

# The Peoples Weekly Mini Mouse



## Manse Cat Monthly: Musings from Pastor Leia / her cat

Some churches (lower case c) celebrate
Pentecost as the
birthday of the Church
(capital C).

Our church throws a birthday party for Jesus in January, but some churches throw birthday parties in May or June, with red-frosted cakes and extra candles, and red balloons and streamers and confetti. Red is the color of Pentecost, the color of flames and the Holy Spirit, a fiery new beginning being born from ashes. Red is also the color of ordination, like the beautiful red dress that I bought before I even knew this church existed, the dress that I hoped to wear when I made my vows. When I was formally installed as the pastor here, I threw a redthemed dinner party for

the friends who came to celebrate with me. I served beets, and a tomato-barley salad, and a casserole topped with crushed red goldfish crackers, and a red fruit salad, and obviously a red velvet cake.

Birthday parties look a bit different lately, of course, and since I live by myself, I'm a bit reluctant to make a church birthday Pentecost cake. Microwave mug cakes are a thing that I make from time to time, but I'm not sure that they have quite the feel of a celebratory birthday cake, you know? If I end up making one, I'll share a picture on the church Instagram (shameless plug: follow Peoples Presbyterian Church on Instagram!)--stay tuned.

For my first Pentecost here, Carolyn cut out

dozens of beautiful paper doves and painstakingly tied them to helium balloons that we released to dance over our heads. That year, to really focus on the theme of the flames of the Holy Spirit, we had a fire drill after the benediction, evacuating to the parking lot before Skip gave a demonstration of how to use a fire extinguisher in Fellowship Hall. Last year, I spent hours practicing the pronunciations of Scripture in Greek and Hebrew--I studied how to read them, not how to speak them, and even though we don't have any Greek or Hebrew speakers in our church family, I wanted to do justice to the passages.

The first Sunday that I ever served a church in any kind of official

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Pentecost

• Online Giving

• Caring Corner

### Pastor Leia Continued

capacity was also Pentecost, the day that I started my internship at my church in Washington, DC, which I had been attending for two years at that point. I remember that the only red clothing I'd packed for the summer was a tank top, which I probably wore under my denim jacket in the air conditioned sanctuary with my hair wrapped up in a red headscarf. At the time, I thought it was neat to be starting my internship on a high holy day, with communion spread out on top of the cloth that I had helped embroider two summers before. In retrospect, it seems like Pentecost was an especially appropriate day to begin my work in ministry, as the Holy Spirit danced, laughing, over my head as she begin to push me towards things I never thought I would do and places I never thought I would go.

Pentecost will look different this year, because everything has looked different for the past three months, but the Holy Spirit still continues to descend and the Church still continues to be born, with or without birthday cake.









## **Caring Corner**

# People's Prayer List

#### **Essential Workers:**

Medical Staff - Diane Glover, nurse at St. Joes Hospital

Kim Heeringa, clinical subject coordinator/microbiologist, at the 1000-bed field ward

Shane Bookout, paramedic

Bob Sitz, pharmacist, at State Hospital and Herrick Hospital

Becky Sitz, works at the pharmacy at U of M Hospital

Lisa Pratt, works in the patient laboratory at VA Hospital

Staci Bashaw

Jennifer Bookout

Lori and son Jesse Fugate

**Tony Gehring** 

Stacy and Larry Johnson

Kerri Morrow

Alayna Plews' father, Terry Plews

Vicky and Richard Gehring

Al and Albert Clarke

Justin Fugate

Ryan Cranson

Jessica Cranson

**Jacob Cranson** 

**Travis Cranson** 

#### Laid Off Workers:

Jenny Bellers

Phil Marteney

Jason Marteney

Linda Cranson

**Rob Cranson** 

Please let us know if you are aware of any other Essential Workers or those who are laid off.



## **Gracious God, We Will Not Gather**

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending")

Gracious God, we will not gather, side by side, this Pentecost. How we long to be together, crowded close, beneath the cross! Still we join our hearts with others, trusting in your love and grace. We are here— your sons and daughters— praising you in every place.

In our houses and apartments, in the rooms where people stay, in the midst of this pandemic, God, we worship, sing and pray. People from each land and nation, in each language that we use, grieve the need for separation, yet, united, share Good News.

As we're distant from each other in the midst of so much fear, may your churches all remember: By your Spirit, you are here! Long ago, the wind came blowing; flames of love and boldness spread. Soon the church went out proclaiming: "Christ is risen from the dead!"

Peter preached what Joel had promised: In the most uncertain times, you give dreams and visions to us; you send great and wondrous signs! By your Spirit, give us courage! May your Church unite to be bearers of your Good News message to your world community.

Biblical reference: Acts 2:1-21

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844; attributed to Benjamin Franklin White

Alternate tune: BEECHER ("Love Divine, All Loves Excelling")

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Email: <a href="mailto:carolynshymns@gmail.com">carolynshymns@gmail.com</a> New

Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com





#### NEW ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS FROM THE PRESBYTERY:

The donation page has been established for Peoples Presbyterian Church.

Alayna and Chris can access information on PPC's funds online—such as donor information and reports. To view transactions, fees, interest earned, and disbursement history, fund administrators can log in and can answer any questions you may have regarding your donations.

Members and donors can choose to give either by going to the Peoples Presbyterian homepage and clicking on the "Give Now" button at the very top of the page:



Or you can download the GivePlus Mobile App by following the link below and following the instructions in this video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAjqUxK8YRk

As well as written instructions here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XmuWCTg81uPiGh898jWFloR02K36QW-z/view?usp=sharing

You can read additional FAQs regarding this new donor option here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KRXiUz Eo56ly2XgmGSG7J0ZquD5c7v2/view?usp=sharing

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact Alayna at anytime at either the church office or Alayna's cell: (616)-490-1799.

## **GAMES** and **ACTIVITIES**



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## Peoples Presbyterian Church

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### Worship:

Streamed Weekly on Facebook Live at 10:00 am every Sunday

### **Prayer Service:**

Streamed Live each Wednesday on Facebook Live at 8:00 pm



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