

Tampa Bay e-News

Issue of e-News
for
October 3

I chose you and
sent you out to
produce fruit, the
kind of fruit that
will last.....

John 15:16b

Special points of interest:

- **The Presbytery office will be closed** on Monday, October 14, for Columbus Day (banking holiday) and Monday, November 11, Veterans Day. Please take note.
- **Nancy Kahaian**, Transitional Presbyter, and **Charles Willard**, Stated Clerk, will be attending the PCUSA Polity Conference in Detroit from Monday, October 14, through Wednesday, October 16.
- **Please pray for** Clara McMahon Morgan (Chair), Kathy Bardin-St. Petersburg, Danny Chandler-Haines City, Barbara Booth-Jarmon-Lakeland, Tommy Nance-St. Petersburg, Ramiro Ros-Tampa, Marsha Rydberg-Tampa, as they serve on the Presbytery Coach and Coordinator Search Committee

DON'T MISS OUT ON A NEW BEGINNING!

Coming up on Saturday, November 16, the Evangelism and Church Development Committee will be hosting a Presbytery wide "Come and See" event at Northwood Presbyterian Church, Clearwater, for the New Beginnings program.

If you're unfamiliar with New Beginnings, it's a national consulting program run by the Presbyterian Mission Agency that helps congregations discern their next best steps. After six months of

working with consultants, using an assessment and a process, the end result will be helping your church discover its future story.

Going to the "Come and See" event does not create an obligation to participate in the entire process. Congregations would be asked to make a decision within one month of attending this all day event, so if your church is interested, it's recommended that you bring as many decision-makers to the event as possible.

Because food will be served, RSVPs are required. Please respond to Ann Marie in the Presbytery office at office@pbty.com to reserve space for your congregation!

For more information about New Beginnings, please see their website, here:

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/church-growth/new-beginnings/>

Please take advantage of this opportunity offered by your Presbytery!

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DUE IN WEEKS

The Commission on Ministry (COM) is sponsoring three COM Officer Training Events within the bounds of Tampa Bay Presbytery.

On Friday, October 25, the COM Officer Training Event will be hosted at Trinity PC, Clearwater, from 8:30AM through 12:15PM.

A second offering will be hosted by Temple Terrace Presbyterian Church on Friday, October 25, from 11:30AM through 4:00PM.

On Saturday, October 26, the First Presbyterian Church of Bartow hosts the final event from 8:30AM through

12:15PM.

Each COM Officer Training Event includes prayers, plenary, workshops, and lunch. Visit www.presbyteryoftampabay.org for a registration form.

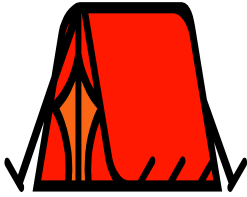
The featured speaker for the COM Officer Training Events is the Reverend Dr. Steve Eason, author of *Making Disciples, Making Leaders: A Manual for Developing Church Officers*.

His book offers a model for selecting and training church officers that is grounded in spiritual discernment and development. The training plan is designed to build up church

leaders spiritually and to set their work in the context of discipleship, as well as to teach them some of the fundamentals of the rules of governance of the denomination. Everyone is welcome to attend one or all three of the events. Costs and other details can be found on the registration form.

It is hoped that many Presbyterians will take advantage of this October opportunity to learn, to fellowship, and to be strengthened in leadership abilities for service in the church.

OPEN EDUCATIONAL CONVERSATION FORUMS



Check out www.cedarkirk.org for the up-to-date schedule of interesting programming for the remainder of 2013!

Recently a group of good folks from Tampa Bay Presbytery met to evaluate and assess the current "Sales Policy of Closed Churches."

During their process, it became apparent that the group that worked on the original process was not provided with essential information regarding the financial status and obligations of the Presbytery. Therefore, it was determined that perhaps additional information, accompanied by thorough examination of the present realities of our current context, obligated

the group to propose something different.

The "something different" was presented by John Hehn, Elder from Seffner and member of the group to evaluate the current sales policy, at the Presbytery meeting in August at Forest Hills.

Since a decision about a new sales policy will be considered at the November Stated Meeting in Winter Haven, it is hoped to receive additional feedback on the group's proposal from engaged, interested Presbyterians who care, at two open educa-

tional conversational forums. You are invited to attend one or both of these events:

Tuesday, October 22

10am-11am

The Chapel at
Florida Presbyterian Homes
Lakeland, Florida

-or-

Thursday, October 31

3-4pm

Presbytery Office
Tampa, FL

Please bring questions and ideas!
See you there!

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY AND LEARN

On The Seventh Day Prayer will be hosted at First PC, Crystal River on Monday, October 7 at 12noon. Please RSVP to Ann Marie in the Presbytery office by Friday, October 4, at 12noon. 813-868-4800

The response to the online learning community for Ruling Elders has been fantastic! An email to the interested group will be sent soon to determine next steps. Thanks for reading the e-news, showing enthusiasm, and following instructions!

The Seventh Day Prayer opportunity at Crystal River is

receiving fabulous response (Yankeetown is coming!), and it is hoped that the brothers and sisters from throughout the Presbytery will support the prayer life of this Presbytery and our northern hosts. Please RSVP to Ann Marie by tomorrow at 12noon.

If you read the previous article you know about some important

educational forums, and if you scanned the first page, you know the COM is sponsoring Officer Training Events for anyone who is interested. Our intention is joyfully to engage everyone in responsible ministry and encourage a culture among us where people want to learn and be at their best. To experience the blessing, you will need to be present.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PRESBYTERY

With great joy we announce that Shavon C. Starling-Louis, a daughter of this Presbytery and Lakeview PC-St Petersburg, will be ordained to the Ministry of Teaching Elder in the PC(USA) on Sunday, October 6, 2013, at First Presbyterian Church of Midwest City, Oklahoma.

The 13th Annual Holiday Bazaar at Forest Hills Presbyterian

Church, Tampa will be held on Saturday, October 19. This is an amazing event with all proceeds dedicated to missions.

Many congregations are receiving the PC(USA) Peacemaking Offering in October. The offering is traditionally received on World Communion Sunday.

For more information, please check out

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/specialofferings/peacemaking-offering/>

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. So, if it has been awhile since you've said thank you for the Christian witness and service of your pastor, you may want to consider sharing some kindness with her or him.