

Beth-El

Farmworker Ministry, Inc.



Happy Summer Days

Now that school is finally over, kids are buzzing with excitement to start on their summer activities. Everyone wants to have a cool story about what they did in the summer to tell their friends when they get back to school.



Here at Beth-El, the kids are most excited to go to the Cedarkirk Presbyterian camp. This past week, our first group, of about 8 kids went to camp. The air was full of excitement and nervous energy. At first everyone was talking quietly but after one kid started claiming houses, everyone started talking and yelling trying to secure their place as the neighbor of someone else. The rest of the ride was full of laughter and chatter. At one point the driver (Pastor) even got lost and we ended up on the walking trails of Cedarkirk where a big van like ours doesn't belong! One kid realized where we were and said, "No, turn around! We're going the wrong way! These are where the cabins are at!" It was so unexpected and funny that everyone started laughing and playfully pointing fingers at who was to blame. Apparently that was only the start of their adventure.



Friday they were all picked up in the Beth-EI van. It took forever to round up all the children. They were all too busy saying goodbye to the new friends they had made that week and hunting for their stuff in the sea of luggage, sleeping bags, and pillows. They were all really happy and sad at the same time. They wanted to stay at camp. One of the kids even commented to his mom that he

wanted “to move to Cedarkirk and live there.” You’d think that after spending so much time running around and doing different activities they would be exhausted and would fall asleep as soon as they got in the van, but no. In fact, they were more pumped up then when they started. Three of the younger boys sat together and were telling stories about what they had been up to all week. Ruben, Jeriel, and Eduardito had a blast at camp. They had come to camp not knowing a single thing about each other and came back as best buddies.

Parents will never really know what their kids have been up to at camp but one thing is for sure, they are going to have some amazing stories to tell their friends when they go back to school next year. During this season, 44 of our youth and children will be going to the camp. I am certain that what they are learning will remain with them for the rest of their lives and will make them into outstanding contributors to the well-being of all and into faithful followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. Walter F. Chuquimia
Beth-EI Pastor



*...into the world
and make disciples*

As Covenant Partners with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Beth-El Farmworker Ministry is excited to be one of the exhibitor's in this year's Youth Triennium, July 19th through 22nd at Purdue University.

The theme for this year is, "Go" as we take our faith into the world around us. Stop by and learn how your church or youth group can send a mission team to Beth-El.

We hope to see you there!

40 Years Strong

40 years ago a group of Cumberland Presbyterians felt called to provide a place of worship for the farmworkers who traveled to Florida to pick the fruits and vegetables we place on our tables every day. The early meetings took place in a carport in Ruskin. However, it soon became apparent that the needs of the farmworking community required much more than a Sunday morning service. The very workers who picked the food we placed on our tables were going hungry themselves. Many farmworkers lived in their cars, and few opportunities existed for their children. It was apparent that the scale of the mission needed to grow. By 1978, the Rev. John



Lovelace began conversations with the former Presbyterian Church in the U.S. and the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. to join the mission in support of farmworkers. Today, Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, Inc. continues its covenant partnerships with the Cumberland and Presbyterian Church U.S.A.



From a carport in Ruskin to its current 27 acre campus in Wimauma, Beth-El's mission has remained constant: to be a source of encouragement and support to our farmworking community and neighbors in need. This Fall we will celebrate 40 years of service to the farmworking community in the greater Tampa Bay area, but it is a celebration of mixed blessing as every day

farmworkers continue to struggle to meet their daily needs. Thankfully, because of the support of our mission partners, pathways continue to open for future generations to take steps out of poverty.

I hope you will join us during our anniversary weekend, November 5-6th to learn more about our mission and those we serve.

Dios le bendiga

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kathy'.

Rev. Kathleen Dain
Executive Director

Beth-El
Farmworker Ministry, Inc.



Schedule of Events

Saturday November 5, 2016

- **Round Table Symposium: "Day in the Life of a Farmworker,"** featuring guest speakers from the Coalition of Immokolee Workers, Frontera de Cristo, and National Farmworker Ministry.
- **Campus and Community Tours**
- **Silent Auction**
- ***Celebrando la Cosecha* - Celebrating the Harvest Dinner**
- **Keynote Speaker and Special Guests**

Sunday, November 6, 2016

- **International Worship**

Immediate Needs

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry has an immediate need for the following items:

- **Bath Towels**
- **Washcloths**
- **Soap/Body Wash**
- **Deodorant (Men's and Women's)**
- **Shampoo**
- **Conditioner**
- **Toothbrushes**
- **Toothpaste**

Back to School Supplies Wish List



Every year Beth-El Ministries

- **Hairbrushes**
- **Combs**
- **Mosquito Repellent**
- **Baby Formula (Enfamil preferred)**
- **Baby Wipes**
- **Sanitary Pads**
- **Sun Block**
- **Socks (all sizes)**
- **Flashlights**
- **Ponchos**
- **Water Shoes**
- **Personal Water Bottle**
- **Hats – baseball caps**
- **Musical instruments (all kinds)**
- **Canned Fruits and Vegetables**
- **Canned Meats**
- **Pasta**

distributes about 500 backpacks to area children returning to school.

Needed supplies include:

- **Back Pack**
- **Set of Four 3 prong folders with pockets (red, yellow, green, blue)**
- **Three ring binder with pockets**
- **Washable markers**
- **Hand sanitizer**
- **Coloring pencils**
- **Tissue packs**
- **Erasers of any type**
- **Highlighters**
- **Three hole dividers**
- **Five subject notebooks**
- **Pencil bags**
- **Pencils**
- **Pens**
- **Loose leaf paper**

I would like to become more involved at Beth-El Mission as a Volunteer:

- Community Dinner
- Food Pantry
- Lead VBS
- Organize a Workgroup
- Organize a Food Drive
- Organize a Clothing Drive

I would like to donate \$_____

- Summer Camp Scholarships
- Back to School Program
- VBS Supplies
- College Scholarships
- Music Lessons for Youth
- Food Pantry
- Mission's Greatest Need

Support Beth-El Mission with your online contribution today.



Beth-El Farmworker Ministry is planning its 40th anniversary celebration for the weekend of November 5th-6th. In preparation, we are seeking individuals willing to donate their air miles to help support national representatives who will be traveling to Beth-El to speak at the event. To donate, please contact Kathy at kathy@beth-el.org.



Please Note!

Our email addresses are changing from .info to .org
Please update your address book accordingly.

Beth-El
Farmworker Ministry, Inc.

Fueled by Volunteers and Your Faithful Prayers and Support

Our mailing address is:
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PO Box 860
Wimauma, FL 33598-0860
Phone: 813-633-1548
Email: info@beth-el.org



Web: www.beth-el.org

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry is open Monday through Thursday from 8a.m. to 5p.m., or by special appointment.

We are closed from noon until 1p.m. for lunch.

**Be Sure to Visit Our New
Website at www.beth-el.org**



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