



# PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter – April 27, 2016  
Lil Rea, 2016 Presbytery Moderator

## MAY DAY



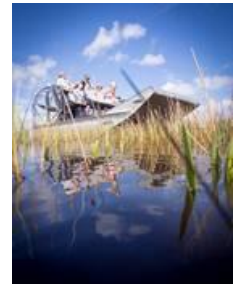
SOURCE: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

May first is fast approaching. In olden days northern countries celebrated the day as the arrival of spring with festivals, maypoles, dancing and singing. In other times and countries May 1st is a day of political protests, a neo pagan festival, a saint's feast day and a day for organized labor. It is often celebrated as a national holiday.

But for us in southwest Florida it marks the end of "the season", the return north of our many snowbirds and tourists and perhaps a return to a more normal less hectic routine. Our seasonal residents and guests are in many ways a gift. They fill our pews, enrich our economy, challenge our golf and tennis expertise and enliven our cultural opportunities. This "season" we enjoyed house guests 20 out of every 30 days from grandkids to great aunts, from long time northern friends to new friends from Germany, from airboat rides and alligators to fine

dining and ice cream at the Royal Scoop.

But with the first of May all the hustle and bustle changes. We breathe a sigh and begin to plan what to do with the extra time. Will you read that book laying on the shelf or write the letter to a friend that you have been meaning to send since Christmas? Perhaps you will catch up with your genealogy research, organize the family pictures or take quiet walks on the beach. All good possibilities. This gift of quieter time also offers the opportunity to spend more time with God.



May brings the gift of more time for prayer and meditation or joining a Bible study. You may have become aware of your hunger for greater spiritual development that "the season's" hurried pace did not allow time for. I am looking forward to taking deliberate time to think and pray about next steps. You may want to work with a spiritual director, find a spiritual partner or form a group of 7 or 8 to gather and read and pray. There are many good resources that provide a starting point. Marjorie Thompson's "Soul Feast" or Don Postema's "Space for God" are two guide books that come to mind.

As we look forward to our change of "season", I hope you will celebrate a joyous May Day and experience new and meaningful time with God.

Blessings,  
Lil Rea, Peace River Presbytery 2016 Moderator

## STATED MEETING of PRESBYTERY

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Northminster Presbyterian Church, Sarasota

3131 61<sup>st</sup> Street / Sarasota / 34243

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Key Note Speaker: Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long  
Associate Professor of Worship – Columbia Theological Seminary  
Topic: “Walking Wet” – Baptism and the Christian Life  
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Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.

\*Finance Forum at 9:00-9:25 a.m., with the Treasurer and Board of Trustees,  
for everyone interested in learning more  
about the Presbytery’s budget and the *Three Streams of Giving*.  
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**\*\* Lunch reservations were due by Friday, April 22. \*\***

If you didn’t make a reservation, and need one, please check in  
at the Lunch Ticket Table on Thursday morning for availability.  
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The packet for the meeting is posted on the Presbytery’s web site.

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

*A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma*

Summer will be here before you know it! Beth-El has numerous mission opportunities for adults and youth. From leading Vacation Bible School, to work groups helping out in our community, to scholarships for kids to go to camp at Cedarkirk, there are many ways your church can help support this valuable mission. Call Javier today at 813-633-1548 ext. 228, or email him at [Javier@beth-el.org](mailto:Javier@beth-el.org) to learn more.

### Summer Employment Opportunity:

Beth-El is looking for an older teen or adult to lead the summer youth activities.

The position will lead all youth activities; serve as a liaison with Cedarkirk for our scholarship program, and assist the operations manager in coordinating incoming mission teams. A valid driver's license is required. For more information, or to apply, please contact Beth-El at [info@beth-el.org](mailto:info@beth-el.org).

*Kathy*

Kathleen Dain  
Executive Director

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[www.beth-el.org](http://www.beth-el.org)  
[April Newsletter](#)

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## **CEDARKIRK CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER**

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

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

**Summer is coming soon!** It is hard to believe, but summer camp preparations are already underway. This summer’s theme, FEARLESS FAITH, will help campers focus on how they become part of, gain support from, and build their own Christ-centered communities. By looking at leaders from the Bible who used communities given to them by God, campers will be empowered to draw courage from friends, family, and community, stand up to injustice and help change attitudes, forgive others, and connect to and welcome all people. Please help Cedarkirk by letting the children and youth of your church or community know about the unique opportunities available this summer. We are also looking for volunteer nurses and worship leaders for the week-long sessions.

If you have any questions, please contact the camp office at (813) 685-4224 or visit [www.cedarkirk.org](http://www.cedarkirk.org).

## **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](#))

### **PRAYER NEEDS:**

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

- The people of Ecuador following a terrible earthquake. We are thankful that our own Rev. Dr. Ray Quiles (St. Paul's, North Port), who was in Ecuador at the time on a mission trip, was not injured.
- Rev. Dr. Doug and Jeanne Pratt – Jeanne's sister, Sue, passed away two weeks ago in Ohio.
- Rev. Dr. Lou Thompson – recovering from neck surgery.
- Mrs. Liz Countiss & daughter, Terri Countiss – Pray for comfort and peace in the loss of Rev. Craig Countiss.
- Jim & Becky Beckwith - health
- Rev. Dr. Kathleen Weller – healing of broken arm
- Rev. Dr. Margaret Towner – recovery from hip revision surgery
- Robert Dennis, Son of Rev. India Dennis – mental health issues
- Greg Beckwith (son of Jim and Becky Beckwith) – on kidney transplant list
- 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

### **CHURCH PRAYER GUIDE: MAY 2016:**

|        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| May 1  | <u>Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, Naples</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jack Haberer<br>Email: <a href="mailto:jhaberer@vpcnaples.org">jhaberer@vpcnaples.org</a><br>Associate Pastor: Rev. Tammy Letts<br>Email: <a href="mailto:tletts@vpcnaples.org">tletts@vpcnaples.org</a> |
| May 8  | <u>St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, North Port</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rafael (Ray) Quiles<br>Email: <a href="mailto:stpaulspres1@comcast.net">stpaulspres1@comcast.net</a>                                                                                                 |
| May 15 | <u>Palmetto Presbyterian Church, Palmetto</u><br>Pastor: Rev. John Foulkrod<br>email: <a href="mailto:jfoulkrod@ppcfl.org">jfoulkrod@ppcfl.org</a>                                                                                                                         |
| May 22 | <u>First Presbyterian Church, Port Charlotte</u><br>Temporary Supply Pastor: Rev. Terri Jo Crego<br>email: <a href="mailto:pastor@fpcpc.com">pastor@fpcpc.com</a>                                                                                                          |
| May 29 | <u>Wintergarden Church, Port Charlotte</u><br>Temporary Supply Pastor: Rev. Devon Beisser Andrews<br>email: <a href="mailto:revdev08@gmail.com">revdev08@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                     |

**PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: MAY 2016**

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

**May 2**

Planning Team (1:00-3:00 p.m.)

**May 5**

Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

**May 10**

Committee on Ministry (9:00 a.m.)

**May 12**

Finance Team/Board of Trustees (9:30 a.m.)

**May 19**

Steering Committee (10:00 a.m.)

Personnel Team (1:00 p.m.)

**May 30**

Memorial Day Observed – PRP Offices Closed



## CHURCHES OF PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY

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

|                                                                    |                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Braden River Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Bradenton     | <a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Bradenton                                            |
| <a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Bradenton         | <a href="#">Palma Sola Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Bradenton                                       |
| <a href="#">Westminster Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Bradenton      | Palmetto Presbyterian Church,<br>Palmetto – <a href="mailto:office@ppcfl.org">office@ppcfl.org</a> |
| <a href="#">Christ Church of Longboat Key</a><br>Longboat Key      | <a href="#">Peace Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Lakewood Ranch                                       |
| <a href="#">Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Sarasota         | <a href="#">Church of the Palms,</a><br>Sarasota                                                   |
| <a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Sarasota             | <a href="#">Northminster Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Sarasota                                      |
| <a href="#">Pine Shores Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Sarasota       | <a href="#">Presbyterian Church of the<br/>Covenant, Sarasota</a>                                  |
| <a href="#">Whitfield Estates Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Sarasota | <a href="#">Siesta Key Chapel,</a><br>Sarasota                                                     |
| <a href="#">Trinity Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Venice             | <a href="#">Venice Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Venice                                              |
| <a href="#">Community Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Englewood        | <a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Arcadia                                              |
| <a href="#">St. Paul's Presbyterian Church,</a><br>North Port      | <a href="#">Burnt Store Presbyterian Church,</a><br>Punta Gorda                                    |

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Wintergarden Presbyterian Church,<br/> Port Charlotte<br/> <a href="mailto:devon.ducheneau@gmail.com">devon.ducheneau@gmail.com</a></p> | <p><a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Port Charlotte</p> |
| <p><a href="#">Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> North Fort Myers</p>                                                             |                                                                       |
| <p><a href="#">Faith Presbyterian Church</a><br/> Cape Coral</p>                                                                           | <p><a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Lehigh Acres</p>   |
| <p><a href="#">Buckingham Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Fort Myers</p>                                                                     | <p><a href="#">Covenant Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Fort Myers</p>  |
| <p><a href="#">Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Fort Myers</p>                                                                   |                                                                       |
| <p><a href="#">Hope United Church (PCUSA),</a><br/> Fort Myers</p>                                                                         | <p><a href="#">Chapel by the Sea,</a><br/> Fort Myers Beach</p>       |
| <p><a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Bonita Springs</p>                                                                      |                                                                       |
| <p><a href="#">First Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Naples</p>                                                                              | <p><a href="#">Lely Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Naples</p>          |
| <p><a href="#">Moorings Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Naples</p>                                                                           | <p><a href="#">Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church,</a><br/> Naples</p>    |