

**Update from Misión Peniel and Beth-El Farmworker Ministry for the Presbytery
of Tampa Bay and Peace River Presbytery**

July 2009

As many of you are aware, the financial reductions of the covenant partners of the Presbytery have made this difficult year even more challenging. Beth-El and Misión Peniel has been reduced \$36,450 by the Presbytery of Tampa Bay and at least \$41,000 by Peace River Presbytery. This has obviously required some adjustments to our 2009 budget.

At the May and June Board of Directors meetings, the following decisions were made:

1. Elimination of the Mission Educator (Christian Educator) position.
2. Reduction in salary and wages of all personnel by 3%.
3. Suspension of Misión Peniel on December 31, 2009.
4. Reduction of summer programs for children.
5. Some sixty additional line items were reduced or eliminated.

Committees have been formed by both Presbyteries to address the reductions to both covenant partners (Cedarkirk and Beth-El).

Additionally, those churches that are sending volunteers to Misión Peniel for the Friday meal distribution are being asked to provide \$150 for those specific expenses. We are able to provide a simple warm meal to over 300 farmworkers with these funds. Without these funds we would need to suspend the meal distribution program.

We are blessed to be in covenant with you, and ask for your prayers during this difficult economic time. Should you have additional thoughts/recommendations/ or concerns, please email dave@beth-el.info