



## TAMPA BAY PRESBYTERY E-NEWS

4704 KELLY ROAD, TAMPA, FL 33615

813-868-4800 PHONE

OFFICE@PBTY.COM

### THE RESOURCE CENTER AND JANUARY 2014 TRANSITION

Pastors and members of churches of 200 or fewer members are invited to come to the Resource Center to purchase items in January on the following dates, from **9:00 AM – 1:00PM:**

Thursdays – January 9, 16 and 23

Saturday – January 11 – **NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

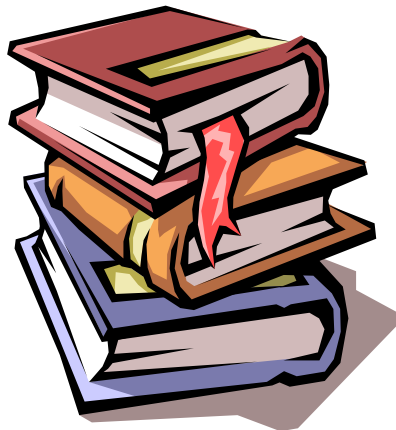
Bring cash or checks only. We will not have access to a credit card scanner.

Before you come to the Presbytery office:

Go to the presbytery website at [www.presbyteryoftampabay.com](http://www.presbyteryoftampabay.com) – click on the “Resources” drop-down; click on “Discipleship Resource Center”. Then, click on “keyword” and choose “author, subject, title, or ISBN”, then click on “All locations” and choose either all or a spe-

cific location (i.e, children’s videos). (If you choose this, for example, you type in “children” in the keyword space.) Once you find a category or specific item you are interested in purchasing, note whether it is “in” (available) or “out” (sold or not returned).

**Note the Call Number** – This will be essential in helping you find the item quickly when you come into the Resource Center.



Churches with 201-400 members can start checking the list in late January to see which resources are still “in” and begin planning your shopping spree for February. (Thursdays, February 13, 20, 27 and one Saturday, to be determined by mid-January).

Churches with 401 or more members can plan to shop in March on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, plus one Saturday.

The Resource Center was started to support congregations, and we will continue to hold that value in its transition. Congregations sent mission dollars to support the Resource Center, and congregations come first to purchase what aids them in making disciples of Jesus Christ. Questions? Call Sue Moore at the Presbytery office.

### CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

A cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four Special Offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Because Advent and Christmas are a time for celebrating the arrival of “the true light” (John 1:9), the PC(USA) provides this opportunity for congregations to

support those in need of help and hope. Alongside this message of promise and fulfillment, we also hear the encouraging words, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it” (John 1:4). When we give out of the abundance of God’s blessings in our lives, the light of Christ shines through us and illuminates those in need of help and hope.

Undesignated gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to support education at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Tampa Bay Presbytery is one of the strongest supports of Christmas Joy Offering in the PCUSA. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Prayerful petitions and special points of interest

for Tampa Bay

Presbyterians:

- *Several Minister Members of the Presbytery are in need of physical healing. Please remember these good folks in your daily prayers.*
- *The Presbytery office closes at 12noon on Thursday, December 19 for the Presbytery Staff Christmas Luncheon.*
- *An All-Presbytery Mailing was sent this past Monday. Please carefully review and read contents!*
- *The Tampa Bay e-News will be published and circulated today, December 19, 2013 and reappear on Thursday, January 2, 2014.*
- *The Presbytery of Tampa Bay closes its 2013 Fiscal Year on Friday, January 10, 2014. All receipts to be credited to 2013 giving, must be received in the Presbytery office by Friday, January 10.*
- *Presbytery Office Hours during the holidays are as follows: Monday, December 23—OPEN and Tuesday, December 24 through Thursday, December 26—CLOSED and Friday, December 27—OPEN and Monday, December 30—OPEN and Tuesday, December 31—CLOSE at 12:30PM and Wednesday, January 1—CLOSED*
- *A correct Form F-1 for 2014 is posted on the Presbytery website. A 2014 Remittance Form will appear in January 2014.*



## TAMPA BAY PRESBYTERY HOSTS BOARD OF PENSIONS SEMINARS IN JANUARY 2014

### *“Getting in Shape Fiscally: A Financial Planning Seminar”*

January 27, 2014 at the Presbytery Office in Tampa, Florida from 8:30AM-5:00PM

How fiscally fit are you? This free one-day seminar is for plan members, seminarians, and their guests. Attend and learn about: money danger signals; how to build budget; clergy tax and terms of call basics; saving and investing; estate planning basics.

### *“Growing Into Tomorrow....Today: A Retirement Planning Seminar”*

January 28-29, 2014 at Florida Presbyterian Homes in Lakeland, Florida from

8:30AM-5:00PM each day

*Planning for retirement can be challenging. Attend and learn: key questions for discernment; assess your finances; discuss healthcare and housing options; creates next steps in life balance.*

### *“Post Retirement Seminar”*

January 30, 2014 at the Presbytery Office in Tampa, Florida from 9:00AM-4:00PM

Retirement planning doesn't end when you retire. Attend and learn about: one's vocation in retirement; Pension Plan and Medicare update; post-employment financial management.

Addition information on all three seminars can be found at the Presbytery website: [www.presbyteryoftampabay.com](http://www.presbyteryoftampabay.com). There is a seating limit for each seminar, and all registrations are due by Friday, January 3, 2014. Questions? Call Ann Marie at 813-868-4800



## CHRISTMAS AT CEDARKIRK AND NEWS FROM BETH-EL

This Christmas, Cedarkirk will be hosting a group of 13 international college students as a host site for the Christmas International House program. These students will be shown hospitality both at camp as well as in individual homes over the Christmas break when so many colleges close their doors. In addition to being a ministry of hospitality, this program has a strong component

**“The season of Advent is a time of preparation, and we are reminded during these weeks how much we need a Savior.”**

of peace-making in the most fundamental way. This outreach is offered due to the generosity of host families and donations, so Cedarkirk is seeking both financial support for their stay at the camp as well as families to host students from Decem-

ber 22nd through the 26th. You are invited to contact Mark Orendorf at [mark@cedarkirk.org](mailto:mark@cedarkirk.org) for more information.

**Beth-El Farmworker Ministries** recently endured the theft, vandalism and eventual return of their van. As you may be aware, this is a particularly difficult time of the year to be “vehicle-challenged” with the need to deliver bikes and food and other items to families affiliated with the ministries of Beth-El. You are invited to contact the Beth-El Farmworker Ministries for more information on how to be supportive during these days. Please contact [dave@beth-el.info](mailto:dave@beth-el.info) for more information.

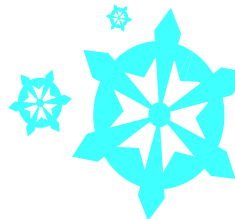
## APPLICATIONS FOR GA COMMISSIONERS DUE IN NINETEEN DAYS

The Presbytery of Tampa Bay is receiving applications from those who wish to serve as a Commissioner or Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the 221st General Assembly.

The 221st General Assembly will be held June 14-21, 2014, in Detroit, Michigan.

Please find application forms and process on the presbytery website.

All applications from potential commissioners are due in the Presbytery office by Tuesday, January 7, 2014. As part of the discernment process, the Nominating Committee will review all applications and place names into



The Presbytery Office is open on Monday, December 23 and Friday, December 27 next week. Please make note!

nomination for election at the February 8, 2014, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery to be hosted at Grace PC, Spring Hill. All expenses for GA Commissioners are underwritten by per capita.

The Presbytery elects three Elder Commissioners and three Minister Commissioners to the General Assembly of the PC (USA). It also elects one YAAD to the General Assembly.