

## Funding & Donations

Routine maintenance of the Park, such as landscaping, mowing and watering, is supported solely through donations and nominal Park usage fees.



The Memory Brick Fundraiser is an ongoing funding source for the Park. These special bricks are interspersed in the pathways throughout the Park. Each 4" x 8" brick is \$50 and can be inscribed with your personal message. This is a wonderful way to honor or memorialize a loved one. Consider a Memory Brick in lieu of flowers at funerals or other special events. They make great gifts for:

- Weddings
- Anniversaries
- Birthdays
- Graduations
- Retirements
- Baptisms
- Confirmations
- Ordinations
- Mothers' Day
- Fathers' Day



You may also donate towards the brick walkway, the labyrinth, irrigation, playground, or a tree, a shrub, a bench, a planting bed, etc.

A commemorative plaque is included in the cost and will be placed on or near each item donated.

**[www.NewBeginningsPark.org](http://www.NewBeginningsPark.org)**

Donations, brick orders and questions may be directed to:

Port Charlotte  
 United Methodist Church  
 21075 Quesada Ave.,  
 Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
 (941) 625-4356

St. James  
 Episcopal Church  
 1365 Viscaya Drive  
 Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
 (941) 627-4000

## Brief History

On Friday, August 13, 2004, as *Hurricane Charley* ripped through Charlotte County, it destroyed the densely wooded 2-acre parcel of land between St. James Episcopal Church (SJEC) and Port Charlotte



*Rev. Cesar Olvera (SJEC) & Rev. James Kuse (PCUMC) dedicate the Park & playground on Jan 1, 2006*

United Methodist Church (PCUMC). In January 2005 the two pastors, and several of their parishioners, met to discuss what could be done with that parcel of land now that they all 'could see each other'. The *New Beginnings Park* Committee was formed to create a park that would serve the two churches and the community.

The *New Beginnings Park* and its first major structure, a new playground, were dedicated on January 1, 2006. At the first annual Joint Veterans Day Celebration November 11, 2006, the Park's focal point, the gazebo, was dedicated. Episcopalian Bishop Dabney T. Smith consecrated the Park on February 23, 2008.



*Bishop Dabney Smith & Rev. Cesar Olvera, Park consecration.*



1365 Viscaya Dr.  
 Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941)-627-4000  
[www.NewBeginningsPark.org](http://www.NewBeginningsPark.org)  
[info@NewBeginningsPark.org](mailto:info@NewBeginningsPark.org)

Introducing a lovely park for your outdoor event.



# New Beginnings Park

Port Charlotte  
 United Methodist  
 Church



Churches  
 Working  
 Together

St. James  
 Episcopal  
 Church



- *Weddings*
- *Baptisms*
- *Worship Services*
- *Special Gatherings*

1365 Viscaya Dr.  
 Port Charlotte, FL 33952

# Rent this Park for your next Special Event!



The *New Beginnings Park*, situated between Port Charlotte United Methodist Church and St. James Episcopal Church on Viscaya Drive, has been in development since January 2005. The Park is divided into three areas: (1) Worship Area, (2) Picnic/Play Area, and (3) Meditation Area.

The Worship Area is the perfect place for weddings, baptisms, communion, small group training sessions, brown-bag lunches, musical events, etc. Benches for resting will be added throughout the Park as well as a brick pathway connecting all areas of the Park.



## Worship Area

In the Worship Area is the Park's focal point — an 18ft diameter gazebo. It is surrounded by foxtail and pygmy date palms and other lovely plantings, offering a beautiful setting for a wedding, baptism, or other event. Great for photo opportunities, too! The gazebo is nestled between both churches, connected by a 100-yard brick walkway with an iron archway at each end. A 40ft long wheelchair ramp provides easy access to the gazebo.

The custom-made pews in the 100-seat sanctuary sit between the granite altar and gazebo. The seat-backs can be easily adjusted to face either the altar or the gazebo. A wheelchair accessible sidewalk surrounds the pews. An ornately landscaped 40ft long berm separates the sanctuary from Viscaya Drive. The sound of gently running water emanates from the water feature near the altar.



Electrical hookups and a portable, full-immersion baptismal font are some of the amenities available.



## Picnic/Play Area

A 1200 sq. ft. children's playground stands nearly in the center of the Park. Future plans are to add on to the playground and install picnic tables, BBQ pits, and benches.



## Meditation Area

The Meditation Area is under development, with plans for a 30-50ft diameter labyrinth/prayer maze, surrounded by 15 Stations of the Cross. Benches and small meditation gardens at each Station are also planned.



Parking for the public is available in the paved church lots to the north and south of the park, with formal entries through iron archways on both sides near the center of the Park.

There are no restroom facilities or drinkable water in the Park. However, arrangements can be made with either church's facilities for group rentals.

[www.NewBeginningsPark.org](http://www.NewBeginningsPark.org)

To receive a copy of the *Use of New Beginnings Park Policy*, which includes the fee schedule, visit our web site or send your email request to:

[info@NewBeginningsPark.org](mailto:info@NewBeginningsPark.org)

**We invite you to visit the Park and visualize the possibilities for your outdoor event.**