

# The Peaceful News

The Peace Presbyterian Church of Lakewood Ranch, Florida Newsletter

SPRING, 2014

One year ago we were still trying to close purchase contract on the Faith Church Property on Lorraine Road. We are truly thankful God had a better plan for our future. It has been a monumental year for Peace. Thank you, people of Peace, for staying the course, never giving up hope, and maintaining a positive spirit through much change in 2013.

It was great to enjoy a picnic on Palm Sunday by the beautiful lake. What a great property and wonderful people! One day I bet we'll have some picnic tables to better enjoy the property and the people together.

I really cannot believe how much we have accomplished since moving in mid-November. In early January the Session set the following goals for the year, the first three in which we have already had great success:

- Continue to Renovate and to Define the Functionality of the Building
- Continue to Adjust Gracefully to Two Worship Services & New Morning Schedule
- Welcome a New Part-time Staff Member to Build Ministry to Youth, Young Adults, & Families
- Develop a Master Plan for the Property
- Enhance our Presence in the Community with Events, Outreach, and Service

I hope you will take the opportunity this spring (April 27-Jun 8) to participate in the vision work we are doing together at 9:45 each Sunday. Shape the future of Peace!

The Session has graciously offered me six extra weeks off this summer (half sabbatical) so that I have time to reflect on next steps in leading Peace into a bright and hope-filled future. We are blessed to have many talented people around – quite a few of them ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. This always makes it much easier to keep Peace running smoothly, when Pastor is around or not.

Where will God lead us next? I think we are learning to trust that indeed God has a plan for our future that is filled with hope and promise. All we have to do is prayerfully seek God's will and be faithful in what we already know.

Peacefully yours,

*Elizabeth*

Rev. Elizabeth M. Deibert

Pastor, Peace Presbyterian Church



# Italian Dinner & Cabaret



**Saturday, April 26**

Peace Presbyterian Church's largest youth fundraiser, the Italian Dinner and Cabaret Show, is coming up on Saturday, April 26. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and dinner is served at 5:30. There will also be a Silent Auction and door-prizes. The fundraiser is to send the youth to Montreat this summer. There will be a free will offering and we hope to beat the goal of \$3200.

Gia Havener, our Director of Music and Arts, cooks the Italian dinner herself in honor of her mother, who was actually Portuguese, but married an Italian and learned to cook Italian meals. Gia's mother always made a big Italian dinner as a fundraiser for her church. Gia has been and will be cooking meatballs, Italian sausage, stuffed shells, baked ziti, alfredo sauce, several kinds of pasta and a vegetarian offering of grilled vegetables. The dinner will be served buffet style in the Fellowship Café and adults will be dining in several rooms and in the courtyard. Dessert and decorations will be provided by the Fellowship Team. The Youth and their parents under the direction of Neil MacQueen will be responsible for set up, serving and clean up. Children will have their own food provided by Dana Scott and Eirinn Camphire in the Gathering Room where they will be supervised until it is show time. The silent auction and door prizes will be managed by members of the Fellowship Team.

Rodgersberg and Havenerstein (aka Debby Sunkenberg and Gia) have produced, written portions of the show and will direct the show, "Peace Cabaret." Some of the performers in the Cabaret show with MC Troy Ballou will be the Lady Larks; Gospel Guys; Jonathan, Julia and Gigi Sammons; Rebecca Deibert and all the Millers who belong to our Peace Family.

Here is a sampling of the silent auction items: a Kenny Chesney signed and authenticated guitar; 4 different sets of 2 tickets to Rays games, some in the home box office club and some in the lower preferred seating; a kayaking trip, paintings; a 2-night beach condo stay on Anna Maria Island and gift cards to restaurants. Debby also has lots of door prizes to give away.

Invite your friends and family. A good time is guaranteed!



## Men's Fellowship Upcoming Events

The Peace Men's Fellowship has planned some fun events for the next few months. Add these to your calendar.

### Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup>

Men's Paintball Outing  
Ladies welcome too!

Youth 16 and over welcome if accompanied by parent.

Sign-up details coming later this month.

Contact Mark Winters.

### Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup>

Men's Golf Outing!

Have a favorite local course we can book at a great rate?

Contact Rod Scott to suggest course and to help.

### Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>

"All-Church" Beach Party sponsored by the Men  
S. Lido Key, relaxing, kayaking, volleyball, cook-out.

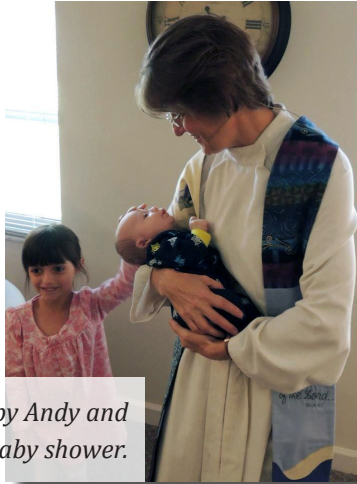
Contact Dan Grantham to help.





After studying Palm Sunday, the children made "Hosanna Hey" rocks.  
Pictured—Claire, Danielle, Julia and Jordan.

Neil MacQueen, Finn and friend, Eirinn Camphire  
and Ethan at the Palm Sunday fishing competition.



Pastor Elizabeth Deibert with baby Andy and  
big sister Amanda at Andy's baby shower.



Peace youth (and some youthful adults) playing  
basketball at the St. Patrick's party.



A new cross is stationed on the roof of Peace  
Presbyterian thanks to Rod Scott and his roofing crew.



Peggy Donaldson created a mural in  
the new Preschool-K-1 classroom.



Eirinn Camphire, Kim Schoeffel, and Lucy Kemp  
moving toys prior to the painting of the nursery.



Dana Scott and Pastor Elizabeth at the bottom of  
the water slide at the St. Pat's party March 15.



Neil MacQueen is dedicated as the  
Youth and Family Pastor, March 16.

## • Mission •

Mission is a central and highly valued component of Peace Presbyterian Church. Our involvement in the Lenten Challenge—Live Simply, is only the most recent. These funds go to the church-wide OGHS, (One Great Hour of Sharing) offering. One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is to help with hunger, self-development projects, and disaster relief both in the US and around the world. OGHS is also the time for the familiar fish banks for the children to save and accumulate coins for the hungry.

Our mission team meets often and works toward finding mission opportunities for every member of the church. The 2014 Mission goals include establishing a calendar for the year to keep the congregation apprised and involved in mission opportunities in the community and the world, expanding those opportunities and communicating them in new ways.

Some on-going mission activities are Mission Beth-el in Wimauma, Food Bank of Manatee County, the Blood Bank and Habitat for Humanity. Beth-el, where Peace Church has had a long and rewarding relationship, aids the farm workers and their families who struggle to feed their families and educate their children--[www.beth-el.info](http://www.beth-el.info). Every Thursday morning at 8:30 Peace Church members gather at the old Sweetbay on Highway 70 near the Hess gas station, and carpool to help bag donated food for Beth-el. We also donate to Beans & Rice, a project collecting beans and rice (the major components of their diet.) Usable clothing is always welcome for the Beth-el clothes closet.

In addition, the Food Bank of Manatee County has many mission opportunities for groups of all ages, which range from collecting food and bagging food to collecting money and volunteering. Team members Mary, Sally and Nancy recently had a tour of the facility and delivered a check from Souper Bowl Sunday for \$1,230. Habitat for Humanity, a nation-wide program provides hope and homes for struggling families who might not attain this piece of the American Dream. Peace Church participates in projects both in Manatee and Sarasota counties--[www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org).

One of Peace Church's endeavors is Mision Peniel in Immokalee, Florida, for farmworkers. This is a Presbyterian Mission that provides pastoral care, one good hot meal a week and clothes for many. Over 700 men and families are fed each week. On Father's Day, June 15, there will be a one-

time collection of small items such as socks and toiletries for this mission. Another up-coming possibility is to get a group together to tour the facility, make a meal and serve it, so church members can get a first-hand view of the operation.

On Mother's Day, the mission team will be collecting new diapers and children's underwear for the homeless in Bradenton.

Upcoming mission project possibilities include Thornwell Home for Children, a Presbyterian orphanage and school in Clinton, SC; Duvall Home, a home for developmentally disabled adults in Deland, Florida; Help to Home, a mission for families in Manatee County; gleaning from strawberry and tomato fields and orange orchards for the Food Bank; Villages in Partnership, a mission in Malawi, Africa; several Blood Drives; collecting backpacks and school supplies for BethEl; a Trick or Treat Food Drive; Angel Tree and Alternative gifts market for Christmas and the Joy Gift Offering.

With opportunities like this, if you have a passion for mission work and would like to join with Peace Church to serve others, you can find a great match. Contact team leaders Mary Scheper,([e-mail mbscheper1@gmail.com](mailto:mbscheper1@gmail.com)) or Sally Schoeffel, ([e-mail schoeffelk@aol.com](mailto:schoeffelk@aol.com).)



### Upcoming Mission Project dates

**Mother's Day, May 11**—Collect new diapers and children's underwear for the homeless in Bradenton

**Father's Day, June 15**—Collect small items such as socks and toiletries for Mision Peniel.

### Compassionate Outreach

Our goal is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ with enthusiasm and with respect for persons of differing views, and to embody the lifestyle of Jesus Christ by compassionate service to those in need.



## June Mission Trips

Two Peace members are taking on individual missions in June and can use the support of the church.

**Jenny Sheffield** is going to **Haiti** from June 21-29. She will be in a town near the Dominican Republic border, working and teaching vacation bible school to small children. She is going with a group from Siesta Key Chapel, a PCUSA church. A medical delegation is also part of the group.

**Rebecca Deibert** will be in **Guatemala** with a group of youth from Bayside Community Church. She's very motivated to share God's love with the children there and to build houses and paint churches.

Both missionaries spoke at the Palm Sunday worship services and hope for backing from the church. Please write your checks to Peace Presbyterian with "mission trips" in the memo.



### What is Your Vision for Peace Church?

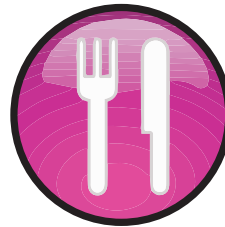
There will be another round of visioning by everyone for Peace during Eastertide. That's because we now have a permanent home and need to discuss what to do with the new property and it's good to review our mission/vision every few years.

The classes will kick off with a presentation by the founders on how Peace got started and celebrating our journey so far. After that we will have 5 classes, leaders will rotate from group to group and lead the group for input into our goals of: Inspiring Worship, Authentic Relationships, Nurturing Discipleship, Compassionate Outreach, and Responsive Stewardship. Each class will be a little different based on the subject matter and the preference of the leader. Finally we will have a general wrap-up class where everyone gets their last chance to contribute to the process.

Please join and have your voice heard from April 27 to June 8 at 9:45. Help shape the future of Peace Presbyterian Church.

### Peace Dinner Groups Meet May 17<sup>th</sup>

On Saturday, May 17th, the Peace Dinner Groups will meet. They are scheduled for the third Saturday of the month from September to May. Anyone can sign up in the foyer at church. You only need to be able to attend this particular dinner. We do need hosts for each group with 4 to 6 guests. Hosts decide on the entrée and ask the guests to bring a dish to share. This is a great way to get to know others in the church in an informal setting. It's also lots of fun!



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