



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Weekly Presbytery Letter ~ January 24, 2019

First Presbyterian Church, Lehigh Acres



At First Presbyterian Church of Lehigh Acres our theme for 2019 is "Living In Grace And Gratitude". We are grateful for our new staff members who are doing an outstanding job of keeping things moving smoothly. We're grateful that all of the hurricane repairs from Irma have been completed...and nothing leaks! We're grateful for the DJB Charter School that leases our property, providing us financial stability during our rebuilding of our resources. And for the new class of Elders on the Session, bringing fresh energy and ideas to our congregation.

There is a renewed vitality to our ministry and our services. Our team of Choirmaster Lewis Carlsen and Music Director Linda Carlsen lead an energized choir and host a diversity of musical talent throughout the year. January 27 we'll host the singing group Re-Creation for a special concert and potluck at 4:30. And just for fun, on Super Bowl Sunday I'll lead the congregation again in singing, "Drop Kick Me Jesus Through The Goal Posts of Life" before the service. Watch for it on Facebook.



Each week our worship service and the Bible Study are shared on our

Facebook page, enabling our

Northern members to stay up to date with news and worship, and to keep us of aware of what's going on with them while we are apart. Our weekly Bible study brings new faces into our midst, as we study "The Bible For Dummies", a 10-week survey of our scriptures.



We're excited to have our winter members back with us, and to welcome new guests to our church each week. The Faith Garden, a community outreach, touches church folk and members of our community as they work together. And the

opportunities for new experiences with Misión Peniel have been stimulating and eye-opening for us.

You can pray for us as we reach out to our community and develop new relationships and discover new members. Pray for us as we grow stronger and deeper, moving forward with our dream to call a full-time pastor. And join us in a prayer of thanksgiving for all the blessings we share as we, "Live In Grace And Gratitude", every day.

Blessings.

Rev. Dr. James R. Berger, Stated Supply Pastor

www.fpclhigh.org



Each week, the newsletter will feature a congregation, covenant partner,
or ministry of Peace River Presbytery.
To learn even more, please visit the church or ministry web sites.

COMING UP ...

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Stated Meeting of Presbytery

and

**Honoring The Reverend Graham Hart, General Presbyter,
on the occasion of his retirement.**

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Location: First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

Registration Begins - 8:00 a.m.

Financial Forum – 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Begins – 9:00 a.m.

Lunch reservations will be required in advance. Details will be posted soon.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND the PRESBYTERY:

**Saturday, February 2, 2019**

[Presbyterian Women's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering](#)

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers

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Friday, February 8, 2019

[Christ at Work through His Church in the Middle East](#)

Rev. Elmarie Parker

Palma Sola Presbyterian Church, Bradenton

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**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

[Dr. Hunter Farrell, Director, World Mission Initiative](#)

(Pittsburgh Theological Seminary)

Guest Speaker at the Faith Focus Weekend

First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

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Saturday, February 23, 2019

[The Life and Friendships of C.S. Lewis](#)

Church of the Palms, Sarasota

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**Sunday, March 3, 2019**

Peace Presbyterian Church, Lakewood Ranch - Dedication Service

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March 15-17, 2019

[Association of Smaller Congregations](#)

[Reclaiming Vitality: "7 Biblical Marks of Vital Small Churches"](#)

Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simon's Island, GA

*Registration Deadline: Thursday, February 22nd

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**Tuesday, April 30, 2019**

[Faith Place Safety Seminar](#)

Burnt Store Presbyterian Church, Punta Gorda

\*Registration Deadline: Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

### ATTENTION CHURCHES & CLERGY:

**2019 IRS Business Mileage Rate: 58 cents per mile**

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-issues-standard-mileage-rates-for-2019>

### 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)

[January Newsletter](#)

### MISIÓN PENIEL

*A Ministry of Peace River Presbytery to the Farmworker Community in Immokalee*

208 Boston Ave., PO Box 1204, Immokalee, FL 34143

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

Facebook: "Misión Peniel"

**Critical needs for December and January** include blankets of any size and men's and women's jackets. The mornings are very cold for the farmworkers and many of the trailers and camps they live in do not have sufficient heat. Contact us if you'd like these items to be picked up. Thank you for any donations you are able to make at this time.

#### **Staff Contacts:**

- Rev. Miguel Estrada, Pastor, P: 239-633-2181, E: [miguelstrada@hotmail.com](mailto:miguelstrada@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)

#### **Contributions to Misión Peniel (checks or online):**

- Mail to: Peace River Presbytery, 5600 Peace River Road, North Port, FL 34287
- Checks can be made payable to Peace River Presbytery or to Misión Peniel.
- Please note *Misión Peniel* in the memo section.
- Click on the "Donate" button on the Misión Peniel web site.
- Contributor information is provided to Misión Peniel each month.

**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).

## PRAYER NEEDS

### Please continue to pray for:

- Fred Chamberlain (President, Board of Trustees) and Family, in the loss of his mother-in-law last week.
- Jim and Becky Beckwith - health
- 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: JANUARY 2019**

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| January 6  | <u>Peace River Presbytery</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| January 13 | <u>First Presbyterian Church, Bonita Springs</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Dr. Doug Pratt<br>Email: <a href="mailto:dpratt@fpcbbonita.org">dpratt@fpcbbonita.org</a><br>Associate Pastor: Rev. Steven Grant<br>Email: <a href="mailto:sgrant@fpcbbonita.org">sgrant@fpcbbonita.org</a><br>Associate Pastor: Rev. Brad Rogers<br>Email: <a href="mailto:brogers@fpcbbonita.org">brogers@fpcbbonita.org</a> |
| January 20 | <u>Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, Bradenton</u><br>Pastor: Rev. Dr. Hope Lee<br>Email: <a href="mailto:hope@kpcbbradenton.org">hope@kpcbbradenton.org</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| January 27 | <u>First Presbyterian Church, Lehigh Acres</u><br>Stated Supply Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jim Berger<br>Email: <a href="mailto:drjimberger@gmail.com">drjimberger@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## **PRESBYTERY CALENDAR: JANUARY 2019**

You may view the entire calendar on the Presbytery web site: [www.peacriverpresbytery.org](http://www.peacriverpresbytery.org)  
Please email corrections or additions to [lori@peacriverpresbytery.org](mailto:lori@peacriverpresbytery.org)

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

**Tuesday, January 29 and Wednesday, January 30**

Board of Pensions Retirement Planning Seminar (Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral)

### **PEWS for SALE**

Lely Presbyterian Church, Naples, has 150 pews for sale. Each pew is 40 inches long. The church is asking \$75 each, with 90-day notice.



If interested, please contact Bill Moyer: 239-825-2220 / [wamoyer1958@gmail.com](mailto:wamoyer1958@gmail.com)

### **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.



