



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ July 16, 2021

From the General Presbyter

Dear Friends,

We find ourselves in a liminal space in church life – we are on the edge of something new. We have left behind what was, but we are not fully arrived in what will be. In fact, we are creating the space to which we will arrive as we move forward. That is exciting and frightening at the same time. Every day this week I have had conversations with pastors and elders about the unknownness of the future. We are finding more questions than answers at every turn. We would much prefer to have answers. Yet it is often in the midst of the questions that we recognize the Spirit of God at work. When we don't know where to go, we are more open to seeing where God is leading. Prayer is our space for becoming aware of God's plans, so liminal space is a space for prayer.

We are people of action and decisions. Too often our actions move us right past what God is calling us to do. Prayer and discernment require us to slow down, to wait, to listen for the Holy Spirit's whisper. We prefer to stumble forward at a quick pace, even if we don't know exactly where we are heading. God calls us to slow down and listen first.

A small group of people have been meeting for about 8 months to discern whether God might be calling us to do something new in the Babcock Ranch area. We have talked about what a fresh expression of faith and discipleship might be in a place that is built on a commitment to environmental concerns. We have come to the place where we realize our most important thing is to pray – pray that God would show us what, if anything, we are being called to do in that area. We would like to invite you to join us in that prayer from now until Sept. 10 when the team will gather in Babcock Ranch and begin talking with people about what is happening in their lives. Prayer is powerful and will open us to God's will, not just our own. We thank you for joining us in this time of discernment.

Blessings,
Melana

The Steering Committee has approved changing the third stated meeting of 2021 to Thursday, October 14. This will be another virtual meeting via Zoom. We will meet at Cedarkirk on November 17-18 for a retreat and opportunity for in-person fellowship after this long period of separation during the pandemic.

Special Called Meeting of Presbytery

Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 2:00 pm via Zoom

Pre-Registration is required by noon, Wednesday, July 21.

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An email notice was sent on July 14 with the registration information.

If you did not receive the email from Alesia,  
please contact her asap at [alesia@peacriverpresbytery.org](mailto:alesia@peacriverpresbytery.org).

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The meeting packet is posted on the Presbytery's web site, under:
Events and News/Peace River Presbytery/Stated and Called Meetings/
Highlights, Minutes and Packets

The User Name and Password are required to access the packet.
Please contact the Presbytery Office if you need assistance.

Blessing Grants

The image shows the cover of a 'Blessing Grants' application packet. The background is a dark brown color. At the top, the text 'Be a blessing.' is written in a large, white, serif font. Below it, in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, is 'BLESSING GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 1'. The central part of the cover features a circular inset image showing two hands reaching towards each other against a sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. Below the circular image, the text 'Download the application at PeaceRiverPresbytery.org' is written in a small, white, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for 'Blessing Grants' which includes a stylized palm tree and the text 'Peace River Presbytery'.

Have you considered any new mission and ministry opportunities for your congregation?

Apply for a Blessing Grant to help fund your project or program.

Visit www.peacriverpresbtery.org and download the information packet
about Blessing Grants today.

Applications are due by September 1 but can be turned in by August 1
if you would like your information to be reviewed by our committee.

We look forward to learning more about how the Spirit is moving in your community!
We hope the funds available will help you move forward. - Outreach and Nurture Team

Around the Presbytery

Position Openings:

Siesta Key Chapel, Sarasota

Administrator

[Job Posting](#)

[Position Description](#)

Music Director

[Job Posting](#)

[Position Description](#)

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**Lely Presbyterian Church, Naples**

**Music Director**

[Job Posting](#)

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Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers

Director of Christian Education

[Job Posting](#)

[Position Description](#)

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: July 2021

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

Please email corrections or additions to lori@peacriverpresbytery.org

Thursday, July 1

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

Sunday, July 4

Independence Day – Happy Birthday United States of America!

Monday, July 5

Presbytery Offices Closed

Thursday, July 8

Finance Team (9:30 am by Zoom Conference)

Sunday, July 11

Clerk of Session Training (2:30-5:00 pm by Zoom Conference)

Wednesday, July 14

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

Thursday, July 15

Steering Committee (9:00 am by Zoom Conference)

Thursday, July 22

Special Called Meeting of Presbytery (2:00 pm by Zoom Conference)

Team, Committee, and other meetings are being conducted via Zoom Video Conference.
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 families and friends of the victims of the Surfside, FL condo collapse. Protection for the recovery workers.
- DeAnne Sawyer (former Mision Peniel Team Co-Moderator) – continued recovery
- Rev. Dr. Harry Schill – health
- Our Nation
- The Congregations and Pastors of Peace River Presbytery
- The people of Myanmar
- 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.