



# PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter – March 16, 2017

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT on ...

### **THORNWELL HOME for CHILDREN** **... Building Tomorrow's Families Today ...**

**About Thornwell:** “Founded as a Presbyterian ministry in 1875, Thornwell is a full service, 501c3 nonprofit organization committed to providing the most innovative and effective solutions to help children and families in need. We provide Christian love and support to hundreds of children and families throughout Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. Our mission involves a complete continuum of care that enables us to fully support the child and the family wherever they are in their journey to wholeness and healing.”



**History:** “Thornwell Home for Children began as a dream in the heart of a young Presbyterian minister in Clinton, S.C. Following the devastation of the Civil War, William Plumer Jacobs, of First Presbyterian Church in Clinton, wanted to build an orphanage. Dr. Jacobs’ dream was energized when 10-year-old Willie Anderson of a nearby community gave Reverend Jacobs fifty cents and said, ‘This is to help build your orphanage.’”

**Who We Are:** We provide hope for hurting children and families in three ways:

1. **Safe and loving homes** through family-style residential care and foster care families;
2. **Hope for a brighter future** through academic programs as well as community-based programs;
3. **Wholeness and healing** through the nurturing love of Jesus and professional counseling and therapy.



**Faith Development:** “Thornwell has always been a ministry of the Presbyterian Church through its connections to local churches and presbyteries, and its covenant agreement with the Synod of South Atlantic. We believe there can be no wholeness in a person unless the soul is at peace with God. For many of our children, Thornwell is their first exposure to God and to a family that loves and cares for them. For that reason, faith development permeates every aspect of our services.”

[Thornwell Fact Sheet](#)

For more information on this incredible ministry: [www.thornwell.org](http://www.thornwell.org)

## FAITH PLACE SAFETY WORKSHOP

To honor the policy that all ministers and ministerial inquirers and candidates shall be required to attend a seminar offered by the Presbytery **biennially** on the issues of sexual misconduct, a **Faith Place Safety Workshop** will be offered on **Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** at First Presbyterian Church of Port Charlotte (2230 Harriet Street, Port Charlotte.)

### Schedule:

Registration – 8:30 a.m.

Workshop – 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (lunch included)

Cost - \$10.00 payable at Registration

### Who should attend?

All Pastors, Staff, and Elders with roles in Christian Education and Personnel, Inquirers, and Candidates.

**Reservations are necessary.** Email: [alesia@peacriverpresbytery.org](mailto:alesia@peacriverpresbytery.org), call the Presbytery Office: 941-426-8421, or fax the Presbytery Office: 941-423-9412. Include the names and titles of those who will be attending.

If unable to participate in the Presbytery-offered training, the minister shall work with Presbytery to find a suitable alternative. Failure to comply may result in investigation and discipline.

We are fortunate that Patti Jung, Visiting Professor of Christian Ethics, St. Paul School of Theology, and author of “Professional Sexual Ethics”, has agreed to facilitate the workshop. This year’s offering will discuss: Child Protection to include such topics as mandatory reporting, confidentiality, two-deep adult leadership rule, screening of volunteers; background checks, and specific Florida law considerations.

**Note:** A notice and flyer for this important event were sent to all Churches, Members of Presbytery, Candidates, and Inquirers two weeks ago.

## BETH-EL FARMWORKER MINISTRY, INC.

*A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma*



PO Box 860 | Wimauma, FL 33598

Phone: 813-633-1548 ext. 223

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

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

[March Newsletter](#)

## CEDARKIRK CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

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

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

## MISION PENIEL

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

**Note the separate addresses:**

**Mission Location:**

208 Boston Avenue, Immokalee, FL 34142

**Mailing Address (excluding contributions):**

P.O. Box 1204, Immokalee, FL 34143

**Contributions to Mision Peniel:**

Peace River Presbytery, 5600 Peace River Road, North Port, FL 34287

If you are mailing a contribution to Mision Peniel, please send it to the Presbytery Office.  
Contributor information is provided to Mision Peniel each month.

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To contact Mision Peniel, call or email

Pastor Miguel Estrada:

P: 239-633-2181 | E: [migustrada@hotmail.com](mailto:migustrada@hotmail.com)

or

Ruth DeYoe, Missions Coordinator:

P: 386-793-6151 | E: [ruthdeyoe@gmail.com](mailto:ruthdeyoe@gmail.com)

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

**POSITION OPENING**

[Director of Worship Arts – Burnt Store Presbyterian Church, Punta Gorda](#)

**PRAYER NEEDS**

**Please continue to pray for:**

- 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 – continued recovery from extensive neck surgery
- Phil Kuehl (husband of Rev. Elizabeth Kuehl, Faith, Cape Coral) – continued recovery
- 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 - 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: MARCH 2017:**

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 5  | <u>Palma Sola Presbyterian Church, Bradenton</u><br>Pastor: Rev. India Dennis<br>Email: <a href="mailto:pspcpastor@verizon.net">pspcpastor@verizon.net</a>                                                                                                               |
| March 12 | <u>Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bradenton</u><br>Pastor: Pulpit Supply<br>Office Email: <a href="mailto:wpresbyterian@verizon.net">wpresbyterian@verizon.net</a>                                                                                                     |
| March 19 | <u>Faith Presbyterian Church Church, Cape Coral</u><br>Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tim Halverson<br>Email: <a href="mailto:tim@fpcfl.org">tim@fpcfl.org</a><br>Associate Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Kuehl<br>Email: <a href="mailto:elizabeth@fpcfl.org">elizabeth@fpcfl.org</a> |
| March 26 | <u>Community Presbyterian Church, Englewood</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Dawn Mayes<br>Email: <a href="mailto:revdawnmayes@gmail.com">revdawnmayes@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                                  |

### **PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: MARCH-APRIL 2017**

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

#### **Thursday, March 23**

Personnel Team (8:30 a.m.)

Congregational Vitality and Growth Task Force (12:30 p.m.)

#### **Monday, April 3**

Nominations & Representation Committee (10:00 a.m.)

Planning Team (1:00 p.m.)

#### **Tuesday, April 11**

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

#### **Wednesday, April 12**

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

#### **Thursday, April 13**

Maundy Thursday

#### **Friday, April 14**

Good Friday – PRP Offices Closed

#### **Sunday, April 16**

Easter

**Wednesday, April 19**

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

**Thursday, April 20**

Steering Committee (9:30 a.m.)

**Thursday, April 27**

Congregational Vitality Team (12:30 p.m.)



**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>                                  |

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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                                                                 |                                                                        |
| <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       |

