



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ July 23, 2021

From the General Presbyter

Dear Friends,

Do you ever wonder how people who say they don't believe in God can get through life? I wonder because no matter how many difficult things are happening in the world, my trust and faith in God continues to give me hope. I believe that God can bring good out of all the bad in the world, that God can, by the Holy Spirit, help us love one another and all of God's creation. Karl Barth said he prayed with the newspaper in one hand and the Bible in the other. We live in that liminal space between the world as it is now and the fullness of God's coming kingdom. The church is the place where we get the best glimpse of who God created us to be and how to move toward that coming kingdom. I would like to hear from you some of the ways you are moving toward God's kingdom.

Thank you to all who were present for the called presbytery meeting about Misión Peniel. This presbytery has supported some tremendous work with vulnerable workers in Immokalee and that has grown exponentially during the pandemic. Thank you to all the churches and individuals who give to the work and who volunteer to serve. The need continues as the virus increases again.

Please mark your calendars – the fall stated meeting of presbytery has been changed to Thursday, Oct. 14, and will be via Zoom. We will have a fall retreat Nov. 17 and 18 at Cedarkirk to celebrate being able to be together in person. More details on that retreat will be coming soon.

During these summer months I hope you are finding time for rest and rejuvenation. There will be no newsletter next week so that staff can enjoy time away.

Blessings,
Melana

Blessing Grants

Be a blessing.

BLESSING GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 1



Download the application at PeaceRiverPresbytery.org



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.peaceriverpresbtery.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



The
Outreach
FOUNDATION™

Cuba Appeal

Cubans are now experiencing the gravest economic crisis in 30 years. With food and medicine in short supply and available goods priced beyond the reach of most people, our Presbyterian family there (the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Cuba) has an urgent need to assist its 60 congregations – most of which are found in small towns with few resources – to meet their basic needs.



In addition, when the Pediatric Hospital in Matanzas reached capacity at the end of June, our seminary partner there, the Evangelical Theological Seminary, was asked to open their large dorm to accommodate the overflow of children who were testing positive from Covid-19 and a family member for each child. This facility is now running at full capacity and, each day, the kitchen staff feeds 140 patients and medical personnel. Although the government supplies food, the seminary is needing to cover kitchen and cleaning staff plus utilities, such as water and electricity, which have both risen in cost by more than 130%.

In response, The Outreach Foundation is seeking support for our partners in Cuba to aid during this time of crisis.

The Outreach Foundation
381 Riverside Drive, Suite 110
Franklin, TN 37064

<https://www.theoutreachfoundation.org>

Visit the web site for information on how you can give to the “Cuba Emergency Appeal”.

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

Thank You From:

- DeAnne Sawyer (former Mision Peniel Team Co-Moderator) – for all of your prayers for her heart surgery and recovery. She is doing well.

Please pray for:

- Rev. Eddie Bellis and Family – loss of his father

Rev. Bellis' address for cards is:

Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church

8260 Cypress Lake Drive | Fort Myers, FL 33919-5118

- 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.