

# TAMPA BAY E-NEWS

## Possibilities for reflection and prayer and doing good:

- We welcome Cecelia Wilhite as Chair of the Presbytery Council (soon to be "Coordinating Team") for 2014. The first 2014 meeting of the group will be held next week.
- The Presbytery office will be closed on Monday, January 20 in observance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr National Holiday.
- There are more people in the Resource Center this morning than have gathered there in recent memory. Why? Well, it's the first day of Resource Center sales open to small churches! For more information, please contact Sue Moore in the Presbytery office, 813-868-4800 or [sue@pbty.com](mailto:sue@pbty.com).
- For information on the online version of the workshop on the Session Annual Statistical Report, please contact Charles Willard at 813-868-4800 or [statedclerk@pbty.com](mailto:statedclerk@pbty.com).
- The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery is Saturday, February 8 at Grace PC, Spring Hill. Papers will be posted a week in advance of the meeting. Stay tuned!
- "My refuge and my fortress; my God in whom I trust." Psalm 91:2b

## CEDARKIRK AND YOU CELEBRATING FAMILIES

Are you seeking tools to help your family grow in their faith? Are you looking to strengthen your skills in family ministry? Are you seeking resources for our shared life together in faith? If so, please plan on coming to Cedarkirk for a day dedicated to families! This special event is designed for families and those who serve in family ministry.

Our time together will include worship, fellowship, study, and a great lunch. We are offering three areas of study: Spiritual Formation and Disciplines for Families, Resources and Tools for Multigenerational Families, And God Said It Was Good: Teaching Human Sexuality in the Church and Family. Morning and afternoon sessions on the topics will be led by informative and inspirational speakers.



### Celebrating Families in Tampa Bay Presbytery!

Our day will begin at 9:00am with registration and conclude at 5:00pm. Online registration is available or you can contact Cedarkirk at (813) 685-4224 ext. 1. The cost for this event is only \$20 if registered by January 10th or \$25 after this date. Child-care will be available during the worship and

study sessions, but children are expected to join their families for the fellowship portions of the schedule. This event is co-sponsored by Cedarkirk and the former Christian Education Committee of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay. Come join us for a day celebrating families!

## YOU CAN STILL REGISTER FOR BOP SEMINARS IN TBP

Enrollment for all the Board of Pensions (BOP) seminars has been extended through this Friday, January 10! Register today!

While most of the seminars are near capacity, we are still looking for interested

participants for "Getting in Shape Fiscally: A Financial Planning Seminar" to be hosted on Monday, January 27 from 8:30AM-5:00PM at the Presbytery Office, 4704 Kelly Road, Tampa. The secure Board of Pensions registration site is: [http://](http://www.cvent.com/d/14qk94)

[www.cvent.com/d/14qk94](http://www.cvent.com/d/14qk94). If you have any questions regarding the Board of Pensions seminars hosted in the bounds of Tampa Bay Presbytery, please call Ann Marie Fizzano in the Presbytery office at 813-868-4800. Thank you!

## NEW BEGINNINGS COMING TO TBP

New beginnings are right at the core of the Christian message: new beginnings for hurting and broken individuals, new beginnings for the old religion of Israel, and a big new beginning for humankind in Christ. They often take on the mantle of the miraculous: a child raised from the dead, a self-righteous person like Saul seeing the light, or a second chance from God when we feel we don't deserve one.

We believe new beginnings are possible for us as individuals, but are they possible for our churches? Can we pour new wine into old wine-skins? Can we grow again and become a vibrant witness

to Christ in our community? What do we do from here? In order to help churches asking questions like these, the Office of Church Growth of the PC(USA) started a program called "New Beginnings." This program is an intensive consulting process over a period of months that engages the entire congregation to determine what God is calling the congregation to next, to discern what their new beginning might be.

The process begins with a "Come and See" event, which our Presbytery will be hosting on March 29th. The Come and See event is an all day event that serves a no commitment introduction to the process, lead by national staff. After this event, interested



**WHERE IS YOUR NEW BEGINNING?**

churches have one month to decide if they will pursue New Beginnings or not. If you're interested in attending, please let the Presbytery office ([annmarie@pbty.com](mailto:annmarie@pbty.com)) or the ECDC ([pastordavidbaker@gmail.com](mailto:pastordavidbaker@gmail.com)) know, and be sure to bring as many decision makers from your church as possible!

## NEED A MEETING PLACE?

Westminster Communities of Florida is pleased to offer complimentary meeting space and dining services to ministry partners in the Tampa Bay Presbytery.

If you are planning a session retreat, PW event, or

any other church-related gathering, please contact Gail Ector, Church Relations Coordinator, to determine which of their three St. Petersburg communities best meets your needs.

As a faith-based organization in a Covenant relationship

with the Synod of South Atlantic, Westminster is always delighted to have Tampa Bay Presbytery members as guests on their campuses. Gail can be reached at 941-750-9025 or [gector@wservices.org](mailto:gector@wservices.org)

## JANUARY CALENDAR IN TBP

Please visit the Presbytery website to view the most current edition of the calendar. As of this date, here's what is going on at the Presbytery Office site on Kelly Road in Tampa:

Saturday, January 11 at 9:30am Workshop on Annual Statistical Report

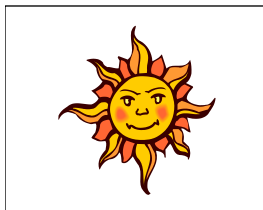
Tuesday, January 14 at 1:00pm Presbytery Staff Meeting

Wednesday, January 15 at

9:30am Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 15 at 12noon Lunch followed by Standing Rules/ Bylaws Seminar (RSVP required)

Thursday, January 16 at 9:30am Commission on Ministry Meeting



Feel the warmth of God's love this winter!

Thursday, January 16 at 12noon Commission on Preparation for Ministry Meeting (shared lunch with COM)

Monday, January 27 at 8:30am BOP Seminar "Getting in Shape Fiscally"

Thursday, January 30 at 9:00am BOP Seminar "Post-Retirement Seminar"

**On Friday, January 10, 2014, the Presbytery of Tampa Bay will close the financial books for the fiscal year 2013.**

*This means that all per capita, mission, and other contributions that a session wishes to be credited to their 2013 giving statement must be received in the Presbytery office in Tampa by the end of the business day on Friday, January 10, 2014.*

**Currently, the Presbytery is experiencing a serious per capita deficit for 2013 and may**

*need to draw down on limited reserves more than was projected initially. If your session is able to pay any portion of its 2013 Presbytery Per Capita so that we can pay for staff salaries, required committee work, and overhead costs associated with the building, that would be very much appreciated. Any*

**questions regarding your 2013 per capita balance can be forwarded to Joe Nixon, Presbytery bookkeeper at 813-868-4800.**

*Thank you.*