



# PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY



## Presbytery Weekly E-Newsletter ~ November 19, 2021

### Cedarkirk Retreat

Friends in Christ,

This past week, your presbytery gathered for a magnificent time of conversation, discovery, and celebration of our ability to regather safely at Cedarkirk, the “place apart” that is jointly owned by Peace River and Tampa Bay presbyteries. Together, we ate wonderful meals, toasted by the fire, flew on the zip-line, rested on rocking chairs, heard updates from many of our covenant partners, worshipped with song, drums, and communion, and dreamed about the exciting new places to which God is calling us.

The theme of this retreat was Genesis 28:10-16, Jacob’s dream of a ladder to heaven. As Pastor Terri Jo Crego (Bee Ridge, Sarasota) reminded us through her message, this was not a way for Jacob to climb up to God, but for God to climb down to us, as He has done for each of us during this pandemic.

Our first in-person presbytery gathering beyond COVID-19 did not disappoint. We had the chance to say “thank you” and “goodbye” to former Moderator Wayne Largent (Community, Englewood), as he prepares to move to Tallahassee. In addition to recognizing the contributions of our leadership throughout this pandemic through the Human Resources Team’s announcement that our staff will be receiving “COVID bonuses” for their hard work, we were able to celebrate and discuss the resiliency of our congregations over these past nearly two years, and had the opportunity to dream for the future of how we can do ministry in this new time, work together as churches, and share with one another to forge a stronger future in Southwest Florida.

I’d like to thank the members of the Communication, Connection, and Community Team — Rev. Rob Marrow (Vanderbilt, Naples and Co-Moderator), Rev. Carolyn Wilson (Venice, Venice), Rev. Kevin Morris (Estero Community, Estero), Gayla Huston (Burnt Store, Punta Gorda), Amy Cerniglia (Peace, Lakewood Ranch), Dawnmarie Daniels-Carsky (Bee Ridge, Sarasota), Jim O’Harrow (Community, Englewood), and Lynn Webster (First, Port Charlotte) — for their incredible work since June in planning this retreat. We also thank Elizabeth Deibert (Peace, Lakewood Ranch), Devon Andrews (Wintergarden, Port Charlotte), Melana Scruggs, and Terri Jo Crego for their help in leading our time together. And finally, we salute Matt Shick and Mark Orendorf — Cedarkirk’s executive and assistant directors — for helping us to make this event a success.

We invite you to view some of the pictures in this newsletter to see the fun and truly exciting time we had...and stay on the lookout for information about the next Peace River Presbytery gathering.

Celebrating our time together as one family in Christ,

Carson Brown

Co-Moderator, Communication, Connection, and Community Team





## **Happy Thanksgiving to You!**

There will not be an E-Newsletter next week.  
The offices are closed Wednesday-Friday.  
The Staff wishes you and yours a wonderful Thanksgiving.

## **Around the Presbytery**

### ***Position Opening:***

**Siesta Key Chapel, Sarasota**

**Part-Time Bookkeeper**

[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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## **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 Gilmore Family – loss of Elizabeth “Betty” Gilmore on November 9. Betty was married to The Rev. Ernie Gilmore, who was the pastor of FPC Bradenton for 25+ years.
- Rev. Dr. Sally Bull (HR) – loss of her husband on October 31
- Rev. Dr. Jeff DeYoe (Covenant, Ft. Myers) – health
- Mía Estrada (Pastor Miguel's 7-year old daughter) – health
- Rev. Dr. Taylor Hill – health
- Afghanistan, Haiti, Cuba, Myanmar
- 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, PC(USA) 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.