



# PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter ~ July 13, 2017

Rev. Kathleen Dain  
Executive Director,  
Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, Inc.

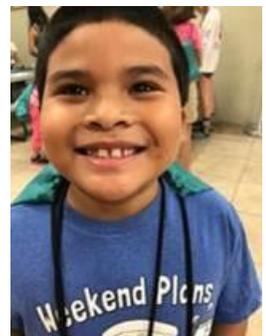
***“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah 6:8***

I want to sing that passage every time I hear it. Its melody reminds me of many Sundays watching children gather at the front of the sanctuary for worship. What a wonderful introduction for our young to grow in God’s Word. Sharing the Word of God in ministry and mission is at the heart of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry.



Beth-El began in worship 41 years ago, but the mission came about in response to the dire needs of those in attendance. Farmworking was, and continues to be, difficult work. On average, a farmworking family will earn less than \$15,000 a year. It is especially difficult on the young whose education may suffer from frequent moves and classroom bullying. Today, the mission serves nearly 100,000 people a year through hunger relief, education and health care. Our newest endeavor is the opening of our Health & Wellness Center, beginning with a free dental clinic for uninsured adults, opening later this year. But at the heart of all we do is to worship God.

This has been a challenging year for the mission. It began in fear for many in our community that a sudden deportation might divide a family. Further tears were shed by the betrayal of trust by the mission’s former pastor. For every step forward, it has seemed that we fall two steps behind. Yet, God’s faithfulness remains—sometimes even when it seems emotionally we are holding on by the slightest of threads—God’s Sovereignty remains. Perhaps, this is what it is like to walk humbly with our God—to remember that we don’t have all the answers or self-made resources to carry on, but through faith God will provide.





It has been a wonderful sight this summer to see young Christians from all our covenant partners and churches arrive at Beth-El to help us continue our mission of compassion and ministry. Countless volunteer hours have been spent on preparing our new clinic, collecting back to school supplies, leading VBS, or aiding in our food distribution. It has been especially joyful to see one of our young adults who grew up in the worshipping community taking a leadership role with the next generation of children. It almost makes me want to sing that familiar tune. *So, what does the Lord require of you?*

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry operates entirely through individual, church, and organizational donations. We receive no government funding. 92 cents of every dollar donated to Beth-El in goods and monetary offerings goes directly toward supporting farmworkers in our community. The other 8% is used to cover our administrative and operating costs.

The mission's covenant partners are Grace Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Peace River Presbytery and the Presbytery of Tampa Bay (P.C.U.S.A). These three presbyteries are our governing body with elected members serving on our Board of Directors. On behalf of all of us at Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, thank-you for your continued support.

Dios le bendiga,

Rev. Kathleen (Kathy) Dain  
Executive Director



**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

for

**JO ANN LEASURE**



11:00 a.m., Friday, July 14, 2017  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
2439 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL

**[STEWARDSHIP KALEIDOSCOPE 2017](#)**

**Deadline to register: August 1**

**CEDARKIRK CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER**

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

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

**2017 Events:**

- Summer Camp - *Our traditional week-long residential camps for 1st-12th graders.* June 4-July 28
- Challenge to Change - *A unique mission-trip program designed for a variety of groups.* Year-round
- Family Retreat - *Our annual family retreat and reunion event! Come and reconnect!* Sept. 1-3
- Silent Retreat – *A new retreat designed for folks who are seeking space to listen to God.* TBA
- Falltastic - *A special fall event designed for our elementary friends.* Sept. 29-30
- Senior Adults Retreat - *A day-event designed just for our senior friends.* Oct. 11
- Fusion - *A Cedarkirk event for middle and high school youth!* Nov. 10-12 & 17-19
- Christmas Retreat – *A little bit of summer camp at Christmas time!* Dec. 22-23

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

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

*A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma*

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

The worshipping community of Beth-El would like to add Christian banners to its worship space. If your church or congregation has a banner, vestments or other worship supplies that you would like to donate, please contact [Kathy@beth-el.org](mailto:Kathy@beth-el.org). Gracias!



PO Box 860 | Wimauma, FL 33598

Phone: 813-633-1548 ext. 223

Web: [www.beth-el.org](http://www.beth-el.org)

[July Newsletter](#)

The *Back to School Supplies Wish List* is included in the newsletter.

**MISION PENIEL**

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

[www.misionpeniel.com](http://www.misionpeniel.com)

Please be sure to contact us to schedule your next visit and reserve a date to volunteer at Mision Peniel! Thank you for your ongoing partnership with this mission!

**Staff Contacts:**

- Rev. Miguel Estrada, Pastor, P: 239-633-2181, E: [migustrada@hotmail.com](mailto:migustrada@hotmail.com)
- Ruth DeYoe, Mission Coordinator, P: 386-793-6151, E: [ruthdeyoe@gmail.com](mailto:ruthdeyoe@gmail.com)
- General Email: [misionpenielpeaceriver@gmail.com](mailto:misionpenielpeaceriver@gmail.com)

**Addresses:**

- Facility Address: 208 Boston Ave., Immokalee, FL 34142 (not for mailing)
- Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1204, Immokalee, FL 34153
- Mailing Address for Contributions\*: Peace River Presbytery, 5600 Peace River Road, North Port, FL 34287

**\*Contributions to Mision Peniel:**

- Mail to: Peace River Presbytery, 5600 Peace River Road, North Port, FL 34287
- Checks can be made payable to Peace River Presbytery or to Mision Peniel.
- Please note *Mision Peniel* in the memo section.
- Contributor information is provided to Mision Peniel each month.

**Other Information:**

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

**PRAYER NEEDS**

**Please continue to pray for:**

- The Family, Friends, Church Family (Covenant Presbyterian, Ft. Myers) and Presbytery Friends of Jo Ann Leasure in the wake of her passing. Her Memorial Service is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 14 at Covenant Presbyterian, Fort Myers.
- Beth-El Farmworker Ministry
- Kathryn Pendergrass (wife of Rev. Dr. Daniel Pendergrass) - diagnosed with a rare form of lung cancer
- Robert Berger – Rev. Dr. Jim Berger’s 96-year old father. Hospitalized in PA from an apparent stroke
- Jim & Becky Beckwith – health
- Rev. Dr. Clint Cottrell (Pastor of Cypress Lake P.C.) - health
- Nathan Hart (Graham’s son) and his family – health
- Rev. Dr. Lou Thompson – health
- Phil Kuehl (husband of Rev. Elizabeth Kuehl, Faith, Cape Coral) – health
- Rev. Dr. Paul Eckel - 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 – Praise ... Brodie is doing much better! Thank you for prayers!
- 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: JULY 2017:**

July 2	<u>PDA/FLAPDAN – Covenant Partner of Peace River</u>
July 9	<u>Lely Presbyterian Church, Naples</u> Supply Pastor: Rev. Dr. Harry Schill III Email: <a href="mailto:h_schill3@verizon.net">h_schill3@verizon.net</a>
July 16	<u>Moorings Presbyterian Church, Naples</u> Pastor: Rev. Dr. Doug Learned Email: <a href="mailto:jsullivan@mooringschurch.org">jsullivan@mooringschurch.org</a> Associate Pastor: Rev. Jaci Smith Patman Email: <a href="mailto:jpatman@mooringschurch.org">jpatman@mooringschurch.org</a>
July 23	<u>Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, Naples</u> Interim Pastor: Rev. Bob Sheldon Email: <a href="mailto:rsheldon@vpcnaples.org">rsheldon@vpcnaples.org</a>
July 30	<u>St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, North Port</u> Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rafael (Ray) Quiles Email: <a href="mailto:chaprafi@gmail.com">chaprafi@gmail.com</a>

### **CHURCH SUPPORT STAFF OPENINGS**

[PT Director of Congregational Care & PT Music Director  
\(2 Positions\) – Community Presbyterian Church, Englewood](#)

[Director of Christian Education – Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers](#)

[Administrative Secretary \(Part Time\) – Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, N. Fort Myers](#)

### **PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: JULY 2017**

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

#### **Thursday, July 13**

Finance Team (9:30 a.m.)

#### **Friday, July 14**

Memorial Service for Jo Ann Leasure – Covenant Presbyterian Church, Ft. Myers (11:00 a.m.)

#### **Wednesday, July 19**

Personnel Team (10:00 a.m.)

#### **Thursday, July 20**

Steering Committee (9:30 a.m.)

### **CHURCHES of PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY**

Please visit our web site, [www.peaceriverpresbytery.org/churches](http://www.peaceriverpresbytery.org/churches)

Click on the city, then the church, to visit their web site.

