



PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ May 14, 2021

From the General Presbyter

Dear Friends,

Thank you to everyone who was able to join the Presbytery meeting this week. Our apologies for those who had difficulty getting on because our capacity had been met. Evidently Zoom changed our account without our consent, but thankfully clicked a button to increase our capacity again. It was a wonderful meeting with so many great reports and exciting actions that will lead us into the future. Special thanks to Hmingi Browne for the sermon and liturgy and to the staff at Church of the Palms who recorded for her, to Northminster for their inspirational ministry, and to the churches who reported on their use of Blessing Grants. We are grateful to partner with the Vital Congregations Initiative and hope that many of you will look into being more fully involved. Please contact me if you would like more information.

By now you may have seen that the CDC has changed the recommended guidelines on masks for those who are fully vaccinated, meaning two weeks past a second vaccine. The guidelines now allow those who are vaccinated not to wear masks inside unless it is a large, close gathering. Sessions and pastors can decide what is best for their congregations with regard to masks, singing, and choirs. We still need to be aware of those who are immune-compromised and wish to worship in person. Thank you for all you have done over the last 15 months to continue to be faithful in worship and mission while keeping people safe.

You may have heard in my report at the Presbytery meeting that I will be on vacation from May 14-31. I will not be checking email or answering phone calls. If you need something please contact Alesia, Lori, or Randy and they will assist you. Rest and renewal are gifts from God and many pastors have not taken much time in these COVID months. I encourage you to take your vacation and continuing education this year so that you can continue to serve God faithfully and joyfully.

Blessings,
Melana

Synod of South Atlantic Webinar: “So You Are Thinking of Retiring”

Tuesday, June 15, 4:00-5:40 pm via Zoom

[Click for Registration Information](#)

News from FLAPDAN
**(Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network,
in Partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance)**

Hurricane Season Preparedness Tips

“It’s that time of year again! Colorado State University has announced their predictions as “above average” for the 2021 Hurricane Season. Thankfully we have a much better hold on the coronavirus pandemic than we did a year ago. Still, we need to prepare for this season with our safety protocols in minds.”

Please read the entire newsletter from [FLAPDAN](#) for information.

There is also information on the Presbytery’s Resource Page about Disaster Preparedness.

Around the Presbytery

Saturday, June 12, 10:00 am-1:00 pm
Wintergarden Presbyterian Church’s
Garden of Eatin’ Community Garden and Food Forest
Dedication & Pig Roast
See [Information Flyer](#)
All are invited and welcome!

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:**

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## Presbytery Calendar: May 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, May 6**

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

### **Sunday, May 9**

Happy Mother's Day

### **Tuesday, May 11**

Committee on Ministry (9:00 am by Zoom Conference)

### **Wednesday, May 12**

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, May 13**

Stated Meeting of Presbytery (9:00 am by Zoom Conference / 8:00 am Check In Begins)

### **Monday, May 17**

Outreach and Nurture Team (10:00 am by Zoom Conference)

### **Thursday, May 20**

Finance Team/Board of Trustees (9:30 am by Zoom Conference)

### **Monday, May 31**

Memorial Day – Presbytery Offices Closed

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
- Rev. Dr. Harry Schill – for successful recovery following surgery to remove a cancerous tumor.
- 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.