



# PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter ~ August 3, 2016

Karl Kling & Wayne Largent, Planning Team Co-Moderators

## SEPTEMBER REGIONAL GATHERINGS

One of the highlights in the life of Peace River Presbytery will happen about a month from now -- during the first week of September, 2016. In three relaxed, casual meetings spread throughout the presbytery, congregations will have the opportunity to share stories about the difference that Christ makes in our local churches.

There will be time for people to talk, listen, and pray with sisters and brothers in Christ. Ideas will be exchanged about how individual churches can encourage members to mature as followers of Jesus. Practical experiences relating to Christian Education will be shared. Individuals and congregations in the same region will enjoy each other.

Networks of relationships within Peace River Presbytery will continue to grow as congregations gather on September 1st at Hope United Presbyterian (Fort Myers); September 7th at St. Paul's Presbyterian (North Port); and September 8th with the Oak Pointe Church (at the former Whitfield Estates Presbyterian location in Sarasota).

Last year, participants felt blessed by the 2015 Regional Gatherings. They loved sharing Christian friendship and faith with neighbors from other Presbyterian churches in their area. The Planning Team is asking you to help share this blessing again in 2016. Please consider recruiting 6-8 Ruling Elders/active members to attend one of the Gatherings in September, 2016. It will be another joyful experience of "being the Body of Christ together" in Peace River Presbytery!

*Blessings,  
Karl Kling & Wayne Largent  
Planning Team Co-Moderators*

## SEPTEMBER REGIONAL GATHERINGS

**THEME: DISCIPLESHIP**

All are invited to attend any of the following gatherings. These are not Presbytery Stated Meetings, but rather a chance to gather with other PRP churches in your region and share, encourage, and be encouraged.

The Fall Regional Gatherings held last year (2015) were well received and the attendees were excited and encouraged to have had the opportunity to gather with others from their area.

**Thursday, September 1: South Region**

Location: Hope United Presbyterian Church  
7470 Hickory Rd SE, Fort Myers, 33912  
Time: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Reservation: Yes ... by Thursday, August 25. Contact church office at 239-267-3331.  
Meal: Breakfast - \$5.00 per person

### **Wednesday, September 7: Central Region**

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church  
5550 Sumter Blvd., North Port, 34287  
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Reservation: Yes ... by Wednesday, August 31. Contact church office at 941-426-2552.  
Meal: Breakfast - \$5.00 per person

### **Thursday, September 8: North Region**

Location: Oak Pointe Church (*formerly Whitfield Estates Presbyterian Church*)  
7045 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, 34243 (the address of Whitfield Estates)  
Time: 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Reservation: Yes ... by Thursday, September 1. Contact church office at 941-355-0440.  
Meals: Light morning refreshments & light lunch - \$10.00 per person

Mark your calendars and save the dates! Remember to call the church office with your reservation by the deadline listed for that location.

## **Special Called Meeting of Peace River Presbytery**

**Thursday, September 8, 2016**

**2:00 p.m.**

Oak Pointe Church, Sarasota (same location as Regional Gathering)

### **Purpose:**

Examining Candidates for Ordination  
Approving Pastoral Relationships/Validated Ministries

[View announcement of meeting.](#)

## **Education Advocates Needed for Faith Place Safety**

The Committee on Ministry is creating an initiative for promoting safe worship places and spaces, healthy relationship boundaries, healing, hope and welcome through education awareness, prevention and resources.

Two members of COM are providing leadership to the effort but need to add specific skills to the work team. Those skills are:

- \*someone who is involved with children or youth and has an interest in evaluating the educational/training resources available in this field
- \*someone who is media savvy and could assist with videography, DVD production, or web site links

The time commitment will be limited to 90 days and primarily consisting of teleconference meetings, working/evaluating/planning in the convenience of your 'home' office.

If you feel called to serve, please contact Cynthia Brasher at [cynthia.brasher@leememorial.org](mailto:cynthia.brasher@leememorial.org)

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

*A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma*

**Job Opportunity:** Mission Outreach Resource Coordinator ([click for job description](#)).

\*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.

\*Beth-El Farmworker Ministry is planning its 40th anniversary celebration for the week of November 5th-6th. In preparation, we are seeking individuals willing to donate their air miles to help support national speakers who will be traveling to Beth-El to speak at the event. For more information, or to donate, please contact Kathy Dain at 813-633-1548.

*Kathy*

Kathleen Dain  
Executive Director

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

## **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 here!** 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 Team 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](#))

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- [Pastoral Intern – Overview](#) – [Position Description](#) – Siesta Key Chapel

## **PRAYER NEEDS**

**Please continue to pray for:**

- Rev. Ruth Schaaff's Family – loss of her son-in-law, and of Chip's sister.
- Rev. David King – recovery from an aortic valve replacement.

- Phil Kuehl (husband of Rev. Elizabeth Kuehl, Faith, Cape Coral) – seriously injured when struck by a car while riding his bicycle. Phil has had surgery on both hips and more, and is recovering. Also, pray for Phil and Elizabeth’s niece and husband, Priscilla and Ron Kosedner, through the loss of their 2 ½ year old son, Elias.
- Rev. Dr. Paul Eckel - health
- Amy Dunn (daughter of Joyce Dunn, Administrator of St. Paul’s Presbyterian) – 38 years old; in Hospice care in Port Charlotte with stage 4 cancer; 3 children. Please pray for Joyce and the family also.
- Jim & Becky Beckwith - health
- 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: AUGUST 2016:**

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| August 7  | <u>Trinity Presbyterian Church, Venice</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Dr. Chuck Wiggins<br>email: <a href="mailto:cjw049@gmail.com">cjw049@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| August 14 | <u>Venice Presbyterian Church, Venice</u><br>Senior Pastor: Rev. Chris Romig<br>email: <a href="mailto:cromig@venicepres.org">cromig@venicepres.org</a><br>Associate Pastor: Rev. Lyn Olson<br>email: <a href="mailto:lolson@venicepres.org">lolson@venicepres.org</a><br>Associate Pastor: Rev. Todd Reinschmidt<br>email: <a href="mailto:treinschmidt@venicepres.org">treinschmidt@venicepres.org</a> |
| August 21 | <u>First Presbyterian Church, Arcadia</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Bill Teng<br>email: <a href="mailto:pastor@FirstPC.church">pastor@FirstPC.church</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| August 28 | <u>First Presbyterian Church, Bonita Springs</u><br>Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Doug Pratt<br>email: <a href="mailto:dpratt@fpcbonita.org">dpratt@fpcbonita.org</a><br>Associate Pastor: Rev. Steven Grant<br>email: <a href="mailto:sgrant@fpcbonita.org">sgrant@fpcbonita.org</a>                                                                                                                          |

Associate Pastor: Rev. Bradley Rogers  
email: [brogers@fpcbonita.org](mailto:brogers@fpcbonita.org)

## **PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: AUGUST 2016**

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

### **August 8**

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

### **August 9**

Committee on Ministry (9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.)

### **August 11**

Finance Team/Board of Trustees (9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)

Mission Peniel Team @ Covenant Presbyterian, Fort Myers (9:30-11:30 a.m.)

### **August 15**

Nominations and Representation Committee (10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

### **August 17**

Board of Trustees Sub-Committee (9:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m.)

### **August 18**

Steering Committee (9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

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

### **August 25**

Congregational Vitality and Growth Task Force (1:00-3:00 p.m.)



## **CHURCHES OF PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY**

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

[Braden River Presbyterian Church,](#)  
Bradenton

[First Presbyterian Church,](#)  
Bradenton

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

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