



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ April 9, 2021

Dear Friends,

Easter greetings! We rejoice in the resurrection life that God has called us to live and share.

This morning I received an email that the presbytery has been accepted into the third cohort of the Vital Congregations Initiative! We have been working toward this for several months and believe it can impact many of the congregations in the presbytery. For the last few newsletters, I have outlined the marks of vital congregations and have encouraged sessions to look at some of the material and begin to discern if this is something your congregation is called to do. Now that we know we have been accepted, I hope this will be something that pastors and sessions will seriously consider. It will be a two-year commitment that could bring spiritual growth, missional insight, empowered stewardship, and renewed vitality to the congregations that engage this work. Soon we will provide an application for churches who want to be involved in this first wave of the initiative in the presbytery. In the meantime, I encourage you to look at the [toolkit](#) for the initiative.

Today we consider the last of the seven marks of a vital congregation – ecclesial health. A church is healthy when its mission, vision, and values match the life of the congregation. Health can be seen in stewardship, worship, leadership, and mission. Healthy churches value people over building and program. Becoming a healthy church requires prayer, conversation, and change. It is my hope that we might have 8-10 congregations as part of the first wave of this initiative. Will yours be one of those?

Blessings,
Melana

Help Needed for Project C.U.R.E.

Read the [newspaper article](#) about the wonderful project started by Bill and Judy Kraut of Presbyterian Church of the Covenant.



[50 Days of Spiritual Practices: Easter Themed Calendar](#)

Rev. Leslie Latham and Rev. Dorothy Pearman of the Presbytery of Western New York have created this calendar and have graciously shared it with us.

Support Wintergarden Presbyterian Church

Wintergarden is collecting votes in the *Nature's Path Garden Grant*. If you would like to help them in this, visit this [link](#) on Facebook, and vote for them.

[Leading the Church into the Post COVID World](#)

Tuesday, April 27, 2021, Eastern time, 3:00 - 4:30 pm via ZOOM

Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger

Click on title above for information flyer.

Registration is Now Open ... Click on the following link to register:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6H2HXmPaQQ-mhJLfv154RA

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: April 2021

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

Please email corrections or additions to lori@peaceriverpresbytery.org

Thursday, April 1

Mision Peniel Team (10:30 am by Zoom Conference)

Friday, April 2

Good Friday – Presbytery Offices Closed

Sunday, April 4

Easter

Thursday, April 8

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

Monday, April 12

Outreach and Nurture Team (10:00 am by Zoom Conference)

Tuesday, April 13

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

Wednesday, April 14

Human Resources Team (3:00 pm by Zoom Conference)

Cuba Partnership Task Force (5:00 pm by Zoom Conference)

Tuesday, April 27

“Leading the Church into the Post-Covid World”, with Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger

(Registration required; see the information flyer in this newsletter)

Thursday, April 29

Steering Committee (9:00 am by Zoom Conference)

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:

- The people of Myanmar

· Janet Schill – God has listened to the prayers of His people for my husband, Rev. Dr. Harry Schill. Surgery to remove the cancerous tumor and resect his body will be next Tuesday, April 13. I truly appreciate that you have included prayer requests for him in the presbytery newsletter. I ask for continued prayers for a successful surgery and recovery. Thank you and God bless!

Janet Schill

- Rev. Dr. Kathi Wiggins and Family – loss of her younger brother
- Becky Beckwith and Family – loss of husband, Jim Beckwith (past Moderator of Presbytery and Committee on Ministry member). Address for Becky Beckwith: 617 Woodlawn Drive, Bradenton, FL 34210
- Our Nation
- The Congregations and Pastors of Peace River Presbytery
- 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.