



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ June 19, 2020

From the General Presbyter

Dear Friends,

Tonight our historic digital 224th General Assembly begins at 7pm ET. The first two hours will include motions about what business will be taken up by the commissioners and what will wait until the 225th General Assembly. There are no committees this year considering overtures or changes to the Book of Order. There was to be a total revision of the Rules of Discipline brought to the Assembly this year, but the plan is for that to wait until 2022. At 9pm, or so, this evening, the co-moderator candidates will be introduced and there will be a 45-minute question and answer period. Then commissioners and advisory delegates will cast votes to decide which pair will lead the Assembly for the next two years. This is always one of the highlights of the Assembly and you are invited to watch, which you can do at ga-pcusa.org. At that link you will find other ways you can connect to the work of the national church in the next week.

Please keep our commissioners in prayer as they serve in an unexpected way this year. Our commissioners are: the Rev. Dawn Mayes (Community, Englewood), Ruling Elder Clint Belk (Faith, Cape Coral), the Rev. Terri Jo Crego (Bee Ridge, Sarasota), Ruling Elder Barbara Weiss (First, Naples), and our Young Adult Advisory Delegate, Ruling Elder Carson Brown (Cypress Lake, Ft Myers). I would invite churches to support them with words of encouragement via email, which could be sent through their churches. Let them know you are praying for them and for the work of the PCUSA.

This week I received a link to a video from the Matthew 25 initiative that reminds us that churches are never closed, even if the buildings are. Here is the [link](#) to that video that is short enough to share in worship.

Please contact me if there are ways I can be of support to you or your church.

Blessings,
Melana

Save Our Homes Fund

First Church Bonita Springs has established a "Save Our Homes Fund" to provide financial assistance to the recently unemployed of our local work force in Lee and Collier Counties. Up to \$1,000 per person or family is available to those who have lost their jobs or are experiencing other hardships due to the coronavirus shutdown. Checks are written to mortgage companies, landlords and utility companies to allow people to keep their homes while searching for a new job (or waiting to be called back to work). All applicants are vetted by one of our local social service agencies.

Many church members who were not personally affected financially have given their “stimulus” checks and other gifts to supplement this fund, as a way of showing our Christian compassion to our neighbors in their time of need. To date over \$155,000 has been contributed by the congregation.

For information, contact the church directly: 239-992-3233

Presbytery Calendar: June 2020

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

Please email corrections or additions to lori@peaceriverpresbytery.org

Friday, June 19, Friday, June 26, and Saturday, June 27

224th (2020) General Assembly (On Line Meeting)

Team, Committee, and other meetings are being conducted via video conferencing during this time of the stay-at-home guidelines. Please check the web site calendar regularly for additions or changes.

A Reminder

The staff of the Presbytery Office continues to work diligently for you, while doing so remotely and safely. Mail is being picked up daily.

Please check the web site for the staff’s cell phone numbers, should you need to reach any of them by phone.

[Contact PRP Staff](#)

Cedarkirk at Home Brings Summer Camp to Your Living Room

Even though we can’t be together physically this summer, we are sending fun and faith-forming camp experiences to our campers! Cedarkirk at Home combines a box full of camp goodies, curriculum, activity supplies, and surprises, with virtual small group Bible studies and activity sessions led by Cedarkirk counselors. In this way, we can still build our unique camp community, deepen personal connections to God, learn from one another, and have all sorts of silly camp fun even though we can’t be together at camp.

If your church is struggling with what kind of summer program or VBS to provide your young people, this could be a unique opportunity for you! Your children and youth could sign up for the same week, participate in the program with one another, and make some new friends, too!

Our theme, LET’S TALK, will explore all the ways we can connect to God through prayer, and discover what communication with God has to do with renewal, guidance, and change!



For Cedarkirk at Home information and online registration, check out our website:

www.cedarkirk.org/cedarkirk-at-home.

Church Supplies Available

The congregation of Westminster Presbyterian in Bradenton is selling their property and moving to “nest” in the facility of Palma Sola Presbyterian.

The following items are available for the asking to any church or person:

- Office furniture
- Tables and chairs for Fellowship Halls, etc
- Dishes, silverware, serving pieces, pots, pans, cooking utensils
- Library books, Bibles, shelving
- Worship supplies, including communion ware, candle holders, 1990 Presbyterian Hymnals (the blue ones)

Is there something you need that is not listed here? Call and ask!

Contact John Progar at 941-840-2709 or progarjl@aol.com.

COVID-19 Wish List for Beth-El Farmworker Ministry

Diapers, Size 4 and 5	Gift Cards	All Purpose Flour	Peanut Butter
Sanitizer	Deodorant	Spaghetti Sauce	Pancake Mix
Face Masks	Toothpaste	Powdered Milk	Granola Bars
Gloves	Feminine Products	Evaporated Milk	Apple Sauce
Paper Products	Adult Diapers	Boxed Cereal	Macaroni and Cheese
Sanitizing Detergents	Baby Wipes	Canned Meats	Maseca Tortilla Mix
Disinfecting Wipes	Bread	Canned Fruits	Rice and Beans
Bar Soap	Coffee	Pasta	Crackers
Toilet Paper	Oats	Rice	Canned Vegetables

If you can help provide any of these items, please call Beth-El at 813-633-1548.

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

Misión Peniel: a Ministry of Peace River Presbytery

Web Site: www.misionpeniel.org

Prayer Needs

Please pray for:

- Pete Rodino (Mision Peniel Team Co-Moderator) and Family in the loss of his Father-in-Law
- Barbara Stephenson (Elder, Siesta Key Chapel and Friend of Marg Towner) – hospitalized from a fall
- Elder Wayne Largent (PRP Moderator) in the loss of his wife, Anita (Clerk of Session, Community P.C.)
- COVID-19 and Economic Recovery
- Front Line Health Care Workers and other First Responders
- 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

Ongoing Prayers for our brothers and sisters in Cuba:

- We have been asked to join them in prayer at 9:30 am each morning in solidarity during this difficult time.
- We also pray for their wellbeing and safety during this time of crisis, both physically and spiritually.

Churches of Peace River Presbytery

Please visit our web site, www.peaceriverpresbytery.org/churches

Click on the city, then the church, to visit their web site.



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@peaceriverpresbytery.org or 941-426-8421, ext. 401.