



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter – May 4, 2017

Misión Peniel – A Ministry to Farmworkers in Immokalee



There is a “RENEWAL” at Misión Peniel!

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:22-23

Ever since moving into a new building on February 20th of this year, Misión Peniel has been in a process of a “mission renewal” as it settles into its new home at 208 Boston Avenue in Immokalee. The “RE’s” pretty much define the renewal taking place over the past few months! Staff and volunteers have been working non-stop to:

RE-model: The building acquired was previously used as a dance and gymnastics studio. It is *three times* the size of the previous mission space at the same monthly rental fee. Partial walls were built and painted to create an office area, gathering area, kitchen and pantry areas and clothing storage area. Additional lighting and outlets were installed. Remodeling work is nearly complete thanks to dedicated and talented volunteers and contracted workers.

RE-organize: All of the remodeled space is undergoing some major reorganization to serve the mission’s ministry more efficiently. The goal is to organize all donations into their specific space. This will allow us to have a clearer idea of what we have and what is needed at any given time.

RE-fresh: Since February, Pastor Miguel, Ruth and the Misión Peniel Team have been working with Divine Digital in Naples, to design a new logo, build a new website and create a new mission email address. Please visit the website and take a tour of all its features, including a calendar link to plan your next volunteer time at the mission! We are also keeping the Facebook page updated every week with photos of Friday serving and other notices— check it out! The logo is displayed in this article. See below for updated information and addresses.



RE-think:

Serving— Now that we have additional staff and a much larger space, we are beginning to “re-think” the opportunities for serving the mission we offer to individual volunteers and groups. We still rely on church groups to sign up for Friday meal serving and clothing distribution. We also want to begin inviting volunteers (group or individuals) to come on Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. - 1 pm, beginning May 3rd. This will be a time for organizing donations and helping with specific projects. For more information, contact Ruth DeYoe, Mission Coordinator, or visit the website to sign up! We also encourage you to share YOUR mission ideas for serving the needs of the farmworker community in Immokalee.

Donation of Goods— Misión Peniel has learned over the years that there are certain donation items that are greatly needed and others that are never utilized. As a result, in the coming weeks and months it is our hope to communicate with donors what the mission really needs and what simply takes up valuable space. As the communication improves, an important re-thinking takes place about how we donate for mission purposes, our efficiency increases, and the real needs in Immokalee are met.

RE-new what it means to be partners in mission ... among our churches and with the farm worker community in Immokalee. As partners in mission, there is much that God has to show us through our Haitian and Hispanic brothers and sisters! Watch for announcements of local activities and events and consider participating!

So when it comes to mission possibilities in 2017, *come and RE-discover what God is doing through the ministry of Misión Peniel in Immokalee!*

Updated Contact Information:

Address: 208 Boston Avenue, Immokalee
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1204, Immokalee, 34143
General Email: misionpenielpeaceriver@gmail.com
Pastor Miguel Estrada: migustrada@hotmail.com
Ruth DeYoe: ruthdeyoe@gmail.com
Facebook: "Mision Peniel" (no accent over the o)
Website: www.misionpeniel.com

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." —Philippians 1:3-6

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in this mission!

In Mission Partnership,
Ruth DeYoe
Mission Coordinator



Current Donation Needs:

Summer Clothing for Men, Women and Children
Shoes for Children, Men, and Women, in good condition (No high heels, please)
Toiletries (soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, razors, toothpaste/brushes, lotion)
Baseball Caps, Sun Hats (for field work/protection from sun)
Towels & Bedding
Children's Books (Spanish, English and Creole)
Non Perishable Pantry Items (rice, beans, peanut butter, canned meat/fish, oatmeal, canned vegetables, pasta)

Thank you for your contributions to Misión Peniel!



**Coalition of
Immokalee Workers**



Join farmworkers and their families for a lively demonstration at the newly-opened Orangetree Publix in Naples!



Last month, farmworkers embarked on a 12-city [Return to Human Rights Tour](#) visiting cities across the Southeast and Midwest to rally with allies of faith, students, and conscious consumers to promote the national Wendy's boycott and the longstanding struggle for farmworker justice. The grand finale took place in Tampa as nearly 300 allies from across Florida [marched from Publix to Wendy's](#) to call on both holdouts to join the CIW's award-winning Fair Food Program.

On March 23, as the CIW prepared to converge in [Wendy's](#) hometown of Columbus, OH for the tour's vibrant culmination, Publix inaugurated a new location in the CIW's own backyard on Immokalee Rd. in Naples. For almost eight years, the Florida-based supermarket chain has continuously refused to engage in dialogue with farmworkers about protecting their human rights and has rejected the Fair Food Program, a proven, worker-led solution to farmworker abuse in the U.S. agricultural industry.

Let us call on Publix to finally make a true commitment to supporting human rights for the farmworkers that make their profits possible, by joining the Fair Food Program! Join us and scores of our Southwest Florida allies for a spirited and peaceful demonstration at the newly-opened Orangetree Publix on Immokalee Rd. and Randall Blvd.

WHAT: [Protest at Orangetree Publix in Naples for Farmworker Justice!](#)

WHERE: Publix at [13550 Immokalee Rd, Naples, FL](#)

WHEN: [Sunday, May 7 at 2:00pm](#)

* Please do not park in the Publix parking lot

Students, clergy and people of faith, and communities statewide are sending a clear message to Publix: the call for Publix Supermarkets to join the new day will continue to grow across Florida until the chain respects farmworkers' rights and joins its competitors in the Fair Food Program!

[Join the CIW on May 7th](#) for a lively protest at Naples's newest Publix!

Contact Patricia at patricia@allianceforfairfood.org for more information.

STATED MEETING of PRESBYTERY

Thursday, May 18

First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia
209 W. Hickory St. / Arcadia, FL 34266

8:00 a.m. – Registration Begins
9:00 a.m. – Q&A with the Presbytery Treasurer and Finance Team
9:00 a.m. – Q&A with the Blessing & Grants Task Force
9:30 a.m. – Meeting Begins

Lunch Reservations:

Reservations required for lunch but not for the meeting.

****Lunch reservation deadline: Thursday, May 11th ****

Cost of lunch: \$10.00 (payable at Registration)

Lunch reservations are to be made to Lori Doyal at the Presbytery Office:

lori@peacriverpresbytery.org / 941-426-8421

Group reservations must include the names of each person needing a reservation.

The Meeting Packet:

Will be posted on this web site by 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 11th.

CEDARKIRK CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

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

www.cedarkirk.org

2017 Events:

- Spring Bash - *This popular retreat gives kids a 24-hour taste of Cedarkirk fun.* May 5-6
- Open House - *The perfect way to spend an afternoon! Come and enjoy Cedarkirk!* May 13
- 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.

BETH-EL FARMWORKER MINISTRY, INC.

A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma

POSITION OPENING:

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry is a non-profit mission supporting farmworkers and our neighbors in need through hunger relief, education, health initiatives and spiritual care. The mission is currently seeking a director of children and youth ministries for the mission's worship communities, 20 to 35 hours per week. Candidate will be responsible for coordination of all children and youth activities including summer VBS, Christian Education curriculum, teen youth group and Sunday school. Ideal candidate must be fluent in both Spanish and English with background in education (Christian education preferred). Valid driver's license, background check and drug screening are required. Beth-El Farmworker Ministry is an equal opportunity employer.



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

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

MISION PENIEL

A Ministry of Peace River Presbytery to the Farmworkers in Immokalee

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!

UPDATE:

We are planning an Open House at the new location very soon. In the meantime, please make note of the following updated contact and address information:

Staff Contacts:

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

• Beth-El Farmworker Ministry – Please continue praying for the Ministry ... for the Beth-El Staff and the Worshipping Community, as well as continued prayer for Walter and his family. ~ *Graham*

- Pete Rodino – recovery from detached retina surgery
- Rev. Silvana Ferreira – recovery from eye surgery
- Linda Hart (Graham’s wife) – recovering from double knee surgery
- 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 – 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
- 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: MAY 2017:**

|        |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 7  | <u>Beth-El Farmworker Ministry</u><br>Executive Director: Rev. Kathy Dain<br>Email: <a href="mailto:kathy@beth-el.org">kathy@beth-el.org</a>                        |
| May 14 | <u>Stated Meeting of Peace River Presbytery</u><br>at First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia                                                                          |
| May 21 | <u>Chapel By The Sea, Fort Myers Beach</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Dr. Stephen Adkison<br>Email: <a href="mailto:skypilot_mddiv@hotmail.com">skypilot_mddiv@hotmail.com</a> |

May 28

Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, North Fort Myers

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Valerie Bell

Email: [pastorvaleriebell@gmail.com](mailto:pastorvaleriebell@gmail.com)

## **PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: MAY 2017**

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

### **Thursday, May 4**

Mision Peniel Team @ Mission Location in Immokalee (10:00 a.m.)

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

### **Tuesday, May 9**

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

### **Thursday, May 11**

Finance Team (9:30 a.m.)

### **Thursday, May 18**

Stated Meeting of Presbytery at First Presbyterian Church of Arcadia

### **Thursday, May 25**

Congregational Vitality Team (1:00 p.m.)

### **Monday, May 29**

Memorial Day – Presbytery Offices Closed

## **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.



