



Manse Cat Weekly: Musings from Pastor Leia / her cat

Volume 1, Issue 20

.Every now and then, during these past five months, I've tried to make the habit of coming up with a handful of good things that have come about as a result of our recent lifestyle changes. Some weeks, the practice is easier than others. Other weeks, the list is very short. Here are a few I've come up with recently:

-I've been significantly less affected by seasonal allergies, given that a mask has protected me from pollen

-now that I'm only buying groceries once a month, I've become a lot more intentional about meal planning and about reducing food waste

-I'm pretty proud of the website building skills that I've acquired in just a few months

-my teenage self would be thrilled that I now own a bedazzler (although she would have assumed that the rhinestones would be affixed to jeans or shoes or hair clips, not face masks) (my teenage self would also be pretty shocked that a hoard of hair clips is no longer a determining factor of coolness, no matter how sparkly they are)

-I appreciate the "touch up my appearance" filter on Zoom (click the ^ next to the video camera icon, which takes you to

"Settings," then in the left menu go to "Video" and click the box next to "Touch up my appearance" in the first section)

-with a mask on, I don't have to worry about my nose getting sunburned

-I wish I hadn't had little to no human interaction for months on end, but since I live alone, I'm really glad to have a snuggly cat (even if she is a walking fur explosion with fish breath)

-because so many personal interactions rely on the internet, a friend from high school revived her social media profile, which led us to discover that we have both moved to Michigan in the past couple years!

-face masks are also handy shields against dust while cleaning the house

-it turns out that sourdough bread is pretty easy to make, so that's cool (and tasty!)

-if there had to be a pandemic in my lifetime, I'm genuinely grateful that it's taking place during this decade, and not during the 80s or 90s when email was a new concept and video calls were literally science fiction

-I feel very fortunate to be living in a home with space to film live streams--any other living situation I've had would have been too

Inside this issue:

Manse Cat Monthly with Pastor Leia/
Happening This Week 1-2

Pop Tab, Plastic Lid Collection & Donation Updates 3

Christian Ed. 4

A Message from Worship and Music 5

Deacon's Corner 6

Session Highlights 7

Blood Drive 8

Special points of interest:

- COVID survey
- ARC Blood Drive
- Deacon's Corner
- Message from Worship & Music

Pastor Leia Continued

cramped or too loud to lead worship from, especially if other residents needed internet bandwidth to work from home as well.

Leia



Happening This Week

Sunday, August 23, 10am: worship on Facebook Live followed by virtual fellowship on zoom <https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-coffee-hour-2020-08-23/>

Tuesday, August 25: Bible study on Facebook Live~ Micah, part II

Wednesday, August 26, 8pm: evening prayer on Facebook Live

Thursday, August 31, 5pm: virtual fellowship on zoom <https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-cocktail-hour-2020-08-27/>



Is the Pop Tab Collection Still Going On?

Yes, we are still collecting pop tabs for the Ann Arbor Ronald McDonald House in their competition with the Ronald McDonald House in Columbus Ohio - another Uof M against Ohio State event. Unfortunately, with the fall football season cancelled this year, the competition will not take place but they urge us to keep collecting for next year. U of M has yet to win . . . Let's make it happen in 2021! Don't forget that, besides beverage cans, many of the canned foods and pet food cans also have the pop tabs, and they are bigger too! They can be dropped off at the church by putting them through the mail slot near the office.

Are We Still Collecting Plastic Caps and Lids?

Believe it or not — yes, we are still collecting plastic caps and lids. The Pleasant Ridge Elementary School in Saline was in the middle of their effort to collect the caps and lids to earn one or more park benches. They were interrupted by the COVID-19 situation but as far as I know, the project will continue once they get back to school. The school is very impressed and even amazed every time I take in two trash bags full of caps and lids, I believe we are their biggest supporter of the project. They, too can be taken to the church and if the building is locked, just leave them by the office outside door near the Youth Room and they will be brought in by the next person who enters the building. I believe this has become a great habit that will not be stopped easily

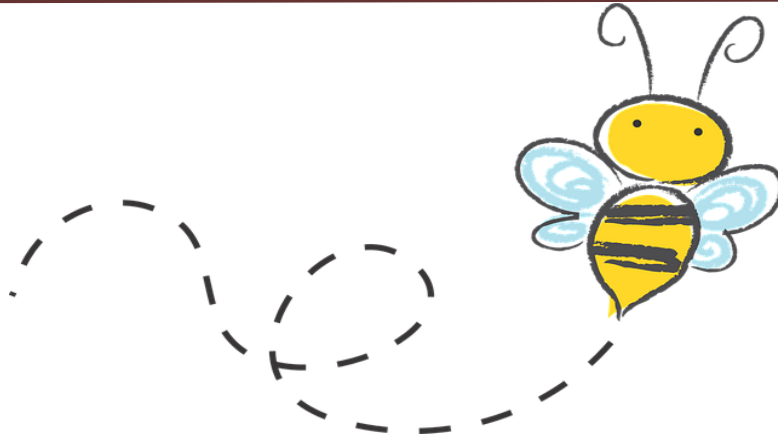
Updates on Recent Donation Totals for the Month of August:

Staci Bashaw Family - \$1600

Milan Area School Supplies - \$705

**Thank you for supporting your
community, PPC Family!**





The Kids are Kept Busy!

The younger children (every child gets their own) of the congregation have been kept busy since March with seven mailings about the Bee-Attitudes along with a letter from me, activities, worksheets and coloring pages. Recently, they have received lessons from some of Jesus' miracles. The miracle of Jesus healing the sick is an encouraging and comforting subject right now. The older children have also received various lesson mailings at their levels and we have exchanged letters and have talked on the phone during this time that we have been away.

Kids - I would love to see some of your completed projects or coloring pages when we get back together, **OR** you can drop them off through the mail slot outside the office window. **OR** you can take a picture of it and send it to me to be put in the Mini Mouse!

Don't forget to let me know what you have been up to recently with pictures if you can. Also, any back-to-school or sport pictures would be great to see!! Let's stay connected, Everyone!! Stay healthy and happy!!

-Carole London



WE MISS YOU ALL VERY MUCH - BUT WE LOVE YOU EVEN MORE

Session votes to continue online worship through September 2020.

At the Session meeting on August 19, 2020, Elders voted to continue doing their part in helping to keep our congregation members safe and healthy. The unanimous vote was to continue online worship (and meetings) through September. Session will revisit this again at the September meeting.

Although we miss you all very much, we love you even more.

Please call each other to stay in touch, write notes, get together via Facebook chats, or Face time visits on your phones. Set up Zoom visits with your families and friends. Join the 5:00 p.m. Thursday afternoon Zoom visit with PPC friends (and their pets).


-Worship & Music Committee

In Case you Missed it!

To best keep in touch and understand how PPC can best keep its members connected, we have a survey on the PPC website. It takes just a moment. Thanks, in advance, for you input! ❤️

<https://peoplespresbyterian.org/covid-19-survey/>

Deacon's Corner: A Message From the Deacon Moderator



Please continue to keep these folks in
your thoughts and prayers as they
cope with the loss of loved ones:

♥Cindi Thompson

♥Joan Loss

♥Staci Bashaw and family

We continue to pray for those who
have faced or will face medical
procedures.

As always, if you have prayer
concerns, please feel free to contact

Pastor Leia

or

Sue Barney, Deacon Moderator.

August Session Highlights

Session met via Zoom on Wednesday, August 19. Highlights from that meeting include:

Online Worship: A motion by the Worship and Music Committee, to continue online worship through the end of September 2020, was carried unanimously. This deadline will be revisited at the September virtual Session meeting.

Treasurer: July general fund expenses exceeded receipts by \$1,201. General fund cash decreased by \$1,001 to \$18,638. July donations were \$5,007 which is low. Expenses continue to be down a bit due to lower operating costs from covid-19 closure. July was the last of the three months of no benefits payments to Board of Pensions. In August we will resume monthly benefit payments of \$1,461.

Donations for Milan School supplies are just coming in and the OGHS fish banks are being collected. We collected and gave a gift fund for a church family. Kudos to the Deacons for arranging this. All in all we are holding our own. Monthly expenses are averaging \$8,500 per month so we have a little over two months' expenses in the general checking account. Not much of a cushion, but pledges and donations do continue to come in.

Presbytery: At a Special Called Meeting (via Zoom) of the Presbytery on August 4, the Rev. Dr. Floretta "Flo" Barbee-Watkins was elected as the Presbytery of Detroit's new Transitional General Presbyter. This fills the vacancy from the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Al Timm. Rev. Barbee-Watkins will start virtually on September 16 and in person on October 5. Presbytery will meet next on September 22, 2020.

PPC Women's Group: The Cancer Hats group will meet via Zoom on August 20, 2020. To date, 98 Cancer Hats have been delivered to St. Joe's Oncology Unit.

Buildings and Grounds: Grass is being cut and weeds are being taken care of by dedicated volunteers. The freezer in the church kitchen refrigerator is not working and will need repair.

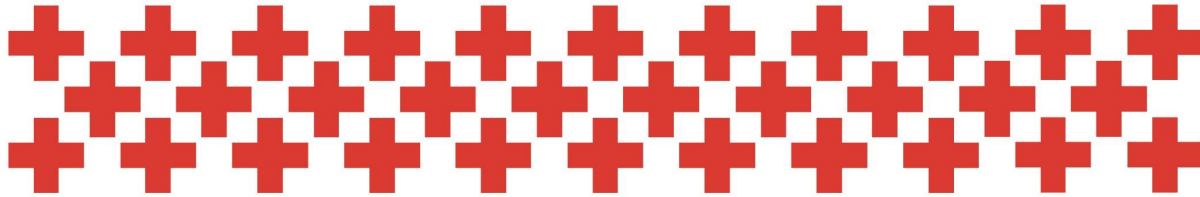
Christian Education: Carole London sent out 16 packets to the kids of the church which included a letter from Carole, and age appropriate worksheets and coloring pages about the several miracles of Jesus. The miracle of Jesus healing the sick is an encouraging and comforting subject right now. She has also called/emailed some of the older kids.

CE is looking for reports and pictures of the kids' summer activities for the Mini Mouse. We already have some girls in sports to report but would like to hear and "see" others as well.

Mission and Outreach: One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks are being collected.

Stewardship: The Stewardship Committee will meet later this week to discuss the logistics of an annual pledge campaign during this time of covid-19.

Give blood. Help save lives.



In May, I reached out to the American Red Cross in order to offer our building as a potential host location for a Blood Drive. After reaching out to the congregation and to the community beyond for a month, it seemed that many folks were hesitant or distracted as it was yet early in the stages of the COVID surges. I decided to wait for a time before reaching out to you all again.

I have been in contact with Michigan's booking representative, Christina Warbington. She has briefed me on all of the precautions being implemented around donations during the pandemic, and I assure you that ARC is well-prepared and will not let us conduct any of this unless they have deemed it completely safe. Ms. Warbington was so thrilled to hear of our interest as there is an urgent need for donations currently. **So, here is where you can help. As I mentioned, our first step to becoming a Blood Drive host is to procure 30 names of people who can commit to donating.** I am including, at the end of this newsletter, the ARC interest sign-up sheet as well as the Blood Donation Fact sheet for any and all of you to use freely. You may also call and leave me a voicemail at the office number provided on the last page of this newsletter, or since I am often working from home, **please feel free to call my cell as well: (616)-490-1799.**

Lastly, while we are hoping for a good response in potential donors, we also want to ensure that the health and safety of our community are TOP priority. **Many of you have already reached out to inform me of health or other reasons you cannot donate, and that is fine. We are not asking you to do anything you can't do. If you still want to help but can't donate, please feel free to disseminate this information and the sign-up sheet to any and all in the community who you think would be capable and interested. Even if you are in good health to your knowledge, PLEASE review the links below thoroughly regarding donor criteria and eligibility before signing up:**

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/types-of-blood-donations/whole-blood-donation.html>

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/faq.html#eligibility>

—Alayna Plews, Administrative Assistant

Peoples Presbyterian Church

210 Smith Street Milan, MI 48160

Pastor: The Reverend Leia Rose Battaglia

Phone: (734) 439-1922

Church Email: ppcoffice@peoplespresbyterian.org

Pastor's Email: ppcpastor@peoplespresbyterian.org

Website: www.peoplespresbyterian.org

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

TOP 10 reasons Give to Blood



American Red Cross

You will get juice and cookies.

It's easy and convenient. It only takes about an hour to give whole blood, and you can make your donation at an American Red Cross blood donation center or one of many blood drives held at businesses, community centers, schools or places of worship.

You will weigh less. One pint less than when you came in!

It's something you can spare. Most people have blood to spare, yet there is still not enough to go around.

No one can ask you to do heavy lifting. As long as you wear your bandage, you're on reprieve. Wear it as long as you like. It's a badge of honor!

You will walk a little taller afterward. Most people feel good about themselves knowing they've just helped save someone's life. You will too!

You will be helping to ensure that blood is there when it's needed. Most people don't think they'll ever need blood, but many do. One whole blood donation can yield up to three blood products: red cells, platelets and plasma.

You will give a gift that costs nothing, but last a lifetime. Blood is something money can't buy. It's only something that one person can give to another.

You will be someone's hero. You may give a newborn, a child, a mother or father, a brother or a sister another chance at life. In fact, you can help save up to three lives with just one donation!

It's the right thing to do!



redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [facebook.com/redcrossblood](https://www.facebook.com/redcrossblood)

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), meet weight and height requirements (110 pounds or more, depending on their height) and are in generally good health may be eligible to give blood. Please bring your Red Cross blood donor card or other form of positive ID when you come to donate. STAN.info015 | v2 2010/01_v3 2011/01_v3 2012/01 © 2012 The American National Red Cross | 02/11AP0124

Would you help save up to three lives?



**American
Red Cross**

Our organization would like to sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive at our location, but we need to make sure we have enough people to donate blood before we can commit. We support and encourage you to take time to give blood; a simple way to make a difference in someone's life. Your one blood donation can help save up to three lives.

Please sign up below if you are interested in participating in our Red Cross blood drive.

	Name	Email	Phone
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			
23.			
24.			
25.			
26.			
27.			
28.			
29.			
30.			

Sponsoring Organization: Organization Name Here

Contact Name: Contact name Proposed blood drive date: MM/DD/YY

Download the Blood Donor App | redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Save time with RapidPass

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), meet weight and height requirements (110 pounds or more, depending on their height) and are in generally good health may be eligible to give blood. Please bring positive ID when you come to donate. ©2018 The American National Red Cross | 148925/186201