

*"Do not be afraid, for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:
to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.*

- Luke 2:11-12

Welcome and Merry Christmas

Christ Church Among the Oaks

For over 20 years we have worshiped in South Ponte Vedra/Vilano Beach and are especially pleased to have you join us on this Christmas Eve afternoon!

Folks come from all along South Ponte Vedra Boulevard, Coastal Highway, and many surrounding neighborhoods and beyond, to worship with us **every Sunday morning at 9:00 AM**. All are truly welcome for a casual but sacred worship experience.

Our primary work is outreach to our community, focused on five agencies and one school in St. Johns County. Council on Aging, St. Francis House/Port in the Storm, Pie in the Sky, Learn to Read, St. Gerard's Campus, and South Woods Elementary School in Hastings are our current outreach partners. See the back of the bulletin for details on each of these agencies. We support these amazing organizations financially and with our time and talents. Volunteer opportunities abound throughout the year, and we cherish our time alongside our outreach partners serving those in need.

We have worked to create a Christmas Eve service that is holy, joyful, and spirit-filled. We invite you to participate in the full service by singing, praying, and listening to God's word. Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion; our communion style consists of both bread and wine. All are welcome at this, the Lord's table. You will receive bread in your hand, and then go to a chalice where you can dip your bread into the wine.

Again, welcome to Christ Church among the Oaks, we are thankful you have chosen to celebrate the birth of Jesus with us.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come. Let Earth receive her King!

We extend a warm welcome to everyone this Christmas Eve.

Servant Board: Paula Allmen, Mike Cleary, Steve Harrison, Claire Heusinger, Deborah Pearsall, Stan Sundermeyer and Jenny Weeks, warden.

Presider: Mother Sandy Tull

Vocal: Beth McCullough

Vocal: Claire Heusinger

Vocal: Rebecca Lima

Vocal: Mark Powel

Drums: Rick Kirkland

Bass: Stan Piper

Piano: Boril Ivanov

THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

This Christ Candle is lit to remind us the words from the Prophet Isaiah:

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”

First Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste fidelis

O come, all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

God from God, Light from Light eternal, lo!

He abhors not the Virgin’s womb; only begotten Son of the Father. *Refrain.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing,

All ye citizens of heaven above; glory to God, glory in the highest. *Refrain.*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,

Jesus, to thee be glory given; word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. *Refrain.*

Opening Sentences

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their brave delight.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in Excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.
Gloria, in Excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

The Collect for the Nativity of Our Lord

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

9:2-4, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us,
We pray; cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Psalm 96

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

² Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

³ Declare his glory among the nations *

and his wonders among all peoples.

⁴ For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- ⁶ Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- ⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- ⁹ Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- ¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
**he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."**
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹² Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- ¹³ He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Second Reading

Lector A Reading from the Letter to Titus.

2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn

While Shepherds Kept Their Watching

Refrain Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

2:1-14

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered.

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated.

The Homily

The Reverend Sandy Tull

The Prayers of the People

Leader Holy Child of Bethlehem, whose parents found no room in the inn;
we pray for all who are homeless.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Holy Child of Bethlehem, born in a stable;
we pray for all who are living in poverty.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy Child of Bethlehem, rejected stranger;
we pray for all who are lost, alone, all who cry for loved ones.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy Child of Bethlehem, wounded for the life of the world;
we pray for all who are in need of healing physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy Child of Bethlehem, whom Herod sought to kill;
we pray for all in danger, all who are persecuted.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy Child of Bethlehem, a refugee in Egypt;
we pray for all who are far from home.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy Child of Bethlehem, hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming Kingdom.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy Child of Bethlehem, in you the Eternal was pleased to dwell; help us, we pray, to see the divine image in people everywhere.

Silence

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Celebrant All loving and gracious God, we thank you for gracing us with the gift of your Son. Confident of your continuing love for us, we have placed our needs before you. Hear and answer our prayers, through that same Christ, newly born this night, our Lord and Savior, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, light, and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Birthday Prayer

Watch over your child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* falls; and in *his* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*To make an offering online visit ccpub.org/give
or use the QR code at the back of the bulletin. Thank you for your support.*

Offertory

Presentation Hymn

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the body and blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ, by him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant continues

The Gifts of God for the people of God. Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of life and faith, you are welcome at God's table to receive the Bread and Wine made Holy. (*Enriching our Worship, Form 1*)

Distribution of Communion

All baptized persons, including children, are invited to receive Communion.

Music at Communion

Away in a Manger

Cradle song

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed.
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where
He lay the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing the poor Baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my side, 'Til morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee
To stay close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care and
Take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

What child is this, who, laid to rest on Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here, the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through, the Cross be borne, for me, for you.
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of Kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise, the song on high, the Virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray

Celebrant and people

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn Prayer

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night; all is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Christmas Blessing

May God who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth fill you with joy; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn

Joy to the World!

Isaac Watts

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding
Joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia.



Announcements

Hurricane Relief Benefit Concert

Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra is hosting a benefit concert with Rachel Kamps and Friends (performing artists from our local community) for Hurricane Relief for ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development) on **Saturday, January 18th at 10 a.m. till 11:30, in the Contemporary Worship Space**. Performing artists include: Rachel Kamps-Huffman, pianist, singer, and songwriter; Brittany Maroney cellist; Anne McKennon, flutist; José Trinidad, rhythm; Amy Trinidad, violinist and vocalist; Sirlister Smiley, singer extraordinaire, Tim Simpson, poet, and Richard Wright, fretless bass player. Music will feature creative and engaging stories and music drawn from well-known tunes and original songs. Prepare to give as you can while you are entertained, touched, and motivated to support those who need our care in the communities affected and harmed by recent storms.

Exciting Outreach Partner news in the New Year

- St. Gerard Campus is embarking on an ambitious project to increase the number of students they can house from 10 to 25 and increase capacity of the day care facility from 25 to 75 kids per day! In addition, they will be redesigning the campus to increase privacy and security for the residents and babies. One of our own parishioners has anonymously donated \$25,000 towards this project and is asking everyone to consider donating to see if the Oaks can match this generous gift! See Steve for more information.
- Council on Aging received a \$545,000 grant from the North Florida Community Foundation to begin work on improving the Coastal Community Center in St. Augustine, to create a safe and inviting environment for our seniors. This grant will complete phase 1 of the project and allow them to move forward on the next phase to improve the facilities used to house the Sunshine Center Alzheimer's Day Care program. The demand is ever increasing for these services and COA would welcome to talk with you more about how they can better this community.

Offerings Online

Forgot to bring cash or write a check??? We now have a QR code in the bulletin for safe, quick, and easy online giving. You will be automatically directed to the Christ Church giving page where you can enter your information one time and it will be saved for future giving.



Our Outreach Liaisons

*So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.
James 2:17*

Learn to Read

Improving literacy for over 200 individuals each year at no cost to the student. Improved reading skills lead to better paying jobs, higher levels of education, healthier lifestyles, and a better overall community.

Elaine Reagan ereaganpvb@gmail.com

Mary Jane Dillon dillonmj43@gmail.com.

St. Gerard Campus

A non-profit maternity home and Christian high school for pregnant teenagers, promoting empowerment through education and strong Christian values.

Paula Allmen pallmen@icloud.com

Stan Sundermeyer srsundermeyer@msn.com

St. Francis Housing Crisis Center / Port in the Storm

Engaging those experiencing homelessness to achieve stability, self-sufficiency, and a viable plan for their future by providing a safe, stable environment, access to essential services, and supportive connections.

Cynthia King cyndiking@gmail.com

Jack Tull tulljs@msn.com

Council on Aging

Provides the opportunity for every person in St. Johns County to enjoy wellness, longevity and quality of life choices within a strong, healthy community.

Sharon Carlson xtraice0922@gmail.com

Pie in the Sky Community Alliance of St. John County

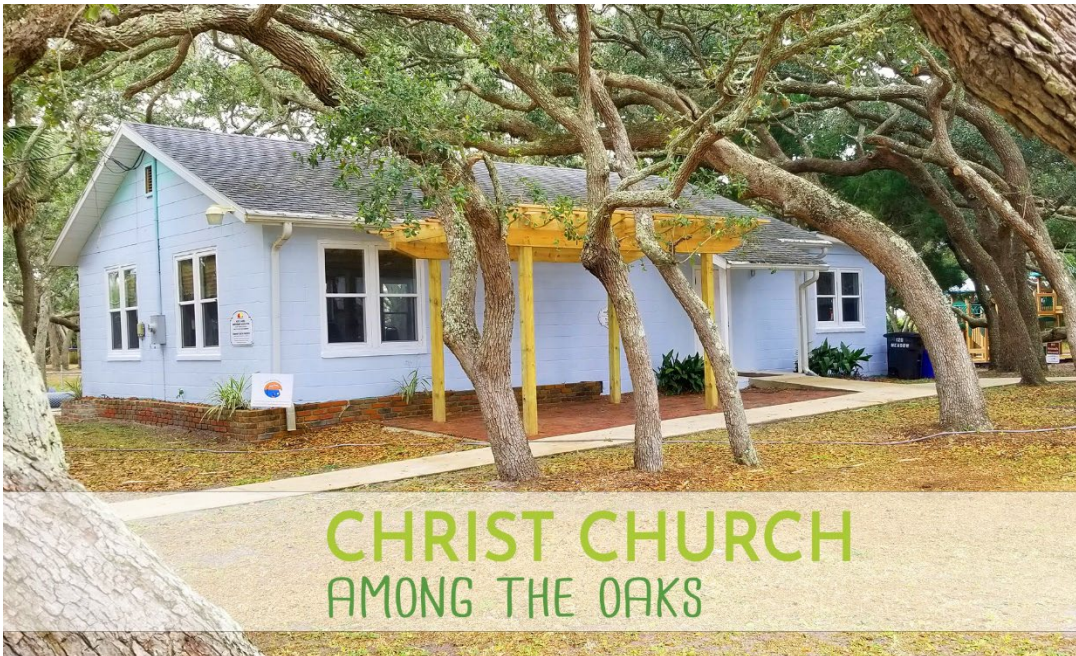
Pie in the Sky is a grassroots, volunteer-based organization providing hope by serving with dignity and respect to alleviate hunger and social isolation through the home delivery of healthy fresh produce to low-income senior citizens.

Dale Hatcher dalenhatcher@hotmail.com.

South Woods Elementary

Creating a secure community that will instill in all students a desire for academic excellence, fostering the development of caring, productive citizens.

Margo Cleary margcleary@aol.com



NSIA Community Center, 120 Meadow Avenue in Vilano Beach

ccpvb.org

info@ccpvb.org

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