



Our Mission:

To identify and strengthen leaders so that every congregation makes new and mature disciples for Jesus Christ.

Presbytery Happenings

I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving and first Sunday in Advent!

In this edition of the eNews, we're sharing some pictures of the recent Presbytery meeting as well as Thanksgiving at Beth-El (see below). Hopefully these will help us to know one another better. Also, look forward to more editions of "Better Know a Presbyter" soon! It's important that we know each other if we're going to support and help each other.

As usual, please check out the other news and resources below, and if you have a joy, concern, resource or just something you want to share, please let me know!

In Christ,

Rev. Dave Baker,
Stated Clerk and Director of Communications
Presbytery of Tampa Bay



News From Around the Presbytery

Presbytery Summary and New COM Forms

Below you'll find a summary of the actions taken at the most recent Presbytery meeting:

[Summary of November 17th, 2016 Stated Presbytery Meeting](#)

While I'm sure you'd be satisfied with that to read, I also want to make sure that you notice a few documents just approved by the Commission on Ministry; a through revision of the COM Manual and the F1 form for 2017:

[New COM Manual](#) (Teaching Elders especially should become familiar with this)

[2017 F1 Form](#) (Notice the new minimum terms of call for 2017)

Presbytery Pictorial Recap



Registration at FPC Lakeland



Keynote Speaker Jill Duffield and
Rev. Carl Lammers



One of our Host Pastors, Kenny Ellis



Moderator Mike Loudon, Vice Moderator Libby
Shannon, and Coordinating Team Chair
Marsha Rydberg

**Production of Oft Told Story
at Hope Presbyterian Church**

the oft told story

A funny, musical story about the birth of Jesus
told through the eyes and voices of the animals in the stable.
Experience it for yourself, and bring your family & friends.
It's fun for all ages!

December 10 & 11

7:00 pm

Love Offering

For groups of 20 or more,
please call the Church office
to reserve seating.

Hope Presbyterian Church
2110 Cypress Gardens Blvd.
Winter Haven (863)324-6382



December 10 & 11 at 7:00 PM

A funny, musical story about the birth of Jesus told through the eyes and voices of the animals in the stable. Experience it for yourself, and bring your family & friends. Its fun for all ages!

Blue Christmas Service

On Wed., Dec. 7, a Blue Christmas service will be held in the Chapel of First Presbyterian Church, 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr., Lakeland, at 6:00 p.m. This follows the usual Wednesday night dinner at 5:15. The cost of the dinner is \$7.50, and reservations must be made to the church (863-686-7187) by Mon., Dec. 5. FPC and the Presbyterian Homes are planning this service for their members and residents, as well as for anyone else who would like to join us.

This will be a service of healing, comfort and hope for people for whom the holiday season evokes memories of sadness and longing. It will include appropriate scripture, prayer, music, and candle lighting. It is our desire that those who come with heavy hearts will leave with burdens lifted. All will be reassured that God came to be with us in the Christ Child to bring light and life into all our dark places.

**PEACE MEMORIAL 2016-17
CONCERT SERIES**



WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 at 3 PM

WHAT: MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ST. PETERSBURG (RUSSIA)

Peace Memorial continues its music series with a charming vocal concert. Coming to us all the way from Russia, the dramatic ChoRuss Vocal Ensemble will treat us to their rich voices and stir your holiday spirits. Their program will feature Russian classics by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and more, plus delightful traditional folk melodies and Christmas selections.

WHO: CHORUSS VOCAL ENSEMBLE: Dmitry Petrov, Tenor; Marina Trufanova, Mezzo-soprano; Natalja Amelchenko, Soprano; Dmitry Yakushin, Tenor; Andrey Pugachev, Bass. These talented professional singers have toured extensively in Russia as well as in Germany, France, Switzerland and Great Britain. Their selections of spiritual a-cappella music and Russian folk and Christmas songs will be perfectly complimented by the rich acoustics of Peace Church.

WHERE: Peace Memorial Presb. Church (the pink church downtown) 110 S. Ft. Harrison Ave., Clwr. (corner of Pierce and Ft. Harrison).

CHARGE: No tickets needed and seating is first come, first served. An offering will be taken (\$5-10 minimum suggested). Doors open at 2:30.

RECEPTION: After the concert, there is a light reception in the fellowship hall so you can meet, greet and thank the musicians.

PARKING: There are four primary areas: 1) west and behind the church off of Pierce 2) directly east across Ft Harrison in large County lot (reserved for Peace church events on Sundays) 3) in lot north of the church fellowship hall and 4) west in the City Hall lot.

INFO: For more info, visit www.peacememorial.org or call the church office at (727) 446 3001 or Concert Series Chair, Beth Daniels at (727) 461 1818.



110 S. Fort Harrison Avenue • Clearwater, FL 33756
www.PeaceMemorial.org • 727.446.3001

2016-17 Concert Schedule

(programs are Sundays at 3PM)

Feb. 12 "Pipe Organ: Robust Romantics"

Peace Memorial's magnificent Cassavant pipe organ will be put through its full paces by Dwight Thomas, Director of Music and Organist at St. Peter's Cathedral. With a Masters in Music from Indiana University, Mr. Thomas will present a lovely and varied program emphasizing works from Romantic composers, including Mendelssohn, Brahms, Widor, and Vierne. The Clearwater Chapter of the American Guild of Organist is co-sponsoring this concert.

Mar. 12 "Young Genius of the Piano"

Just in time to brighten our Spring, award winning teenage concert pianist Noah Waddell will bring us classical masterworks from Beethoven, Chopin, Rachmaninoff, and more. Noah hales from Ft. Myers and has been wowing audiences since he started performing concerts at the tender age of ten.

Mission Interest

Giving Thanks at Beth-El



The line stretched out as far as the eye could see.

I am sure that is the prayer of every retailer as they look forward to Black Friday and dream of blockbuster sales. The view, however, has been quite different from my vantage point at Beth-El Farmworker Ministry. Over the last week I have seen first hand the bounty of God's grace.

On Saturday, thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers, the mission traveled to a local farm to provide a Thanksgiving dinner to some recently arrived farmworkers from Mexico. As the tables were set out and the turkey and dressing prepared, we watched row upon row of farmworkers lineup in readiness for the meal. It was a beautiful site that no single photo could ever capture as we fed almost 300 men in thankfulness for the work that they will do every day (even holidays) to provide the bounty for our tables.

It has been a challenging time at the mission. We continue to hear stories of our children being bullied in school. Some kids are chided as to when they will be taken from their homes and sent to Mexico. For many the future seems far from bright or hopeful. Yet, we press on.

In recent months, the demand for food from our pantry has been overwhelming. Last week we had to turn people away before noon because we simply had nothing left to give out. The walls of our pantry were bare except for a dozen or so cans of tomato sauce. But thanks to the generosity of numerous churches and community partners our pantry was ready again to meet the crowd this week. Over 600 families (about 2400 men, women and children) came through the pantry on Tuesday--the busiest I have ever seen since my time at the mission.

Challenging times are still ahead, but through it all, we give thanks to the many ways God's grace continues to move us onward.

From all of us at Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, we wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving.

Dios le bendiga,

Kathy



Thanksgiving at the Farm







Upcoming Workshops

Communication Workshop Replay

A few weeks ago, almost 40 of you came out to the Communication Workshop presented by staff from the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA). If you were unable to attend, or just missed out for whatever reason, you can catch the replay here:



All associated documents are downloadable from the description below the video. If you're interested in getting the word out about your church's mission via social media, websites, or the local news, I highly recommend you check this out, and share this resource with others in your church! The first part of the seminar is best done in a small group within your church. Fair warning, there's a lot of material!

1001 New Worshiping Communities announces webinar schedule



Following is a partial schedule of upcoming free webinars offered by 1001 New Worshiping Communities, along with registration links for each presentation. All webinars begin at 2 p.m. Eastern Time.

- **Thursday, September 15**
[Hispanic Ministry](#)-Pablo Rivera Madera, pastor and U.S. Army chaplain.
Join a PC(USA) pastor in an ongoing conversation on developing and sustaining a vital Hispanic ministry. Offer your suggestions for Hispanic ministry.
- **Thursday, September 29**
[Grants](#)-Vera White and Tim McCallister, Presbyterian Mission Agency
Learn about the 1001 New Worshiping Communities grant process.
- **Wednesday, October 19**
[Rural Ministry](#)-Edwin Lacy, pastor, Wild Goose Christian Community.
Learn from the experience of a pastor who felt God's call to develop a new worshiping community in rural Appalachia. Consider what you can do in your community.
[Watch the Wild Goose video.](#)
- **Wednesday, November 2**
[Evangelism in Your Community](#)-Christopher James, assistant professor of Evangelism and Missional Christianity, University of Debuque.
Christopher is the author of several articles on missional practice and church planting including "Practices for a Missional Church Planting Order" (Journal of Missional Practice, 2013) and "Some Fell on Good Soil: Church Planting in Religious Ecologies" (Witness, 2013).
- **Wednesday, December 7**
[Nones and Dones](#) -Renee Roederer, ordained PC(USA) minister, Ann

Arbor, Michigan.

Be inspired by a minister working alongside others to create new worshiping communities in the Presbytery of Detroit, communities that include those who are religiously unaffiliated (the Nones) and those who seek new, emerging visions for their faith expression (the Dones).

The first 25 registrants for each webinar can choose to participate via a computer webcam or by voice. And, up to 100 registrants can listen and learn without being active participants. Registrants will receive a reminder email prior to the webinar, which will include a link and directions.

If you have questions or suggestions for future webinar topics or presenters, contact Sean Chow at sean.chow@pcusa.org.

Job Opportunities

Director of Student Ministries



First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven Full Time Position

Our 1000 member Florida Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation is seeking an enthusiastic leader to continue the expansion of our youth ministry program! Our location half-way between both coasts and an hour from Orlando and Tampa provides many exciting opportunities for youth activities. We are seeking a Christ-filled individual who is organized, able to work well with and lead others, and who has the passion and ability to inspire and connect with our middle and high school youth.

We value our youth ministry program and offer a competitive salary and benefits package for this full-time position. Please visit our website at www.firstpreswh.org for more information about our church. Inquiries may be emailed to ysearch@firstpreswh.org or mailed to the church office (Attn: Director of Student Ministries Search Committee, First Presbyterian Church, 637 Sixth Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881).

Part Time Nursery Assistant at St. Andrew, New Tampa

Responsible for providing nursery care for children under three years old,

ensuring their safety, health, cleanliness and well-being. Regular hours are Sunday 9am-12pm. Addition church events as needed. Located in Tampa Palms close to I75. Minimum of two years professional childcare experience, part-time or full-time, or be a parent. Current CPR certification or be willing to receive certification. Pay rate is \$50.00 for Sunday (9-12) and \$16.50 per hour for additional events. Call 813-513-8822 for additional information. Email resume to: office@standrewnewtampa.org.

Korean Presbyterian Church of Tampa Job Opening:

Full-time or Part-Time EM Pastor

KPCT is currently seeking an EM Pastor to shepherd the Young Adult and Youth Group of high school and middle school students. The church is located at 6510 Yosemite Dr., Tampa, FL 33634.

For more information please contact Ki Choi at kih.choi3@gmail.com or read the [position description](#).

Presbytery of Tampa Bay | 813 868 4800 | presbyteryoftampabay.com