



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ December 11, 2020

From the General Presbyter

Dear Friends,

What a year we have had. I pray that each of you and all our churches have found some blessings and lessons from this pandemic time. We are certainly excited that 23 congregations have applied for grants for equipment for live-streaming. It has been a joy to see the creative ways pastors and congregations have worshiped and stayed in touch with one another.

As I have mentioned before, this year has required more from pastors than any year in our memories. They have had to learn and plan on the fly. They have had to navigate differing opinions about what is safe and when to begin in-person worship. Thank you to all the elders and members who have supported pastors in these unprecedented times. I hope all of you will take time to show appreciation to your pastors and staff as we near the Christmas season.

I want to thank all the presbytery staff for their work this year. I would encourage any of you who have been touched by their work to thank them as well. Lori and Alesia have had more work to do and have done it mostly from home. They have not missed a beat even as new challenges like PPP loans and pastoral changes during COVID came along. This presbytery is fortunate to have such dedicated support staff. It is a joy to work with them.

The Stated Clerk's job has not been easy this year and Randy has performed it with grace. When the Clerk's job is done well, most people don't see it. Randy is excellent at providing guidance and process information in ways that allow those requesting it to make the decisions they need to make. We have worked well together as partners in ministry and I look forward to an easier year for that in 2021.

The work at Misión Peniel had to shift dramatically with the pandemic. Ruth and Miguel have worked tirelessly to ensure that people who were left vulnerable were provided with food, medical assistance, and rent during this time. They have received over \$500,000 in grant funds because Ruth found many places to apply. A handful of volunteers worked each Friday to make sure that service was available. The mission is just beginning to have churches return to help on Fridays, you can contact them if your church feels safe to return.

I also want to thank all those who volunteer their time on committees and commissions of the presbytery. We could not do our work without you and appreciate the talents and gifts you bring.

This will be the last newsletter for the year so that our staff can enjoy some vacation and the holidays. If there are things you think need to be shared, send them to me and I will post them on the resource [page](#).

I wish you blessings for a joyous Christmas and a happy new year as we look forward to a time when we can be together in person again.

Grace and peace
Melana

Cedarkirk Announcement

Welcome to Matt Shick as the new Executive Director of Cedarkirk, effective December 1, 2020.
Please read the [announcement](#).

Misión Peniel: a Ministry of Peace River Presbytery

Web Site: www.misionpeniel.org

As a mission of the Presbytery, we rely on the churches of Peace River Presbytery for 100% of our budget. Thank you for your faithful support of this presbytery ministry.

For the latest updates, visit us on Facebook (Mision Peniel), Instagram (misionpenielimmokalee) and subscribe to our quarterly newsletter via our website.

Contacts:

Rev. Miguel Estrada, Pastor – miguel@peacriverpresbytery.org
Ruth DeYoe, Mission Coordinator – ruth@peacriverpresbytery.org

Presbytery Calendar: December 2020

*You may view the entire calendar on the Presbytery web site: www.peacriverpresbytery.org
Please email corrections or additions to lori@peacriverpresbytery.org*

Thursday, December 17

Steering Committee (9:00 am by Zoom Conference)

Thursday-Friday, December 24-25

PRP Offices Closed

Team, Committee, and other meetings are being conducted via Zoom Video Conference until further notice.
Please check the web site calendar regularly for additions or changes.

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

Prayer Needs

Please pray for:

- Rev. Dr. Harry Schill (HR) – Continued prayer for his treatment and recovery from bile duct cancer.
Address for cards – 16001 Via Solera Cir., #105, Fort Myers, FL 33908
- Rev. Alan Adams (HR) – Continued prayer for his treatment and recovery from tonsil cancer.
Address for cards – 69 Windmill Blvd., Punta Gorda, FL 33950
- Our Nation
- 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

Churches of Peace River Presbytery

Go to [Peace River Presbytery Churches](#)

to visit each of the church's web sites.



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.