



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ April 16, 2021

Dear Friends,

For the last year I have cut my husband's hair and he has cut mine. He does a better job with mine than I do with his, but I am really looking forward to getting a professional to cut my hair again soon. This year we have had to make many changes in our routines, schedules, and choices. The way we shop, work, and teach our children has shifted. Our church experience has altered over this year too, some for the better, and some not. I must admit that I much prefer in-person worship to watching virtual worship despite the tremendous creativity I have seen online. It seems that sometime in the next year we will be able to return to in-person activities without restrictions. The question in my mind is what do we want to keep from the things we have changed.

Many people found that a slower pace was life-giving. We discovered that we can continue to engage with members and friends of the church who spend months in northern states. People who are not able to attend worship can do so via online worship and still feel part of the congregation despite having to be at home. We found creative ways to support and encourage one another. What are the things that you will keep from this time, for yourself and for your church?

For the last two decades church leaders have been saying that we are in a time of new reformation for the church. It was a very slow reformation for most churches because change is difficult. But because of COVID, we had to change many things in the course of weeks. Let's not go back to what is comfortable and familiar. Let's continue to innovate and find new ways to reach people for Jesus Christ.

I invite you to share some of the innovations you have used during this year and what you plan to continue. This time has been an opportunity to encourage us to move into creative, vital ways to share the gospel. Let's keep moving forward.

Blessings,
Melana

Churches in the News

[Christ Church of Longboat Key](#)

Funeral Expense Assistance

FEMA is providing grants to pay for funerals of those who have died from COVID. Information is on the resources [page](#) of the presbytery under CDC and Health Advice.

[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.

[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

Position Openings at Churches (Non-Clergy)

Children and Youth Coordinator - First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota

[Position Description](#)

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Audio-Video Coordinator - Christ Church of Longboat Key

[Position Description](#)

### Misión Peniel: a Ministry of Peace River Presbytery

Web Site: [www.misionpeniel.org](http://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](mailto:miguel@peacriverpresbytery.org)

Ruth DeYoe, Mission Coordinator – [ruth@peacriverpresbytery.org](mailto:ruth@peacriverpresbytery.org)

### Presbytery Calendar: April 2021

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)

#### **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)

**Friday, April 16**

Finance Team/Board of Trustees – Called Meeting (1:00 pm by Zoom Conference)

**Tuesday, April 20**

Mision Peniel Team – Called Meeting (10:30 am 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](http://www.beth-el.org)
- Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center: [www.cedarkirk.org](http://www.cedarkirk.org)
- Presbyterian Homes & Housing Foundation of FL: [www.phhf.com](http://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 Thursday, April 15. 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

- 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](mailto:lori@peacriverpresbytery.org) or 941-426-8421, ext. 401.