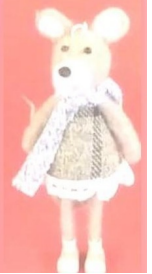




The Peoples Weekly Mini Mouse



Manse Cat Weekly: Musings from Pastor Leia / her cat

Volume 1, Issue 33

This week, we began the Advent season in the midst of a third wave of COVID-19 infections across the country, with 265,000 deaths, including 9,500 in Michigan. This season of our lives together has been a difficult one and while there is some light at the end of the tunnel with multiple vaccines on the way, we're not there yet. This is a season of waiting. Advent is a season of waiting, even when we want Jesus to hurry up and be born already, because we need to prepare ourselves for the incarnation first. This winter will also be a season of waiting, because we all desperately want to be able to see each other again, and sing, and go to dances, and go to school, and get out of the isolation that is breaking our hearts every single day. That day will come, but not tomorrow. Please don't give in to the despair that hope will never come.

On this first Sunday of Advent, we lit candles of hope, because God is always with us and because we know that Christ will come again and transform the world. We are a people of hope. We hope for a better future and that is exactly why we wear masks and continue to worship at home, because we know it makes a difference, even if it's small, even if it's hard. We're not giving up. We are hoping. We are preparing the way for the Lord and we are doing everything we can to keep people out of hospitals so that the medical community can focus as much as they can on the logistics of deploying a vaccine when it's ready.

Change is hard and loneliness is hard. Praying into a camera and sharing fellowship over zoom aren't the same and there are days when I want to throw my microphone away. But we haven't given up. We're still finding ways to connect, because we refuse to give up. That is what hope looks like, even when it's resigned, even when it's annoyed, even when it's frustrated that a stupid video file won't attach to an email. We are a people who hope. We are a people who dream. We are a people who are stronger together, even from six feet apart or farther, even with masks on, even when we have to come up with new ways to make it happen.

So keep believing. Keep wearing your mask. Keep hoping.

Leia



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Special points of interest:

- Christmas Memorial Tree
 - Advent
 - New Email Group
-

Happening This Week

Tuesday, December 8, 8pm: Bible study on Facebook Live

Wednesday, December 9, 8pm: evening prayer service on Facebook Live

Thursday, December 10, 5pm: virtual fellowship on

<https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-cocktail-hour-2020-12-10/>

Sunday, December 13, 10am: Third Sunday of Advent

worship on Facebook Live followed by virtual fellowship on zoom

<https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-coffee-hour-2020-12-13/>



There are two
Advent
calendars to be
opened each day
in the manse:
one containing
tea and one
containing cat
treats. 😊😊😊

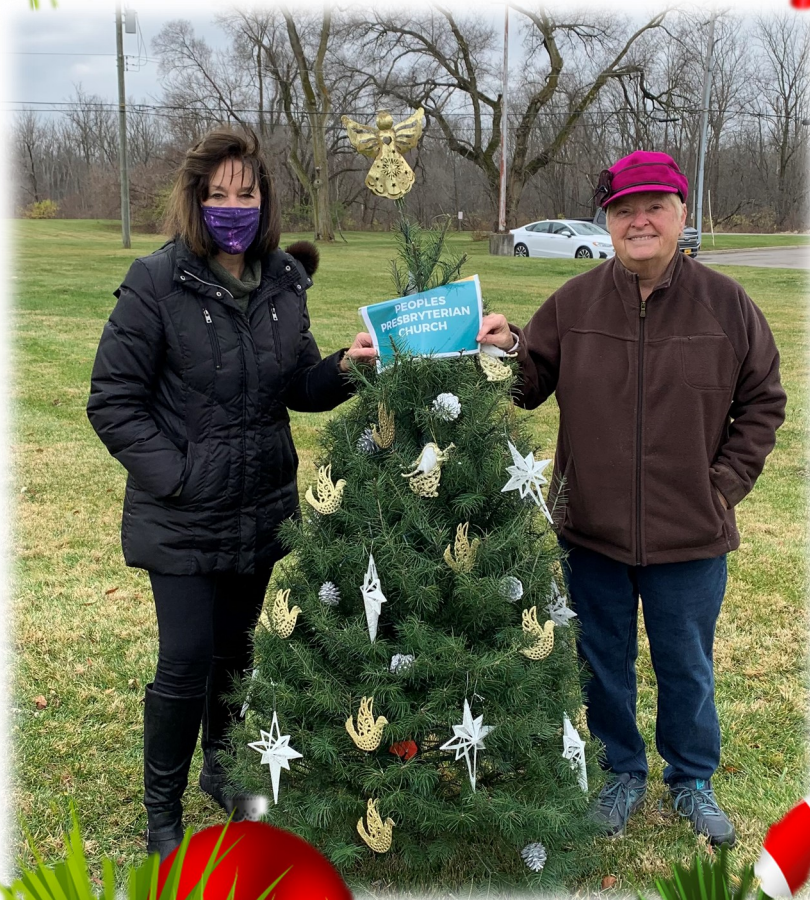
News from the national church: <https://www.pcusa.org/news/>

*****Please Be Advised***:**

Last week, Session voted to continue online worship through the month of December 2020 as COVID-19 remains a concern. Thank you for your continuing faith and dedication to Peoples.

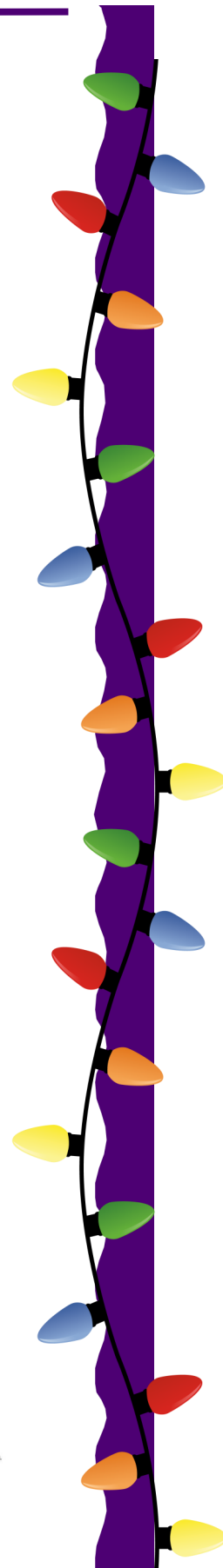
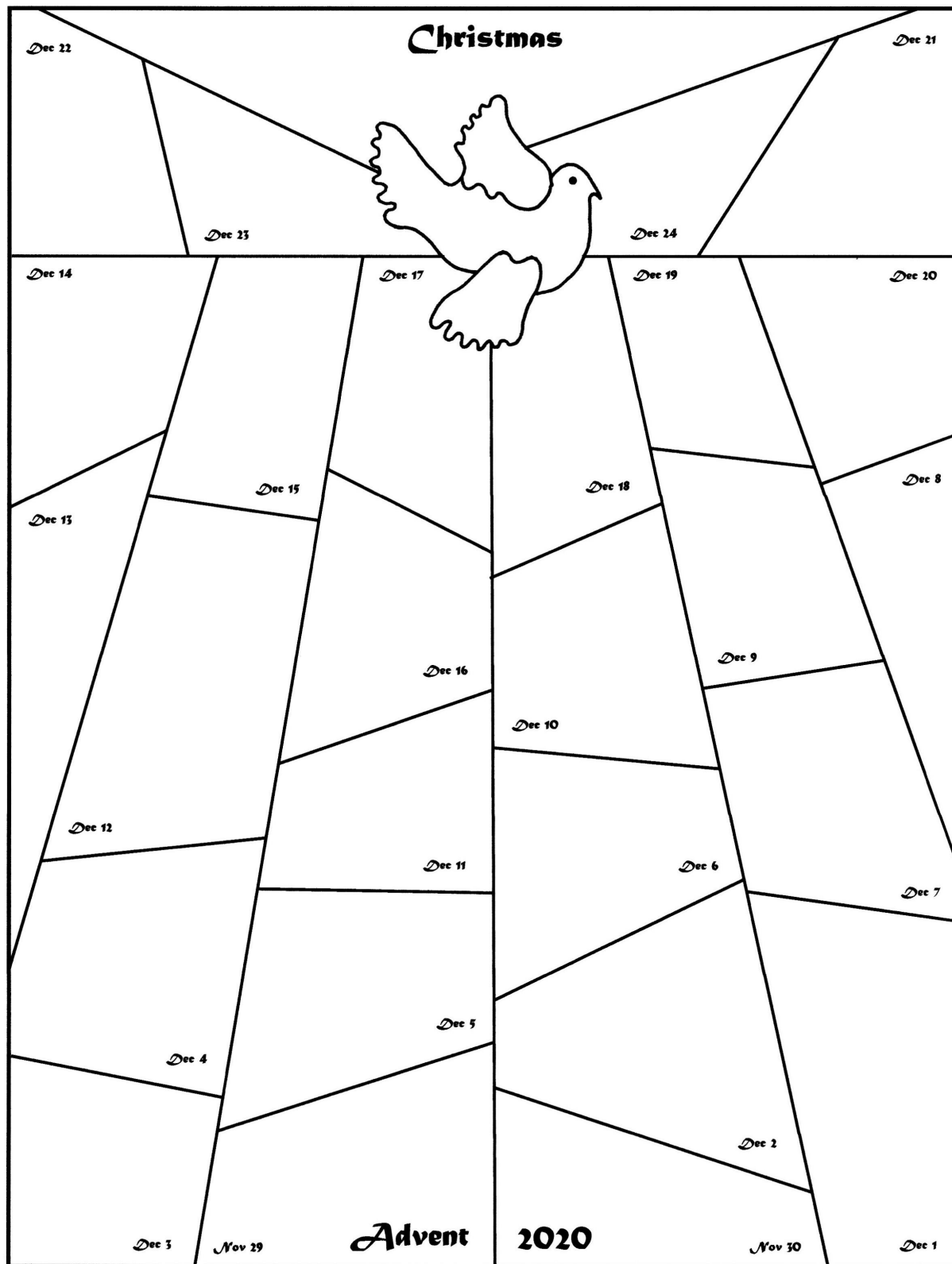
Memorial Holiday Tree

The city of Milan has set up a display of decorated trees this holiday season. The trees are located throughout the city and will be lit at night. The Wetzler's and Barneys sponsored a tree representing People's Presbyterian Church, which is located near Kroger and next to the drive-thru Chase bank.



The decorations consisting of doves, angels and stars are a memorial to the angels that have passed on during the year 2020. We are remembering Don Harkness, Nicky Bashaw, Ray Stanton, Cindy Marsh, Art Witbart, Von Thompson, Carolyn Wetzler's mother, Margaret Nieman and Bill Kolasa's father, William Kolasa Sr.

Advent Coloring Calendar



Here is an Advent calendar page from "Praying in Color". You might color in the spaces as the month progresses, or simply write a word or a name that you are praying for.

Christian Education

This Advent Wreath was sent in the kids' Advent/Christmas packets.

It is the families' Advent Wreath that has the dates each candle's flame is to be "lit" with either a yellow crayon or highlighter.

Even though we are apart, hopefully we can jointly light our Advent candles each Sunday.

May the true and glorious meaning of Jesus' Birth be alive to all of us during this unusual Advent Season.



Name that Christmas Song. . .

answers next week

1. righteous darkness
2. loyal followers advance
3. far off in a feeder
4. bantam male percussionist
5. monarchial triad
6. nocturnal noiselessness
7. Jehovah deactivate blithe chevaliers
8. proceed and enlighten on the pinnacle
9. query regarding identity of descendant
10. delight for this planet
11. give attention to the melodious celestial beings
12. arrival time: 2400 hours, weather: cloudless

Caps & Lids Update

We gathered all the many, many bags of caps and lids that have been brought into the church for the park bench project at

Pleasant Ridge Elementary School in Saline. Then added a bunch more bags from Nancy Kuzniar's extended family and the

picture shows you the result!!

They will all be delivered to Pleasant Ridge this week. Thank you for your donations, keep up the good work.

Carole and Nancy



We're Upgrading!: Transitioning from Yahoo to Google Groups

Hello PPC Members and Friends,

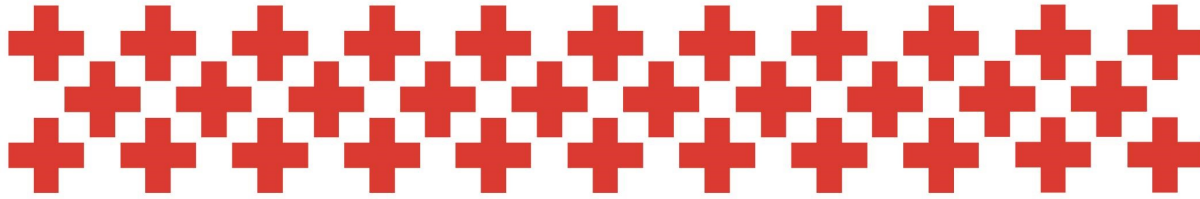
As many of you know by now, Yahoo groups will become obsolete as of **December 15th**. In light of this change, we are moving to Google as our group email host. If you were already on the Yahoo group list, you should have received an email notice that you have been added to our new Google Group. If you have not, please let me know, and I will be sure to add you. I know the Yahoo Group did not have the most intuitive process of joining. In Google groups, the process is no longer so complicated. Now, all I need is your email, and I can add you myself.

Thank you so much for your patience as we transition from Yahoo Groups to Google Groups. I so appreciate your willingness to be flexible.

-Alayna
Administrative Assistant



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

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?



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
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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