

Join Us for Pioneer Day!!

Celebrating the history of Merritt Island on "Pioneer Day" is an annual event that has an exciting appeal for history, art, music, and nature lovers, and children of all ages. This February 10 event is a partnership between Sams House at Pine Island and St. Luke's Episcopal Church located on North Tropical Trail on North Merritt Island.

From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the Sams House and St. Luke's will host a wide variety of activities, most of which are free.

Events at Sams House (6195 N. Tropical Trail)

Feb. 10 from 10 AM to 4 PM

- Florida living history demonstrations and educational exhibits that include archaeology and anthropology, historic reenactors, encampments, and artifacts on display.
- A Pioneer "parade" throughout the grounds at 11 AM, led by drum and fife, of those dressed in historic attire.
- Guided nature trail hikes throughout the day from The Florida Trail Association.
- 1888 Sams House tours with rarely seen antiques on display.
- Pine Island Preservation Society tent with vintage pins, doilies, finger puppets, hiking sticks, nature-themed t-shirts, note cards, postcards, gifts for sale, and raffle items including a local fruit basket
- Children's crafts and games – Steer Roping, Cornhusk Dolls, "Cow" Milking, and Tic Tac Toe.
- Heidi's Miniature Goat Petting Farm until 1 PM

Live music: Celery City String Band, Chris Kahl, Pine Trio, and Boylston Fish.

Exhibitors include: Brevard's natural lands and environmental organizations such as Space Coast Audubon Society, Florida Native Plant Society, Marine Resources Council, Brevard Backyard Beekeepers, Brevard historical societies, and others.

Vendors include: Spade and Trowel Garden Club, Wake and Bake Bread Co., Heritage Grove Farms, Wacky Plants, Face Painter, Green Marketplace, and others.

Local food trucks and Kettle Corn!

Events at St. Luke's (5555 N. Tropical Trail)

Feb. 10 from 10 AM to 4 PM

Perrine Hall: Lunch includes a variety of homemade chilis (traditional, white, and vegetarian), grilled hotdogs, and loaded baked potatoes.

10:15 CEMETERY: Guided Tour **"Military & Space"** Highlighting a few of our military veterans from the Civil War to Viet Nam, and people associated with the Space Program.

11:30 CEMETERY: Guided Tour **"Founding Families"** Early Merritt Island settlers who were also the founders of St Luke's

2:00 CEMETERY: Guided Tour **"Thru the Ages"** A glimpse of Brevard History from the life stories of locals spanning the decades

11:00 CHURCH: "Life on the Indian River Lagoon" Dixie Crossroads proprietor and environmental activist Laurilee Thompson will talk about growing up as a 4th generation Floridian in Brevard County's seafood industry over the past six decades.

12:00 to 12:15 CHURCH: "Community Together in Prayer"

1:30 CHURCH: "AIS, Indigenous People of Merritt Island " Before pioneers, the Indigenous people called "AIS", lived on Merritt Island. Learn more about the original settlers from David McDonald.

12:15 CHAPEL: "St. Luke's Chapel: A Gem of Carpenter Gothic Architecture"

Jonathan Rich, author of *Spires in the Sun: The Carpenter Gothic Episcopal Churches of Florida*, will give a talk on how this unique style of architecture came to the Florida frontier of the 1800s. Signed copies of the book will be available for sale.

1:00 CHAPEL: Pioneer Music

On-going Events: Self-Guided Tours of St. Luke's Historic Chapel and Cemetery

Exhibitors include: Moore Memorial Museum & Park, Brevard Zoo Aquarium, Brevard Genealogical Society, American Space Museum, Central Brevard Sharing Center, Animal Safehouse Program

Vendors include: Recycled Tire Art, Glory Bells Designs, Coastal Lost Treasures, Author Jay Heavner, Zabs, Banana River Soapworks

FREE ADMISSION. \$2.00 SUGGESTED DONATION FOR PARKING