



### ***Our Mission:***

*To identify and strengthen leaders so that every congregation makes new and mature disciples for Jesus Christ.*

## **Passing of Rev. Jim Holmes**



It is with regret that I inform you of the passing of Rev. Jim Holmes. He joined the church eternal on March 3rd at St Joseph hospital and was 79 years of age. His wife Patricia (Pat) and daughter Nicole Ambrosio were there supporting him.

Jim was the founder of the Judeo Christian Health Clinic. He always worked for the well being of the poor and disenfranchised and believed they were God's special people. His memorial service was held on Monday, but contributions may be made to the Judeo Christian Health Clinic or Meals on Wheels.

For more information about Jim, the impact of his life and ministry, please [read this excellent article](#) from the Tampa Bay Times.

In Christ,

Rev. Dave Baker,  
Stated Clerk and Director of Communications  
Presbytery of Tampa Bay

## News From Around the Presbytery



### Cuba!

Coach and Coordinator Patrice Hatley and Moderator Marsha Rydberg are extending their invitation to a conversation about the recent visit to Cuba and most importantly about developing relationship with our brothers and sisters in the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba (Iglesia Presbiteriana-Reformada en Cuba). We will enjoy some Cuban pastries and conversation together at the Presbytery of Tampa Bay office located at 4704 Kelly Rd, Tampa on **Tuesday, April 5 from 1:30-3:00 pm.**

Information about the Cuban Partnership Network will be discussed. There is an opportunity coming in October to join other PC(USA) people from around the US in a relationship-building trip to Cuba. The visit will include the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas as well as churches in all three Cuban Presbyteries.

We are blessed with the presence of many Cuban-Americans among us in the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, exiles from their homeland. We can learn more about their experiences and life stories, too, as we seek to come together by the GRACE of God! Marsha Rydberg speaks Spanish, so if you need assistance in communication during our time together, she is a great help!

Please let Ann Marie Fizzano know if you plan to come so we may have plenty of refreshments to offer! You may reach her through email at [office@pnty.com](mailto:office@pnty.com) or by calling the office at [\(813\) 868-4800](tel:(813)868-4800).

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### Ordination and Installation of Denise Lay

You're invited to attend a worship service and reception for our newest Minister member. Denise Lay will be ordained and installed at 3pm on Palm Sunday, March 20th, at [First Presbyterian Church of Zephyrhills](#). Teaching Elders especially are encouraged to come and show support for their colleague in ministry.



**Cedarkirk** *A place apart to build up  
the body of Christ in love.*  
**CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER**



## **A Free Retreat of Respite and Renewal for Church Professionals & Their Families**

Are you looking for a moment to rest and recharge after Holy Week and Easter?

Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center has the event for you. We invite all church professionals and their families serving in Peace River or Tampa Bay Presbyteries to enjoy a time of Sabbath in the beauty of God's creation. Come be our guest for this two-night, three-day event designed to give you plenty of time for rest and relaxation. The schedule is flexible allowing you to hike, study, and worship or enjoy times of quiet solitude in the beauty of God's creation.

The event begins at 11:00 am on Monday, March 28th, and concludes at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, March 30th. Private bedrooms and all meals (Monday lunch through Wednesday lunch) are provided. Whether you can come for a day or all three days, you won't want to miss this opportunity for Sabbath at Cedarkirk. Please contact the camp office at [\(813\) 685-4224 ext. 2](tel:8136854224) or [info@cedarkirk.org](mailto:info@cedarkirk.org) to make your reservations for this free event.

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### **Website Feedback Survey**

Please take a moment to fill out this survey:  
[Presbytery Website Feedback Survey](#)

This survey will help drive the conversation about how the Presbytery website can best help you and your church. If you're getting this newsletter, you're

encouraged to take the survey, even if you're not a pastor or elder. It should take less than 10 minutes to do.

We'll also be conducting interviews with those who are most often using the website. We don't want this update to merely be a cosmetic upgrade, but a way to truly make the most of modern technology in support of our ministries. So if you have ideas or frustrations, or just want to be part of the conversation, I'd encourage you to take part in the online survey above and one of the feedback sessions (Presbytery breakout or webinar).

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## Lake Seminole PC Adds LED Sign

This sign was completed in part using grants from the Commission on Church Vitality and the former Evangelism and Church Development Committee.



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### Ribbon cutting



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Lake Seminole Presbyterian Church, 8505 113th St., Seminole, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating a new LED sign Feb. 14. More than 40 people attended the event as Mayor Leslie Waters congratulated the church on the completion of the project. Councilor Roger Edelman, president of the Seminole Chamber of Commerce, led the ceremony, and Pastor Robert Wierenga ended it by quoting from Isaiah 40:9 and then offering a prayer of blessing. A reception followed in the church's fellowship hall.

## Handbell Request

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church is looking for a set of handbells to expand their music program. Does your church have hand bells that need a new home? Please contact Forest Hills PC at [\(813\)932-6149](tel:8139326149) or [office@fhpctampa.org](mailto:office@fhpctampa.org).

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## Joint Services Between FPC Port Richey and Trinity Seven Springs

Isn't it great when Presbyterians do things together? [First Presbyterian Church of Port Richey](#) will be participating in the Tenebrae Worship Service at [Trinity Presbyterian Church of Seven Springs](#), at 7 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, March 24; FPC will then host a Good Friday service with participation from Trinity at 12 p.m. on March 25.

First Church Port Richey also proudly presents "[A Classical Concert](#)" featuring internationally acclaimed concert pianist Grigorios Zamparas (with special guest Carolyn Heagey) on Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. Admission: A Love Offering (suggested donation: \$5.00 - \$10.00) which will be divided between our performers and our Church Community Food Pantry. Check out [the link](#) for more info.

## Mission Opportunities

### From the FLAPDAN Front



### **You're Invited!**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has provided a grant of \$20,000 to Pasco Rebuilds Together! Long Term Recovery Organization. The PDA funds, along with funding from other faith-based and community organizations, will be used to repair and rebuild homes for families affected by the flooding last summer.

Come share in the joy Saturday, March 12th from 5-9pm at the Verizon Event Center in New Port Richey. [See the flyer](#) for details.

### **OGHS**

Did you know your **One Great Hour of Sharing** contributions are making a huge difference in our own communities? There are eight projects here in Florida which have received OGHS funds within the past year, four of which are disaster related projects supported through grants from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance:

- Okaloosa and Walton Counties Long Term Recovery following Spring 2014 flooding in the Florida panhandle.
- Springwater Presbyterian Church in Brandon, FL whose contents were destroyed in a July 2015 fire.
- Pasco County Long Term Recovery following Summer 2015 flooding north of Tampa.
- Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN) to continue the work of coordinating preparedness, response and recovery at the congregation, presbytery, community and state levels.

Find out more  
at <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs> or <http://pda.pcusa.org/>

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**Honduras**



Many thanks to those who helped to purchase a horse for Honduran Pastor Prudencio Vazques who had to walk 1 ½ hours each way over mountainous terrain to conduct services in the church he serves. Pictured above is the pastor with his horse. He is deeply appreciative.

The Presbytery of Honduras provided the International Partnership Committee (IMPC) with copies of all official papers documenting the sale of the horse for the pastor. To see more activities and pictures of events and work in Honduras, visit:

[IMPC Honduras Presbyterian Partnership Face Book Page.](#)

Anyone interested in participating in a IMPC mission trip to Honduras July 17 - 24, 2016, please contact Betty Wajdowicz at [727 596-4740](tel:7275964740). Additional participants in this multi-church group are welcome.

If you'd like to contribute otherwise, please participate in 3 cents a meal or forward checks to the Presbytery marked for Honduras food purchase.

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### Syrian Refugee Crisis





Having a heart for those in the margins, I know that many of us would like to know how the Church can help alleviate the suffering of those fleeing from the crisis in Syria. I recently learned of a [set of resources](#) resulting from a partnership between Willow Creek and World Vision.

If you're interested in what your church can do, I'd encourage you to check out their [resource page](#) for small group materials, educational materials, and more.

## Upcoming Workshops

### Duke Divinity School Reimagining Health

The Reimagining Health Collaborative at Duke Divinity School invites Christian congregations to partner with each other and Divinity School faculty, students, and staff to envision and to implement faithful practices related to health and illness. This year's cohort will focus on the church and mental health.

RHC 2016: The Church and Mental Health will begin with the Reimagining Health Summer Gathering on the campus of Duke Divinity School July 14-16, 2016. In this gathering, congregational teams will:

- Equip themselves with practical mental health resources, including the opportunity to complete training in Mental Health First Aid;
- Engage scripture, theology, and Christian history with respect to mental health and mental illness;
- Encounter both local and national resources and networks for helping the church respond faithfully to mental health and mental illness;
- Hear transformative stories and experiences of people in your own and other congregations; and
  - Receive practical resources for translating theological vision into congregational engagement.

To learn more about the program and access the application, please see the [program page](#). Applications must be submitted to [DukeTMC@div.duke.edu](mailto:DukeTMC@div.duke.edu) by May 1, 2016.

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**Habits of the Heart for Healthy Congregations**

Parker J. Palmer's "Habits of the Heart" are deeply ingrained ways of seeing, being, and responding to life that involve our minds, our emotions, our self-images, our concepts of meaning and purpose.

At this retreat you will learn **new skills for fostering leadership** - both within yourselves and among others - for the sake of **revitalizing faith communities** locally and globally. Join like-minded peers and discover ways to renew your spirit and the spirit of your community of faith. Teams are encouraged to attend together to be able to apply shared learnings in your local contexts.

The conference will take place August 1-4 near Chicago IL.

[Find out more about this conference here.](#)

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## Prepare Enrich Training

If you're not familiar with Prepare/Enrich, it's perhaps the most effective tool for premarital and marital counseling that I am aware of. If you are a Teaching Elder, I would very highly recommend that you take advantage of this training, hosted by our own Rev. Bill Cooley.

There will be 2 opportunities to receive training: 9am to 3:30pm March 17th at the Career and Personal Counseling Center located at Maximo Presbyterian Church, and on May 6th from 9am to 3:30pm at the Presbytery Office. The total cost of the training is \$195, although the CCV has made scholarships available for Teaching Elders for 50% of the cost (email David Bonnema: [bonnema@palmaceia.org](mailto:bonnema@palmaceia.org)). Please contact Bill Cooley for more information: [pastorbillhome@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbillhome@gmail.com).

RSVP at this link: [March 17th](#) or [May 6th](#)

Learn more about Prepare/Enrich by clicking below:



# Job Opportunities

## Northwood PC Job Opening:

Full Time Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Northwood Presbyterian Church seeks an enthusiastic person for ministry to our youth and their families.

Resumes may be sent to [northwoodpcsearch@yahoo.com](mailto:northwoodpcsearch@yahoo.com). Job description is available upon request at same email.

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## Korean Presbyterian Church of Tampa Job Opening:

### Full-time or Part-Time EM Pastor

KPCT is currently seeking an EM Pastor to shepherd the Young Adult and Youth Group of high school and middle school students. The church is located at 6510 Yosemite Dr., Tampa, FL 33634.

For more information please contact Ki Choi at [kih.choi3@gmail.com](mailto:kih.choi3@gmail.com) or read the [position description](#).

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## Village PC Job Opening:

Custodian, Part-time up to 16 hours per week

General labor and cleaning duties so as to keep the facility buildings (church sanctuary & administrative buildings) as well as surrounding grounds in clean and safe condition.

Successful applicant must pass Level 2 Background Screening prior to hire, possess valid Florida driver's license, and have reliable transportation (with proof of insurance).

Send resumes to [suegoldstein.vpc@gmail.com](mailto:suegoldstein.vpc@gmail.com)

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## Temple Terrace PC Job Opening:

### Leader of Youth Ministry and Christian Education

Do you know someone interested in "reaching and inspiring youth, within our congregation and through community outreach by creative programs promoting Christian growth and spiritual development"?

Temple Terrace Presbyterian Church seeks to hire an enthusiastic individual as our Leader of Youth Ministry and Christian Education.

For more information see: <http://www.ttpresbyterian.com/new-leader-of-youth-ministry-and-christian-education/>

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Presbytery of Tampa Bay | [813 868 4800](tel:8138684800) | [presbyteryoftampabay.com](http://presbyteryoftampabay.com)