



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter ~ February 1, 2018



“Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.” —Sally Koch

As 2018 continues to progress, Misión Peniel is opening its doors to welcome and engage volunteers in some new ways. In addition to our regular Friday meal and commodities sharing, we are scheduling smaller groups and individuals for specific Wednesdays to work on special projects around the mission such as outside gardening, painting, organizing donations and light carpentry projects for starters. In January we welcomed members of Englewood’s Community Presbyterian Church to begin preparing the backyard area for a mission garden. They also helped with a variety of sorting and packing projects.

We also plan to hold once a month women’s fellowship gatherings that focus on a specific topic, project or activity that is fun, educational and inspirational. We held a Holiday Tea in December and the women asked to continue meeting, so we will! We welcome your ideas!

One of the exciting new projects we are focused on as this new year unfolds is our mission garden, located in back of the mission. We have partnered with a new non-profit, [“Cultivate Abundance”](#) to make this dream a reality. With the help of Cultivate Abundance, volunteers and interested community members, the garden will produce foods specific to the Hispanic and Haitian migrant community. This will also be an educational garden, teaching the migrant community how to grow more of their own food in sustainable ways. Exciting plans are being made as this is being published!

By engaging volunteers and community members in different ways, we hope this leads the way to strengthen the relationships between the farmworker community and the churches and individuals that support the mission. Partnership in mission is a beautiful thing!

For more details about these plans and our vision for 2018, we invite you to our [Open House](#) on Sunday, February 11, 2:00-4:30 p.m.! Click on the link for the event flyer. Come and see what God has been doing through your support at Misión Peniel!

STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY
Thursday, February 22, 2018
Theme: Organizational Health

First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota
2050 Oak Street | Sarasota, 34237

8:00 a.m. ~ Registration Begins

9:00 a.m. ~ Finance Forum with Presbytery's Finance Team and Treasurer*

9:30 a.m. ~ Stated Meeting Begins

* *The Team and Treasurer are available to answer your questions about the Presbytery's budget, Three Streams of Giving, Church Commitment/Estimate of Giving Forms and more. They are also available to assist churches if needed.*

~ LUNCH ~

\$10.00 (payable at registration).

Includes a boxed lunch from Corkscrew Deli: Sandwich, Pasta Salad, Beverage, etc.

(If you need a non-meat option, you must note that with your reservation).

Lunch Reservations **ARE REQUIRED no later than 11:00 a.m., Thursday, February 15th.**

Contact Lori Doyal at the Presbytery Office to make reservations:

lori@peacriverpresbytery.org / 941-426-8421, ext. 401 **

Attendees without reservations (by the deadline) **WILL NOT** be guaranteed lunch.

(This includes choir and orchestra members.)

PLEASE DO NOT WAIT until the last minute and **DO NOT WAIT** for the Meeting Packet to be posted!

Make your reservation early!

** *Include your name, phone number, email, and church.*

Group reservations must include each attendee's name and the above requested information.

A Special Invitation to a Special Presbytery Meeting ~ February 22nd ~ First, Sarasota

At the February 2013 Presbytery Meeting, Debbie Rundlett (pastor, author, seminary professor, coach, presbytery leader) was our key note speaker as we formally launched our presbytery's new organizational design. Many still remember her skit which related to what/who was driving our congregation's organizational bus ... who/what was in the driver's seat (i.e Vision, Relationships, Structure, or Goals/plans). Also at the meeting, Debbie shared with us material that many sessions used over the next year called: The Journey (note - that eventually became a book many congregations and church leaders have used).

Five years later, as we continue in our Presbytery's focus on "things that make for vital, alive, and growing congregations", we have invited Debbie back to be with us at the February 22nd Presbytery Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota. We are encouraging every session to have at least 2-4 current ruling elders who are on the session, in addition to the regular elder commissioners, to come and be part of the workshop Debbie will be doing as a part of our meeting. Also, for worship, we will have a mass choir as well as the group *First Brass* in worship leadership.

... FROM the PRESBYTERY OFFICE ...

1. Clerks of Session or Church Offices, please send your updated list of Ruling Elders to Lori (lori@peacriverpresbytery.org), to be included in the Presbytery's newsletter email distribution list. Include name, email address, and class. *Thank you to those of you who so far who have been able to do this!*
2. Clerks of Session and Church Offices, the deadline for lunch reservations for the Stated Meeting of Presbytery will be **11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 15th**. Please remind your Elder Commissioners, other Elders, and Staff of this reservation deadline, and encourage all to make their reservations prior to that day. See above for lunch details.
3. The *Presbytery Directory* (formerly *Handbook*) is being updated for 2018. As soon as it is completed, Lori will send notification to you with the link to the Directory on the web site.

BETH-EL FARMWORKER MINISTRY, INC.

A Ministry to the Farmworkers in Wimauma

www.beth-el.org



PO Box 860 | Wimauma, FL 33598

Phone: 813-633-1548 ext. 223

Web: www.beth-el.org

[January Newsletter](#)

*Beth-El is looking for donations of furniture for its office and dental clinic.
Please contact their office if you have desks, tables, or bookcases.*

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

www.misionpeniel.com

[OPEN HOUSE 2018](#) (click for details)

Sunday, February 11, 2018

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.

PRAYER NEEDS

Please continue to pray for:

- Rev. Susan Rice – health and treatment for cancer

- Jim and Becky Beckwith, and their son, Greg – health
- Rev. Dr. Lou Thompson – health
- Phil Kuehl (husband of Rev. Elizabeth Kuehl, Faith, Cape Coral) – health
- Robert Dennis (son of Rev. India Dennis) – mental health issues
- The communities, across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, still recovering from the hurricanes and fires
- Beth-El Farmworker Ministry (in Wimauma)
- Misión Peniel Farmworker Ministry (in Immokalee)
- 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: FEBRUARY 2018:

February 4	<u>First Presbyterian Church, Bradenton</u> Pastor: Rev. Dino Rustin Email: dino@firstpresbradenton.com Associate Pastor: Rev. Mary Beth McSwain Email: marybeth@firstpresbradenton.com
February 11	<u>Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, Bradenton</u> Pastor: Rev. Dr. Hope Lee Email: hope@kpcbradenton.org
February 18	<u>PRP Stated Meeting at First, Sarasota</u> Key Note Speaker: Rev. Dr. Debbie Rundlett
February 25	<u>Oak Pointe Church, Bradenton</u> Pastor: Rev. Jane Jones-Norris Email: jjn7416@gmail.com

CHURCH SUPPORT STAFF OPENINGS

Burnt Store Presbyterian Church, Punta Gorda:

[Organist/Primary Accompanist](#)

~~~~~

Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral:

[Graphic Designer and Marketing Coordinator](#)

**PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: FEBRUARY 2018**

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

*All meetings are at the Presbytery Center location in North Port, unless otherwise posted.*

**Thursday, February 1**

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

**Monday, February 5**

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

Planning Team (1:00 p.m.)

**Thursday, February 8**

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

**Sunday, February 11**

\*\*Open House – Mision Peniel (2:00-4:30 p.m. in Immokalee)

**Tuesday, February 13**

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

**Wednesday, February 14**

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

**Thursday, February 15**

11:00 a.m. Deadline: Lunch Reservations for Stated Meeting of PRP

**Thursday, February 22**

Stated Meeting of Presbytery at First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota

**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.**



