



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ June 26, 2020



A brief update...

Thanks to a small group of faithful volunteers, we have been able to keep our doors open to provide what is needed most at this time: nutritious food. Since March 20, we have been packing grocery bags with fresh produce and non-perishable food items. We have been blessed by donations of food from our partner food banks, garden partner (Cultivate Abundance) and individual churches. God has certainly been providing us with a “loaves and fishes”



weekly distribution witness! Although the week may begin with a minimal amount of stored food items, by the week’s end, that amount has been tripled, allowing us to serve between 300-400 on Fridays as the summer season begins! Your ongoing support enables us to continue to provide these essential items to a community greatly affected by COVID-19!

We continue to follow safe practice guidelines by the CDC both in our packaging and distributing as well as in the way we now the line outside for our community friends that come to the mission on Fridays. Masks are required by all who come to volunteer as well as come to receive groceries on Fridays. Our zig zag line formation with circles for spacing seems to be working as well. We

are still focused on serving only food and ask that churches find a local organization to donate clothing and other commodities at least into the fall. If your church would like to get on the calendar for serving this fall and beyond, please contact us directly. We are following CDC and the local health department’s recommendations to determine when it will be safe to invite churches back to volunteer.

PLEASE NOTE: *Because the mission is only distributing food, please take clothing and household items to other community organizations until further notice. Food donations accepted: Rice, Beans, Pasta, Canned Protein (Chicken, Vienna Sausages, Tuna...) Peanut Butter and Spaghetti Sauce in non-glass containers.*



Thanks to a few grants and individual and church donations to our COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund, we have been able to assist a growing number of those



affected by the coronavirus with rent, utility and health care expenses. We anticipate this need to extend into the fall. In addition to financial assistance, we have been delivering care packages of food staples and personal hygiene products to those in isolation at home with a note of encouragement and prayer support. If you would like to contribute to this designated fund, please indicate "COVID Relief Fund" on your donation online or send it to either our PO Box address below or the presbytery office.

The best way to stay updated is to follow us on Facebook (Mision Peniel) and Instagram (Mision Peniel, Immokalee) and/or subscribe to our newsletter from our website: www.misionpeniel.com

God continues blessing this mission and the people it serves through the hearts of people and churches like you! We are in this together! May you all be blessed with renewed hope and perseverance through this pandemic time!

Questions? Contact Ruth DeYoe at: ruth@peacriverpresbytery.org

Together in Christ,
Pastor Miguel Estrada and Ruth DeYoe
miguel@peacriverpresbytery.org
ruth@peacriverpresbytery.org

Save Our Homes Fund

First Church Bonita Springs has established a "Save Our Homes Fund" to provide financial assistance to the recently unemployed of our local work force in Lee and Collier Counties. Up to \$1,000 per person or family is available to those who have lost their jobs or are experiencing other hardships due to the coronavirus shutdown. Checks are written to mortgage companies, landlords and utility companies to allow people to keep their homes while searching for a new job (or waiting to be called back to work). All applicants are vetted by one of our local social service agencies.

Many church members who were not personally affected financially have given their "stimulus" checks and other gifts to supplement this fund, as a way of showing our Christian compassion to our neighbors in their time of need. To date over \$155,000 has been contributed by the congregation.

For information, contact the church directly: 239-992-3233

PCUSA Planning Calendars

Due to the Covid-19 circumstances, the Presbytery Office will not be placing a bulk order of the Planning Calendars this year. In previous years, the Presbytery Office has placed a bulk order to include all of the churches that wanted to order through the Presbytery Office.

This year, churches will need to order the Planning Calendars directly from the PC(USA) Store.

To do so, you may contact the PC(USA) Store through one of the following methods:

Email: support@pcusastore.com

Phone: 1-800-533-4371

Please note that if you go to the website, www.pcusastore.com, you will need to do a “search” for “Planning Calendar” for it to show up. The calendar dates are September 2020-December 2021.

Position Opening

[Music and Choir Director – Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church, Sarasota](#)

Presbytery Calendar: June-July 2020

You may view the entire calendar on the Presbytery web site: www.peacriverpresbytery.org

Please email corrections or additions to lori@peacriverpresbytery.org

Friday, June 19, Friday, June 26, and Saturday, June 27

224th (2020) General Assembly (On Line Meeting)

Wednesday, July 1

Mision Peniel Team (10:00 am by Zoom Conference)

Thursday, July 9

Finance Team/Board of Trustees (9:30 am by Zoom Conference)

Tuesday, July 14

Committee on Ministry (9:00 am by Zoom Conference)

Cuba Partnership Task Force (10:00 am by Zoom Conference – Private Account)

Thursday, July 16

Steering Committee (9:00 am by Zoom Conference)

Team, Committee, and other meetings are being conducted via video conferencing during this time of the stay-at-home guidelines. Please check the web site calendar regularly for additions or changes.

A Reminder

The staff of the Presbytery Office continues to work diligently for you, while doing so remotely and safely. Mail is being picked up daily.

Please check the web site for the staff’s cell phone numbers, should you need to reach any of them by phone.

[Contact PRP Staff](#)

Cedarkirk at Home Brings Summer Camp to Your Living Room

Even though we can’t be together physically this summer, we are sending fun and faith-forming camp experiences to our campers! Cedarkirk at Home combines a box full of camp goodies, curriculum, activity supplies, and surprises, with virtual small group Bible studies and activity sessions led by Cedarkirk counselors. In this way, we can still build our unique camp community, deepen personal connections to God, learn from one another, and have all sorts of silly camp fun even though we can’t be together at camp.

If your church is struggling with what kind of summer program or VBS to provide your young people, this could be a unique opportunity for you! Your children and youth could sign up for the same week, participate in the program with one another, and make some new friends, too!

Our theme, LET'S TALK, will explore all the ways we can connect to God through prayer, and discover what communication with God has to do with renewal, guidance, and change!



For Cedarkirk at Home information and online registration, check out our website: www.cedarkirk.org/cedarkirk-at-home.

COVID-19 Wish List for Beth-El Farmworker Ministry

Diapers, Size 4 and 5	Gift Cards	All Purpose Flour	Peanut Butter
Sanitizer	Deodorant	Spaghetti Sauce	Pancake Mix
Face Masks	Toothpaste	Powdered Milk	Granola Bars
Gloves	Feminine Products	Evaporated Milk	Apple Sauce
Paper Products	Adult Diapers	Boxed Cereal	Macaroni and Cheese
Sanitizing Detergents	Baby Wipes	Canned Meats	Maseca Tortilla Mix
Disinfecting Wipes	Bread	Canned Fruits	Rice and Beans
Bar Soap	Coffee	Pasta	Crackers
Toilet Paper	Oats	Rice	Canned Vegetables

If you can help provide any of these items, please call Beth-El at 813-633-1548.

Covenant Partners of Peace River Presbytery

Click on the links to visit each ministry's web site:

- Beth-El Farmworker Ministry – Wimauma: www.beth-el.org
- Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center: www.cedarkirk.org
- Presbyterian Homes & Housing Foundation of FL: www.phhf.com

Misión Peniel: a Ministry of Peace River Presbytery

Web Site: www.misionpeniel.org

Prayer Needs

Please pray for:

- COVID-19 and Economic Recovery
- First Responders
- 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

Ongoing Prayers for our brothers and sisters in Cuba:

- We have been asked to join them in prayer at 9:30 am each morning in solidarity during this difficult time.
- We also pray for their wellbeing and safety during this time of crisis, both physically and spiritually.

Churches of Peace River Presbytery

Please visit our web site, www.peacriverpresbytery.org/churches

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



The Presbytery Newsletter is a weekly publication of Peace River Presbytery.
If you wish to be unsubscribed from the distribution, or if you know someone who would like to receive the newsletter, please contact Lori Doyal at the Presbytery Office:
lori@peacriverpresbytery.org or 941-426-8421, ext. 401.