



Tidings

August 2016

Upcoming Events

August

- 9 Session Meeting with Patrice Hatley
- 10-24 Kathy is on study leave
- 14 Rev. Reid Isenhart, Guest Pastor
- 21 Rev. Deb Belusa, Guest Pastor
- 27 **Annual Swim** at Cedarkirk for the families of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry
- 30 Worship Committee Meeting
- 31 **Regional Presbytery Meeting** – Hyde Park Pres. 9:30
Rev. Ginny Ellis will be retiring at this meeting, come wish her all the best in her retirement.

September

- 4 **First Sunday Lunch**
- 6-20 Kathy is on vacation
- 11 Rev. Reid Isenhart, Guest Pastor
- 18 Rev. Kathy Dain, Guest Pastor
- 24 **Annual Blessing of Bikes and Blades**
- 27 Session Meeting

October

- 2 **First Sunday Lunch**
- 8 **Blessing of the Pets**
- 9 Rev. Muder's last Sunday / Congregational Meeting with David Baker
- 15 Bayshore is hosting the PC(USA) Urban Ministry Group Meeting
- 22 Session Retreat at Cedarkirk with Patrice Hatley
- 23 Rev. Patrice Hatley, Guest Pastor

A Good Word



Love makes our friends a little dearer.

Joy makes our hearts a little lighter.

Faith makes our paths a little clearer.

Hope makes our lives a little brighter.

Peace brings us all a little nearer.

—Author unknown

Our Mission



Swim Party August 27
at Cedarkirk's Pool and Pavillion

Our Annual Swim Party and Picnic for the children and families of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry is quickly approaching. Please see the sign-up in the Narthex and let us know if you are available to help with this fun event.

Thank you to everyone that donated school supplies and materials for the Beth-El Community. Many thanks to Anika and Stephanie for delivering the collected items to Beth-El.

Our House

Have you noticed?

The painters have finished the exterior painting of our old house.

The front porch has also been restored along with the columns.

Our beautiful steeple has been reattached and secured. If you were not aware, it was causing a bit of a structural concern to the interior narthex.

Birthdays

Max - 8/18

Josette - 8/24

Rev. Ginny - 8/24

Candy - 8/31

Around the World



Deteriorating conditions in the South Sudanese capital city of Juba have left thousands of people in desperate need of food, shelter and health services. Fighting broke out between rival factions on July 8 and while a ceasefire is currently in place, the humanitarian needs have escalated.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, in conjunction with Presbyterian World Mission and its ecumenical partners, is working to provide aid. PDA has approved a \$50,000 grant to mission partner Presbyterian Relief and Development Agency (PRDA).

"There is now an urgency to rescue people who are starving in Juba. There is no food in the town," said the Rt. Rev. Peter Gai, moderator of the Presbyterian Church in South Sudan. "The people are suffering and are traumatized. When they don't have food it becomes worse."

The grant is expected to benefit as many as 2,000 internally displaced persons and church leadership says more will be needed.

"South Sudan's food crisis is the worst in the world according to the U.N. Security Council and has called for urgent action," said the Rev. Debbie Braaksma, Africa area coordinator for World Mission. "The council says as many as 50,000 children may die of hunger in the conflict-torn country unless international help is increased."

The grant funding will address the most immediate needs with a focus on food security, water, shelter and basic medical care. PDA says special attention will be given to women and children impacted by the armed conflict in Juba. "PDA will work with our ecumenical partners to provide more assistance because the needs in Juba are enormous," said Luke Asikoye, PDA associate for international response. "It seems we take two steps forward and then four steps backward in South Sudan because the situation there is very complex. It is a human-caused disaster and it requires both a political solution and peacemaking within communities."

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Adding to the food shortage is the fear of water-borne diseases such as malaria. "The people there are facing tremendous problems. They have to get out of the country in order to save their lives or stay and die," said Asikoye. "They are fighting disease, sanitation issues, lack of food and a need for shelter. Even in the camps, they face security threats from soldiers who are supposed to protect them."

Since the conflict and violence erupted in South Sudan in 2013, more than 2 million people have fled their homes according to the United Nations. An estimated 630,000 refugees from neighboring countries are residing in the country, adding to the need for services.

"The Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations continues to work with our colleagues to bring the voices of our partners in South Sudan to the United Nations Security Council," said Ryan Smith, Presbyterian representative at the United Nations. "We work collectively with ecumenical and secular organizations promoting a just and lasting peace."

"The Presbyterian Office of Public Witness continues to work with our ecumenical colleagues and the larger NGO community to urge the U.S. government to take actions to deescalate the situation in South Sudan and ensure the security of civilians and the delivery of humanitarian aid," said Catherine Gordon, associate for international issues in the Office of Public Witness. "Given the recent gender-based violence around U.N. camps and increased violence across the country, the need for the protection of civilians and safe corridors for the delivery of humanitarian assistance has never been greater."

"Given the enormous needs, we will need to do more," said Asikoye. "If this situation is going to continue, we will have to provide basic needs and supplies until conditions improve."

by Rick Jones, Presbyterian News Service

Bikes & Blades

Blessing of Bikes & Blades



We as a community are seeking God's blessing and protection for all who travel our city streets and sidewalks on human-powered transportation.

All are welcome to join! Wear your gear and bring your bicycles, strollers, skateboards, unicycles, or rollerblades.

Saturday September 24 · 8:30 AM

BAYSHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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