



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter – December 28, 2016
Rev. Graham P. Hart, General Presbyter

Speaking from the Heart ...



This past year, one of the gifts that has come to me - in the midst of everything 2016 has brought our family - is to be working with a spiritual director. I have found his questions, insight, and embodiment of God's grace, shalom, and love to be a gift.

In our monthly conversation right before Christmas, he shared with me a quote From Jan Richardson's [Through the Advent Door: Entering a Contemplative Christmas](#) that I found particularly meaningful and which I share with you (note – even though it was written for Advent, it is also appropriate for us as we begin a new year).

"As we cross the threshold into Advent (a new year), what are you carrying with you from the seasons past? Is there something you need to let go of so that you have room for Christ as he comes to us in this season?"

How might God use what is most present in your life—even the chaos and messiness and unpredictability—to fashion a space of welcome, not only for Christ but also for you? Wherever you are, whatever is present in your life, may you welcome the Christ who welcomes you this day.

Wishing you each and all a joyous and peace filled New Year!

Graham

graham@peacriverpresbytery.org

PART TIME HELP WANTED - MISSION COORDINATOR at Mision Peniel, Immokalee, FL

Working a set schedule of at least 24 hours/week, this person will assist Pastor Estrada with routine office communication, purchasing, volunteer recruitment and management, food distribution, communications with donors, and other duties. The applicant needs to be bi-lingual in English and Spanish (trilingual with Creole or French is a plus),

proficient in Office or its Mac equivalent, able to perform basic web site management, possess a current driver's license, is able to work with culturally diverse guests, and be able to lift up to 50 pounds. Position is anticipated to be filled shortly after the start of 2017. Salary will be a minimum of \$15.00/hour. For a full description of the position or to apply for the position please contact (via email) either DeAnne Sawyer with dsa1546@aol.com or Pastor Clint Cottrell with Clint@clpc.us

BETH-EL FARMWORKER MINISTRY, INC.

A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma

Beth-El Celebrated its 40th Anniversary on November 5th!

*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 to learn more.



PO Box 860
Wimauma, FL 33598
Phone: 813-633-1548 ext. 223
Web: www.beth-el.org

www.beth-el.org
[December Newsletter](#)

CEDARKIRK CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

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

www.cedarkirk.org

*Thank you for supporting Cedarkirk and holding this ministry in your prayers for the last 45 years.
We look forward to witnessing God's handiwork here in the years to come!*

For additional information, please contact the camp office at (813) 685-4224 or visit 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](#))

PRAYER NEEDS

Please continue to pray for:

- Nathan Hart (Graham's son) and his family – Nathan is undergoing chemotherapy for a rare and aggressive form of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

- Rev. Dr. Lou Thompson – continued recovery
- Phil Kuehl (husband of Rev. Elizabeth Kuehl, Faith, Cape Coral) – continued recovery
- Rev. Dr. Paul Eckel - health
- Jim Beckwith – heart 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

PRESBYTERY PRAYER GUIDE: JANUARY 2017:

January 1	<u>Peace River Presbytery</u> 37 Congregations / 131 Ministers Moderator: Rev. Dr. Doug Pratt Vice Moderator: Ms. Charmaine Ponkratz
January 8	<u>First Presbyterian Church, Arcadia</u> Pastor: Rev. William (Bill) Teng email: pastor@FirstPC.church
January 15	<u>First Presbyterian Church, Bonita Springs</u> Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Douglas (Doug) Pratt email: dpratt@fpcbonita.org Associate Pastor: Rev. Steven Grant Email: sgrant@fpcbonita.org Associate Pastor: Rev. Bradley Rogers Email: brogers@fpcbonita.org
January 22	<u>Braden River Presbyterian Church, Bradenton</u> Pastor: Rev. Glenn Buzbee, Jr. email: revglennb@gmail.com
January 29	<u>Mision Peniel – Ministry of Peace River Presbytery</u> Pastor: Rev. Miguel Estrada email: miguestrada@hotmail.com

PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: JANUARY 2017

You may view the entire calendar on the Presbytery web site: www.peaceriverpresbytery.org

Monday, January 9

Nominations and Representation Committee (10:00 a.m.) – *Change of date from 1st Monday*

Planning Team (1:00 p.m.) – *Change of date from 1st Monday*

Tuesday, January 10

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

Wednesday, January 11

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (10:00 a.m.)

Thursday, January 12

Mision Peniel Team (9:30 a.m. at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers)

Cuba Partnership Task Force (12:00 p.m. at Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers)

Monday, January 16

Rev. Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Day – PRP Offices Closed

Thursday, January 19

Steering Committee (9:30 a.m.)

Personnel Team (1:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, January 24

Finance Team / Board of Trustees (9:30 a.m.) – *Change of date from 2nd Thursday*

Wednesday, January 25

Pastoral Care Team (2:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, North Port)

Thursday, January 26

Congregational Vitality & Growth Task Force (1:00 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
Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, Bradenton	Palma Sola Presbyterian Church, Bradenton
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bradenton	Palmetto Presbyterian Church, Palmetto – office@ppcfl.org
Christ Church of Longboat Key Longboat Key	Peace Presbyterian Church, Lakewood Ranch
Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church, Sarasota	Church of the Palms, Sarasota
First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota	Northminster Presbyterian Church, Sarasota
Pine Shores Presbyterian Church, Sarasota	Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Sarasota
Whitfield Estates Presbyterian Church, Sarasota	Siesta Key Chapel, Sarasota
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Venice	Venice Presbyterian Church, Venice
Community Presbyterian Church, Englewood	First Presbyterian Church, Arcadia
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, North Port	Burnt Store Presbyterian Church, Punta Gorda
Wintergarden Presbyterian Church, Port Charlotte devon.ducheneau@gmail.com	First Presbyterian Church, Port Charlotte
Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, North Fort Myers	
Faith Presbyterian Church Cape Coral	First Presbyterian Church, Lehigh Acres
Buckingham Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers

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