



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ August 20, 2021

Dear Friends,

This article is all about information to be shared with your congregations. If there are people you think are interested in what is here, please forward this to them or send a message to have their email added to our newsletter list. Some very exciting things are happening in the life of the presbytery. It is a real joy to be a connectional church!

Devon Andrews, our new coordinator for Vital Congregations, has been offering informational Zoom calls for anyone who wants to attend. There are two more this coming week. Anyone is welcome to get on and learn about this initiative. Then the session can ask for someone to come share enough to decide if this would be an important step for the congregation moving into the future. Below you will find the dates and links for those informational meetings. If you cannot attend and would like to know more, email Devon at devon@peacriverpresbytery.org and she will be glad to find a time to share.

Our next stated meeting of presbytery will again be via Zoom on October 14. In November we are planning a celebration retreat at Cedarkirk, full of worship, fellowship, and play as we (hopefully) meet together in person for the first time since February 2020. You can find more information about the retreat on the presbytery [website](#) or see below. You can attend overnight or just for the day. We look forward to a joyous reunion!

Thanks to a church in the presbytery, we are now able to offer a grant for capital needs to churches. The [application form](#) is on the website and is similar to the digital task force application. The grant is up to \$10,000 and will cover 70% of the cost. Three bids will be needed and session minutes will need to be provided. The grant can cover things like upgrading restrooms for handicap access or replacing an AC unit or other capital improvements. We thank the congregation that had the vision to provide this opportunity so that churches can keep their building up and still do the mission work that God is calling them to do. Applications will be considered as we receive them. Please send them to me at melana@peacriverpresbytery.org to be forwarded to the task group that will consider them.

Please be praying for the people of Cuba, Haiti, and Afghanistan and for the first responders at work in areas of disaster and rising COVID cases. Please consider wearing a mask and getting a vaccine out of love for others, particularly those who are immune-compromised or too young to be vaccinated.

I thank you for the work you are doing in your communities and pray God's continued strength on your journey.

Grace and peace,
Melana

Vital Congregations Initiative Reminder

Read the entire Vital Congregations Initiative [article](#) in last Friday's Presbytery E-Newsletter.

Two informational zoom meetings were held this week. Two more for you to consider joining are scheduled for next week and are listed below. More might come in September if these do not work for you.

Monday, August 23 at 1:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658838689?pwd=aU5RYUd1TVpgeGNoLzJZOUFkeWheUT09>

Tuesday, August 24 at 10:00 am

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658838689?pwd=aU5RYUd1TVpgeGNoLzJZOUFkeWheUT09>

In addition, I am available for one-on-one conversations as well. If you would like to schedule a one-on-one, please either email me back directly or visit this link to schedule an appointment:

<https://calendly.com/devonandrews>.

For more information from the denomination, you can click on this link: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/theology-formation-and-evangelism/vital-congregations/>

Rev. Devon Beisser Andrews
Vital Congregations and New Worshiping Communities Coordinator

Peace River Presbytery **Church Leadership Retreat**

at

Cedarkirk Camp & Conference Center
Wednesday, November 17 and Thursday, November 18
Registration Deadline: Thursday, September 9, 2021

All are welcome!

[Registration and Information Packet](#)

Includes:

Letter from the Communication, Connection, and Community Team
Registration Information and Schedule
Registration Form

Haiti Earthquake

Information on the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Response

[Click to read the article.](#)

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.

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

Board of Pensions Benefits Webcast

To assist congregational decision-makers as they consider their benefits decisions for 2022, The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will host a one-hour webcast, **What's Possible? Strategies to Serve Better.**

Those interested may register either for Wednesday, August 25, 12:00 – 1:00pm ET or again on August 26, 3-4pm ET.

Information regarding the webcast content, as well as the registration link, may be found at <https://www.pensions.org/our-role-and-purpose/the-connectional-church/gatherings-for-congregations/church-benefits-webcast/>

T. Clark Simmons
Senior Church Consultant



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Around the Presbytery

Position Openings:

**Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers
Spanish Pastor (Temporary Part-Time)**

[Job Posting](#)

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**First Presbyterian Church, Port Charlotte  
Organist**

[Job Posting](#)

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**Siesta Key Chapel, Sarasota
Music Director**

[Job Posting](#)

[Position Description](#)

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

## Presbytery Calendar: August 2021

You may view the entire calendar on the Presbytery web site: [www.peaceriverpresbytery.org](http://www.peaceriverpresbytery.org)  
Please email corrections or additions to [lori@peaceriverpresbytery.org](mailto:lori@peaceriverpresbytery.org)

### ***Thursday, August 5***

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

**Sunday, August 8**

- College and Young Adult Sunday

**Monday, August 9**

- CCC Team (3:00 pm by Zoom Conference)

**Tuesday, August 10**

- Committee On Ministry (9:00 am by Zoom Conference)

**Wednesday, August 11**

- Committee on Preparation for Ministry (10:00 am by Zoom Conference)
- Human Resources Team (3:00 pm by Zoom Conference)
- Cuba Partnership Task Force (5:00 pm by Zoom Conference)

**Thursday, August 12**

- Finance Team (9:30 am by Zoom Conference)

**Monday, August 23**

- Vital Congregations Informational Meeting (1:30 pm by Zoom Conference)  
*(link in article above)*

**Tuesday, August 24**

- Vital Congregations Informational Meeting (10:00 am by Zoom Conference)  
*(link in article above)*

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](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:**

- Haiti, Afghanistan, Cuba, Myanmar
- Rev. Dr. Taylor Hill – health
- Rev. Dr. Harry Schill – health
- 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.