

Since 2013, the churches of Peace River Presbytery have joined together to support the farmworkers of Immokolee, FL through Misión Peniel. It began as an extension of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry. Under the direction of Pastor Miguel Estrada from Guatemala, it provides food, clothing, fellowship, and emergency support to farmworkers in the area.

During the last months, special cash assistance was available for those directly affected by COVID-19, vaccination and testing sites were hosted, and the facility continued to supplement families with much-needed food. In addition to the donated and purchased food, there are gardens on-site and homeowners who raise fresh produce to supplement these food donations. There is also a special mission to the homebound with a hot meal and food delivered each week.

Our church has been an ongoing supporter, donating through our Peace River mission budget, and some FPC members volunteer for different activities. After Hurricane Irma in 2018, FPC sent three carloads of supplies to assist this devastated community.

This year we will give thanks to the families who help feed us by collecting supplies food, and money to be delivered to Misión Peniel before Thanksgiving. They are specifically asking for the following supplies:

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

Rice, beans, peanut butter, canned meats/chicken, canned fruit and vegetables, pasta, spaghetti sauce, dry cereal, oatmeal.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Diapers (size 3, 4, 5, 6), baby wipes, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, disposable razors.

Items will be collected at the entrance to each service on **November 14.** Supplies can also be left in the office lobby the week before and after.

Checks can be made to FPC with "Misión Peniel" on the memo line. To give online, go to www.firstpressarasota.org and select "give online." Enter the dollar amount of your contribution; the fund is "Mission Designate-General." In the memo line, please enter "Misión Peniel."



Transcript of Misión Peniel Video

Pastor Miguel:

Hi, this is Pastor Miguel from Misión Peniel.

And as you can realize, we are basically recording with me using this screen here that has been our partner for over one-and-a-half-years at this point. This has been helping us to stay safe and to be around without ceasing helping the community that we are providing for around here. Thank you for supporters like you.

So, as we move into these difficult times, you know having this screen in front of us is not an easy thing. I don't think anybody, anyone, really thinks that this is a fancy thing and a good thing to have, but it's helping! As far as a good tool for us to help the community around, we will keep on using it.

So, you know we appreciated your support. We appreciated everything you have been doing.

And we will appreciate everything that you will do in the future for us that is allowing us to not just serve those around us, but to have a staff like what you can see around this place that is allowing us to keep serving those in need among the farmworker community.

We are blessed to have you as a partner, and we appreciated you to keep going in the same way. God bless us all and keep us healthy and safe during this time.

Rick and Ellen Barnett:

Hi, we're Rick and Ellen Barnett and we're with *Cultivate Abundance*, and we've been partnering with Misión Peniel since 2018. We work to provide fresh produce in the farmworker community of Immokalee. So, our biggest garden is here behind Misión Peniel. We also have other gardens—church gardens and other organizations and farms—that all help to contribute to grow, collect and share fresh produce—fruits and vegetables—with the farmworker community here. And that produce goes in bags and is distributed out each Friday and we're just honored to be part of this work with Misión Peniel, and to work towards ending food insecurity here in Immokalee.

Yeah, our Partners include also homeowners who might have the spare starfruit tree or avocado tree at home. This garden has produced probably 3000 lbs. over the last two years—actually 6000 lbs—and altogether that's gone into about 60, 000 lbs. of food that's been grown, and collected and shared with our farmworker neighbors.

Ruth DeYoe:

Hi, this is Ruth DeYoe, Mission Coordinator for Misión Peniel. And I, too, want to express my appreciation for the many ways we have felt your support throughout this pandemic. God has continued to lead us and we hope that this video gives you a glimpse into that *face of God*, that is part of our name *Peniel*. Please continue to follow us on Facebook and, if you'd like, subscribe to our newsletter via our website (www.misionpeniel.com). We cherish every opportunity to stay connected with you. God bless your ministry, as well.