



# The Peoples Weekly Mini Mouse



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

Volume 1, Issue 24

This week, we lost a living legend in the notorious Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She was a fascinating, brilliant, and passionate defender of human rights, justice, and civility; the subject of a recent Oscar-nominated documentary ("RBG," 2018); and even a fashion icon. When a Jewish person dies, it is traditional to say, "may their memory be a blessing," rather than "may they rest in peace." I hope that the memory of Justice Ginsburg is a blessing, and that her legacy continues to inspire generations to come. I feel overwhelmed in the wake of her death at 87 to metastatic pancreatic cancer, the same disease that killed my pastor three years ago, but I wanted to share this prayer, written by the Rev. Katy Stenta of New Covenant Presbyterian Church in Albany, New York, and shared with permission. I love her image of Ginsburg's infamous "dissent collar" being hung in the stars so that it can be a reminder that justice shines in dark times:

*'God, how is it that I can have a relationship with someone I've never met?*

*Sometimes, I don't even know the fullness of someone's personality till after they die, and yet I feel their loss.*

*I've lost a piece of myself today. So I'm crying out to you, God.*

*A woman who worked hard, a woman who wouldn't take no for an answer, a woman who had the imagination to see the world as a better and healthier place.*

*And because those things are what I want, too, I lost a piece of myself today.*

*You know what I mean, God!*

*Her notoriety was paved with refusals: refusals*

*to back down to the dean of Harvard law, her refusals to let cancer have its way first with her husband, then with her career, and finally with her life.*

*Her dissent was for justice for all and sparked whenever it was brought into the light.*

*She said no, when life told her to quit, over and over again. She was steadfast.*

*She was a fighter, small in stature and long in memory.*

*Lord, it is said a person who dies on Rosh Hashanah is tzaddik- a person of great righteousness; that they die at the last possible moment of the year because they are so needed.*

*Lord, you know we all needed a notorious and righteous RBG in our lives.*

*Lighting the way for all those who are striving to be notorious.*

*May that righteousness, that piece I feel like I've lost, actually remain like a lit fire in my belly.*

*Well done, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, good and faithful servant.*

*We here on earth are praying that you are hatching a plot with the company of saints. I know you are sitting with God and John Lewis and Chadwick Boseman.*

*And while you are plotting, we pray that you are hanging your collar in the stars, so we might see, and remember how justice shines in the dark.*

*Help us in our grief to cry and rage, and then find ourselves in your work, we pray.*

*Lord hear our prayer.*

*Amen.'*

Leia

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### Special points of interest:

- Facebook Streaming
- Donor Updates
- Manse Plumbing Repair
- Virtual Worship
- Deacon's Corner

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday, September 27, 10am: worship on Facebook Live followed by virtual fellowship on zoom  
<https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-coffee-hour-2020-09-27/>

Tuesday, September 29, 8pm: Bible study on Facebook Live

Wednesday, September 30, 8pm: evening prayer on Facebook Live

Thursday, October 1, 5pm: virtual fellowship on zoom  
<https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-cocktail-hour-2020-10-01/>



*GingerSnap supervises the  
plumbing repair excitement  
at the Manse.*



## A Message From Your Session Members

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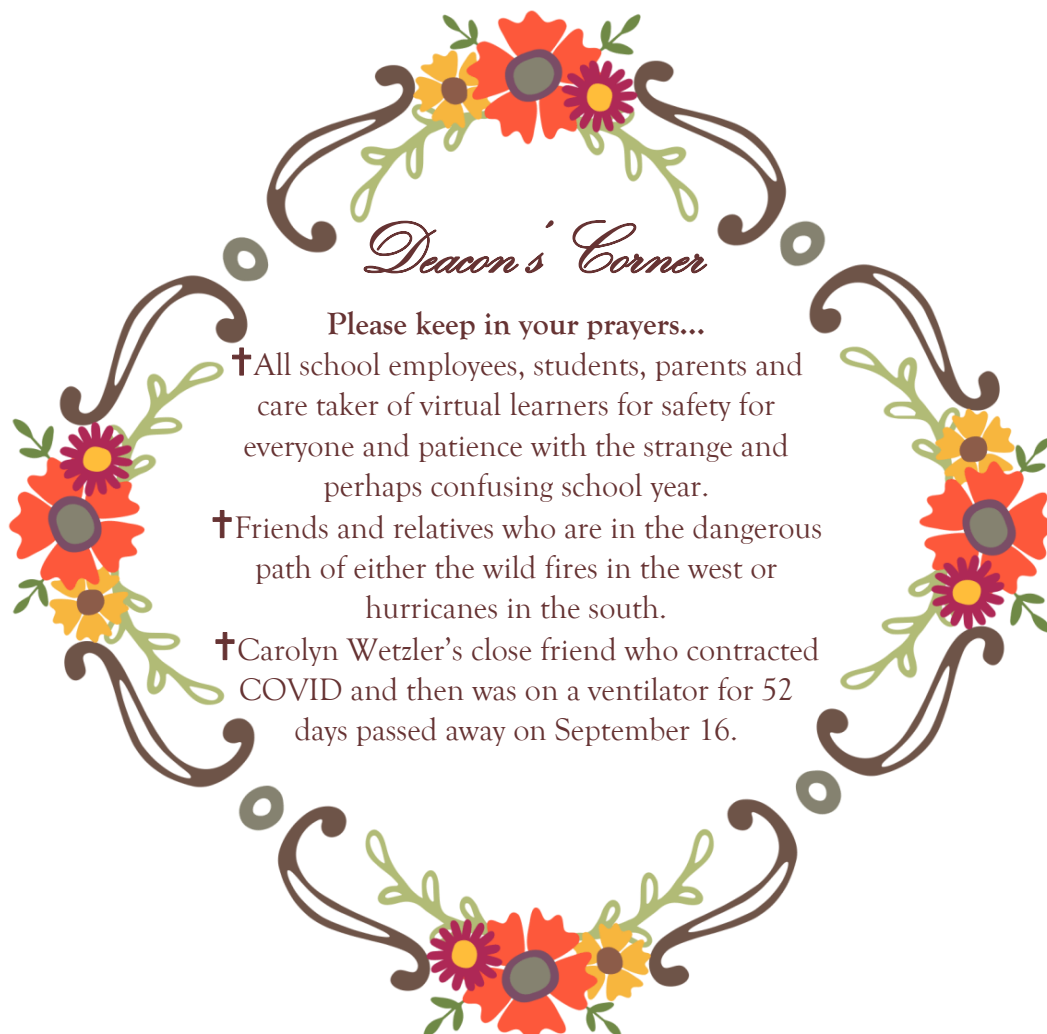
At the Session meeting on September 16, 2020, Elders voted unanimously to continue virtual worship. There was much discussion of this subject, as we know it will impact us all. The majority voted to continue through the end of October, but, while we are hopeful it is not the case, we also feel it will probably need to be extended further. None of us are pleased about the need to continue this manner of worship, but we strongly feel that we need to keep all of you safe. So, for at least another month, virtual worship continues. We are all praying that progress will be made to get us back on the road to normalcy. We miss you all, but we love you more. Please stay safe until we can be together again.

## “Thank You!!!” From Mission and Outreach

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A HUGE THANK YOU !!!!!The total collected for One Great Hour of Sharing was \$350. Thank you for your donations!!!!

This month we start the Peacemaking offering. (September 6th- October 4, 2020.) October 4th is World Communion Sunday. On that day we will receive and dedicate the Peacemaking Offering to support the efforts of our congregation (25%), presbytery/synod (25%), and Presbyterian Peacemaking Program (50%) to spread the peace of Christ and to give hope in the midst of challenge and conflict. The Peacemaking Offering encourages each congregation to find ways to promote peace within the congregation and within the community. Our church will retain twenty-five percent of the offering to be used locally for peace making activities. This year we will be making a donation to Safe House Ann Arbor. Safe House is a crisis shelter/center for those affected by domestic and sexual abuse.





# Thinking About Stewardship

The decision to give to our Church is very personal to each one of us. As faithful members of Peoples Presbyterian Church we must ask ourselves, “How is God calling us to respond?” when it is time to review our annual stewardship commitment. So, as we move toward Consecration Sunday on October 18, each one of us should be thoughtfully considering our answer to the spiritual question, “What % of my income is God calling me to give?”

Please look at the step chart included with this article. This step chart is based on those who pledged this year (2020). There were 38 pledges that represented 50 givers. Moving across the chart to the right we see the number of givers at the various weekly giving levels. Please ask yourself, “Where am I on this chart?” and more importantly, “Can I move up one level with my giving?” The guidance for this presentation suggests that we note that \$0.01 to \$4.99 equals lunch at a fast-food place and \$5.00 to \$9.99 equals a movie admission and so on. This comparison may be somewhat insulting so we will not pursue that comparison. Instead, consider that we all have a certain amount of disposable or discretionary income, that is income after bills and such that we have complete control over. We may decide to spend or save our discretionary income. Please carefully consider whether the amount of your discretionary income dedicated to our church truly represents the % of income that God is calling you to give to His work through our Church. Then ask yourself if you can move up one step with your giving.

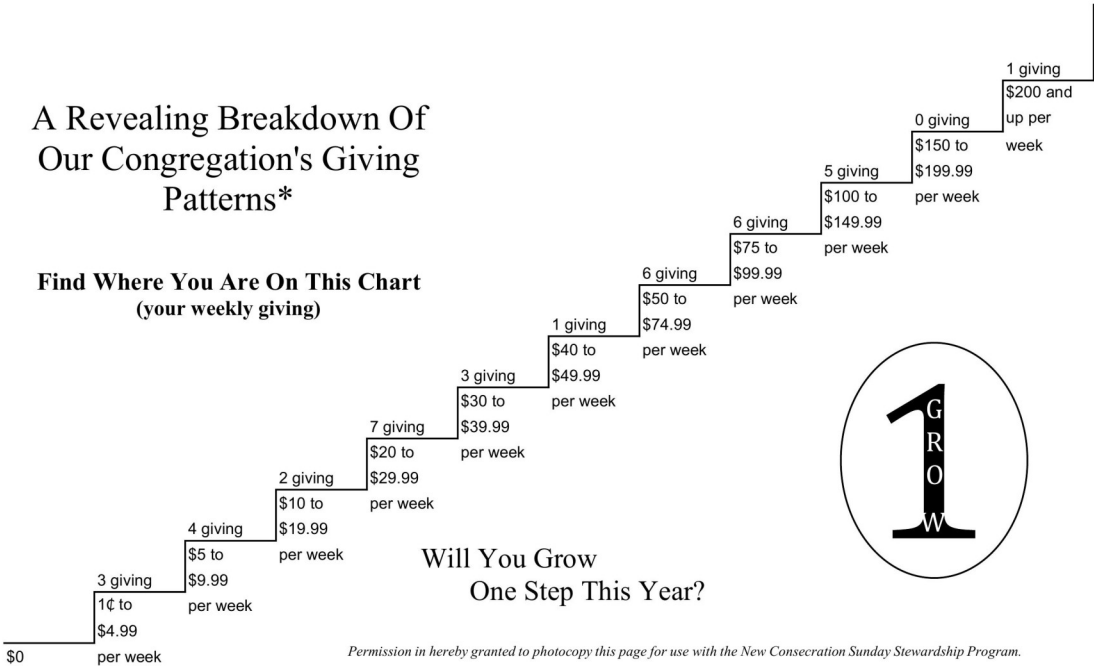
As you consider your personal stewardship call, please also make a pledge. Pledging helps you to fulfill your spiritual and financial commitment to this congregation’s ministry. It also helps your church leaders plan for next years’ outreach and ministry. Please understand that your pledge is simply a commitment to God and to your Church, it may be changed at any time with no need for

explanation and is not legally enforceable.

In this Covid-19 environment we are unable to gather and worship every Sunday, so dropping your weekly gift in the offering plate is not an option. You can mail in your check or drop it off at the office during office hours. Remembering to write that check and drive to the church can be problematic and the mail is expensive and maybe somewhat unreliable? We are offering you two options for electronic giving. One option is to fill in the information on the reverse of your pledge card, causing your pledge to be withdrawn on a recurring basis from the bank account of your choice at the intervals you set. The second choice is to use the “Give Now” button on the PPC web site and charge your gift to your credit card. These options are completely secure, and you are in complete control of the giving and can change it at any time. If you are not currently utilizing e-giving, we strongly urge you to consider starting to do so.

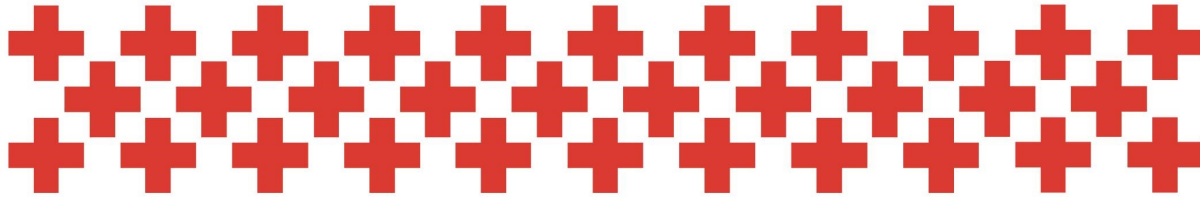
If you are unable to commit to a pledge in these difficult and uncertain times, we understand. There are those who participate in our Church without giving. While financial support is in no way required, we are asking those who do not give to ask themselves why they choose to attend and participate but not give. We also ask them to consider giving to help support and continue our Church mission. Remember that the “Give Now” button is on our web site for support when you are able. Checks may be mailed to the office at your convenience and envelopes may be dropped off at the office or delivered to any Elder.

It is imperative that we provide financial support to our Church. We need your support to continue our mission and outreach programs and to support our infrastructure. Now is the time to step up and respond to God’s call for your financial support.



\* Numbers reflect family/s or individuals that had pledged for 2020

# 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

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*Pastor: The Reverend Leia Rose Battaglia*

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Pastor's Email: [ppcpastor@peoplespresbyterian.org](mailto:ppcpastor@peoplespresbyterian.org)

Website: [www.peoplespresbyterian.org](http://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](http://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.**

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Sponsoring Organization: Organization Name Here

Contact Name: Contact name

Proposed blood drive date: MM/DD/YY

**Download the Blood Donor App | [redcrossblood.org](http://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