



The Interpreter

PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY

AUGUST 2011

Please Note: General Presbyter Graham Hart is on study leave, vacation, and sabbatical, and will resume *Speaking from the Hart* when he returns.

We believe Peace River Presbytery is called to affirm congregations, to connect disciples in mission, and to be the body of Christ together.

Please pray for the church of the week:

August 7 Kirkwood, Bradenton
August 14 Palma Sola, Bradenton
August 21 Westminster, Bradenton
August 28 Faith, Cape Coral



CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Rev. Dr. Roger Kunkel – June 29, 2011

THE NEXT STATED MEETING

**Saturday, August 27, 2011
9:00 a.m.
Chapel by the Sea, Fort Myers Beach**



2011 Peacemaking Offering

**Received by most churches on World Communion
Sunday, October 2, 2011**

Both the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the Peacemaking Offering celebrated their thirtieth anniversary in 2010. The Offering was organized following the adoption by the General Assembly of [Peacemaking: The Believers' Calling](#), which called for an emphasis on peacemaking across the Presbyterian

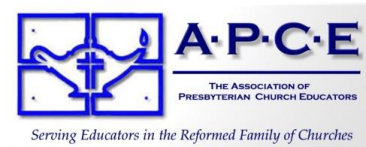
Church (U.S.A.). This year as your church plans to receive this Offering, remember the peacemakers of years past — in your congregation, presbytery, synod and the denomination as a whole. Make this year a time to renew your commitment to peacemaking as part of your calling as a follower of Christ, who not only taught us the ways of peace but is our peace.



The theme for the 2011 Offering is "A Harvest of Justice Is Sown in Peace" (James 3:18). The art is Santa Cena, a serigraph by José Ignacio Fletes Cruz.

There are resources, ideas about promoting the Offering, and suggestions for how to use your congregation's share of the Offering. Order any resources that will help interpret the Offering by calling Presbyterian Distribution Service, (800)524-2612, or by using the order form found at

<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/specialofferings/peacemaking-offering/>



Calling all educators!

2012 Annual Event for the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE)

**February 1 - 4, 2012
Grand Rapids, Michigan**

Theme - "God's Surprising Wonders"

Leadership will include:

Rabbi Sandy Sasso
Dr. Carol Bechtel
Dr. Claudio Carvalhaes

For more information, go to www.apcenet.org.

CEDARKIRK



2011 Homecoming Celebration: Cedarkirk is celebrating 40 years of ministry with a special homecoming celebration on Labor Day weekend.

Please click [here](#) for more information and to register online or call 813-685-4224.

'A new texture of relationship' WORLD MISSION MATTERS ADDRESSING THREE ISSUES IN MISSION

Presbyterian News Service
by Bethany Furkin

INDIANAPOLIS – This is a time of remarkable mission work, but it's also a time of rapid decentralization, said the Rev. Hunter Farrell, speaking at a World Mission Matters lunch as part of Big Tent here.



Farrell, director of the General Assembly Mission Council's World Mission area, said that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) now has 11,000 mission agencies — congregations that send mission workers and organize mission trips.

"It's such a great time to be engaged in God's mission," Farrell said. "We need it so bad."

But often, mission agencies' best intentions are thwarted when they don't listen to feedback from their partners. For the past 18 months, World Mission has been carefully listening to its global partners about how to do mission in the 21st century.

Three central issues have emerged: the root causes of poverty, reconciliation amidst a culture of violence and sharing the love of Jesus Christ around the world.

Valéry Nodem, the Presbyterian Hunger Program's associate for international hunger, said that the church has the moral obligation and authority to fight poverty because it works alongside people every day. The Rev. Sarah Henken, World Mission's regional liaison for the Andean region, asked attendees to imagine what the world would look like if we really dedicated ourselves to reconciliation. We live in a world with dividing walls — literal walls of concrete and figurative walls of injustice, she said. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by these walls, but when we look through the eyes of God's love, we begin to see opportunities.

Although governments and NGOs (*non-governmental organizations*) can and should provide aid, the church alone is called to share the good news of Jesus Christ,

Farrell said. When working with unchurched people, it's important to be open, honest, respectful and humble when inviting them to see what God is doing.

Working with local partners to train leaders is also important. "God is calling us to begin a movement of God's people," he said, urging attendees to begin to "weave together a new texture of relationship."

Cabell-Lincoln County Work Camp



This past June, 39 senior high youth, 7 college students and 6 adult leaders from Peace River Presbytery traveled to West Virginia to participate in the Cabell-Lincoln County Work Camp. This is our Presbytery's 21st year of participating in the work camp. We were part of a camp of over 200 volunteers who spent a week serving the Lord by helping those in need to make their homes safe, warm, and dry. The Peace River participants represented the following churches: First Presbyterian (Sarasota), First Presbyterian (Port Charlotte), Church of the Palms (Sarasota), Cypress Lake (Fort Myers), Faith (Cape Coral), Moorings (Naples) and Whitfield Estates (Sarasota). Thank you to our Presbytery and other churches that supported the camp by your donations to Nickels for Nails. Thank you to Mike Bicknese for organizing this inspirational and needed trip.



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