



# PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



**WEEKLY PRESBYTERY LETTER - JUNE 23, 2015**  
**Rev. Dr. Kathy Dain, Executive Director of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry**

## *The Vocabulary of Love*

A number of years ago while traveling through Eastern Europe, my mother and I stopped for lunch at a sidewalk cafe in West Berlin. Both of us had been suffering from a stomach bug for several weeks so when lunch arrived (oxtail soup) it was met with less than enthusiastic appetites. When the waiter appeared to ask if there was something wrong with the soup my mother tried to explain in broken German that we had been sick, but what she actually said was, "Your soup is making us sick!" Sometimes we have the vocabulary, but our syntax could use some work.

As the newest member of the Beth-El mission team I have come to realize over the last few weeks that I had a good working knowledge of the vocabulary of our mission, but lacked the proper syntax of all that our mission encompasses. It isn't until you come down to ground level that you can truly begin to experience the impact mission has on those we serve. It is the living stories of those who come bearing the burdens of back-breaking work seeking only enough sustenance to keep food on the table for their family. Or the transforming stories of children whose lives are changed thanks to the educational partners we house on campus.

As the people of God we have a rich vocabulary given to us through scripture, but it is those opportunities through mission that the grammar of God's living word comes into clarity. This year Beth-El will help send over 500 children of migrant workers back to school with a new backpack and school supplies; we will continue our efforts to support the Hispanic community through our food pantry feeding over 80,000 people a year, and offer a young child an opportunity to attend summer camp. We will continue to pray on how we might grow our ministry through furthering health care services and crisis intervention, and offer our thanks for the continued growth of our worshipping community. All of our efforts are made possible through the gifts and donations of our mission partners. On behalf of the presbytery's other missions: Misión Peniel, FLAPDAN, Cedarkirk, and Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, I extend our thanks for your support and an invitation to come and explore the rich vocabulary of love made possible through God's living word at work in the world around us.

Dios les bendiga,

*Kathy*

Kathleen (Kathy) Dain

Executive Director

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, Inc.



July 30 – August 1, 2015  
University of Tennessee Campus  
Knoxville, TN

*Be inspired . . . Become equipped . . . Get connected!*

Experience that deep sense of community one would expect at a national gathering of Presbyterians—a great big family reunion! Join us for a wide variety of workshops, all under one Big Tent, a conference that will inspire and equip Presbyterians to live missionally. In past year each the General Assembly Ministry areas has hosted their own conference... this year you will be able to move between areas and interests in this 3 day event. Also, note the cost has been greatly reduced. The registration is \$395 per person, which includes accommodations, seven meals, campus parking and outstanding programming. Fees for children and youth are no more than \$150 each.

### **ADVANCE REGISTRATION THROUGH JUNE 19**

**Register Online Now!**



### **CHURCHES OF PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY**

**(click on church name to link to its web site)**

<a href="#">Braden River Presbyterian Church,</a>	<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a>
Bradenton	Bradenton

<a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church,</a> Bradenton	<a href="#">Palma Sola Presbyterian Church,</a> Bradenton
<a href="#">Westminster Presbyterian Church,</a> Bradenton	Palmetto Presbyterian Church, Palmetto - <a href="mailto:kcooper@ppcfl.org">kcooper@ppcfl.org</a>
<a href="#">Christ Church of Longboat Key</a> Longboat Key	<a href="#">Peace Presbyterian Church,</a> Lakewood Ranch
<a href="#">Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church,</a> Sarasota	<a href="#">Church of the Palms,</a> Sarasota
<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a> Sarasota	<a href="#">Northminster Presbyterian Church,</a> Sarasota
<a href="#">Pine Shores Presbyterian Church,</a> Sarasota	<a href="#">Presbyterian Church of the Covenant,</a> Sarasota
<a href="#">Whitfield Estates Presbyterian Church,</a> Sarasota	<a href="#">Siesta Key Chapel,</a> Sarasota
<a href="#">Trinity Presbyterian Church,</a> Venice	<a href="#">Venice Presbyterian Church,</a> Venice
<a href="#">Community Presbyterian Church,</a> Englewood	<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a> Arcadia
<a href="#">St. Paul's Presbyterian Church,</a> North Port	<a href="#">Burnt Store Presbyterian Church,</a> Punta Gorda
Wintergarden Presbyterian Church, Port Charlotte <a href="mailto:devon.ducheneau@gmail.com">devon.ducheneau@gmail.com</a>	<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a> Port Charlotte
<a href="#">Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church,</a> North Fort Myers	
<a href="#">Faith Presbyterian Church</a> Cape Coral	<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a> Lehigh Acres
<a href="#">Buckingham Presbyterian Church,</a> Fort Myers	<a href="#">Covenant Presbyterian Church,</a> Fort Myers

<a href="#">Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church,</a> Fort Myers	<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a> Fort Myers
<a href="#">Hope United Church (PCUSA),</a> Fort Myers	<a href="#">Chapel by the Sea,</a> Fort Myers Beach
<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a> Bonita Springs	
<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a> Naples	<a href="#">Lely Presbyterian Church,</a> Naples
<a href="#">Moorings Presbyterian Church,</a> Naples	<a href="#">Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church,</a> Naples

### **MISION PENIEL**

*A Ministry of Peace River Presbytery to the Farmworkers in Immokalee*

The Mision Peniel Task Force continues to meet and build the support and structure for continuing this vital ministry. If you want to make a donation to support this recovery effort you may send the check (marked Mision Peniel) to:  
Peace River Presbytery | 5600 Peace River Rd. | North Port, FL. 34287

- Collection Centers for Mision Peniel Supplies ([click for information](#))
  - Critical Needs List ([click for information](#))

### **BETH-EL FARMWORKER MINISTRY, INC.**

*A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma*

#### **Back To School Appeal**

Every summer Beth-El Farmworker Ministry reaches out to its mission partners in the collection of back to school supplies. From pencils and paper to backpacks and new shoes, every year Beth-El helps over 500 returning students with much needed school supplies. To learn how your congregation can help or to receive a complete list of needed supplies, please contact Beth-El Farmworker Ministry at [813-633-1548](tel:813-633-1548) or email: [info@beth-el.info](mailto:info@beth-el.info). Gracias!

[Back To School Supplies List](#)

[June 2015 Update and Financial Appeal](#)

### **CEDARKIRK CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER**

*A place apart to build up the body of Christ in love.*

[Web Site](#)

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The following are position openings in PRP churches.

Click on the title for more information.

[Organist / Accompanist](#) – Burnt Store Presbyterian Church, Punta Gorda

[Part-Time Choir Director](#) – Palma Sola Presbyterian Church, Bradenton

### **PRAYER NEEDS:**

#### **Please continue to pray for:**

- Robert Dennis, Son of Rev. India Dennis – mental health issues.
- Sue Angle and Family – following the passing of Ray on May 24.
- Dave & Lil Rea (COM Moderator) – following the passing of Dave’s father on May 26.
- Rev. Dr. Margaret Towner – hip revision surgery, scheduled for July 24 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.
- Rev. Norman Hutchinson – recovery from quadruple bypass surgery; also has congestive heart failure. If you’d like to send notes or cards, his address is: 822 South Pelham Road | Welland, ON L3C3E1
- Anita Adkison, mother of Rev. Dr. Stephen Adkison, Pastor of Chapel By The Sea – recovery from breast cancer surgery and treatment to follow. Lives in Arkansas.
- Rev. Susan Rice, Associate Pastor of Faith, Cape Coral – health
- Greg Beckwith (son of Jim and Becky Beckwith) – kidney failure – is undergoing dialysis and is on a kidney transplant list. Greg is also diabetic and underwent quadruple bypass heart surgery in June 2013.
- Glenn Beisser (father of Rev. Devon Beisser Ducheneau, Stated Supply Pastor for Wintergarden P.C.) – lung cancer and heart issues
- Grandson of Tim and Martha Halverson - suffering from a rare autoimmune disease.
- Beth-El Farmworker Ministry
- Misión Peniel
- Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center
- Dan and Elizabeth Turk, PCUSA Mission Co-Workers in Madagascar
- Les and Cindy Morgan, PCUSA Mission Co-Workers in Bangladesh
- Pastors and Educators in transition

**CHURCH PRAYER GUIDE: JUNE 2015:**

June 7	<a href="#">First Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers</a> Pastor: Rev. Paul de Jong email: <a href="mailto:paul@fpcfortmyers.org">paul@fpcfortmyers.org</a>
June 14	<a href="#">Hope United Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers</a> Interim Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Kuehl email: <a href="mailto:pastor@hopeunitedchurch.net">pastor@hopeunitedchurch.net</a>
June 21	<a href="#">Chapel by the Sea, Fort Myers Beach</a> Pastor: Rev. Dr. Stephen Adkison email: <a href="mailto:skypilot_mddiv@hotmail.com">skypilot_mddiv@hotmail.com</a>
June 28	<a href="#">Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, North Fort Myers</a> Pastor: Rev. Dr. Valerie Bell email: <a href="mailto:pastorvaleriebell@gmail.com">pastorvaleriebell@gmail.com</a>

**PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: JUNE 2015**

You may view the entire calendar on the Presbytery web site: [www.peaceriverpresbytery.org](http://www.peaceriverpresbytery.org)

**June 25**

Mision Peniel Task Force at Presbytery Center, North Port