



The Peoples Weekly Mini Mouse



Manse Cat Monthly: Musings from Pastor Leia / her cat

01/28/2021

Volume 1, Issue 41

One frequently-asked question that I've been getting since last spring is why we aren't recording worship services in the sanctuary. The short answer to that is "because our sound and recording systems are literally older than I am."

If you've ever watched a DVD recording of one of our services, you've likely noticed a persistent background hum throughout. Depending on which microphone is turned on, there is often a higher pitched background noise as well. Our sound system was designed to amplify spoken voices, which is a different goal than recording spoken voices. Church sanctuaries have, historically, been designed for good musical acoustics, so I'm able to record the organ well, but when the

sanctuary is empty and there's more open space for sound to bounce off from, spoken voices have an echo that isn't there when the church is full.

At home, I'm able to use a microphone that plugs directly into my computer, which is also my camera. It has a fairly short cord, but it works well for a desk. I also bought a clip-on mic with a longer cord, but it's a lot fussier to use and won't always connect to the programs that I use to stream or record.

Being alone in front of the camera means that I don't have to wear a mask. Many of us have realized over the past year that being able to see lips moving is part of how we "hear" and understand people when they talk. Masks also cover a lot of the face, which means that conversations can feel a

bit flat without the dynamic of being able to see facial expression.

As I wrote last week, the reason that I live-stream worship rather than pre-recording it is because the act of filming, editing, rendering, and uploading is extremely time-consuming. I think that being able to include music, being able to have a different voice reading scripture, being able to show graphics, lyrics, and the words to prayers, and being able to put reminders or invitations on screen are all important things that help make services more engaging and interactive, but creating graphics, editing music videos, and putting everything together takes me an entire day every week. Some churches are fortunate enough to have tech teams who take care of video editing, but we

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor Message	1-2
Happening This Week	3
Mission	4
Caring Corner	5

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Happening This Week
 - Mission
 - Caring Corner
 - Annual Congregational Meeting
-

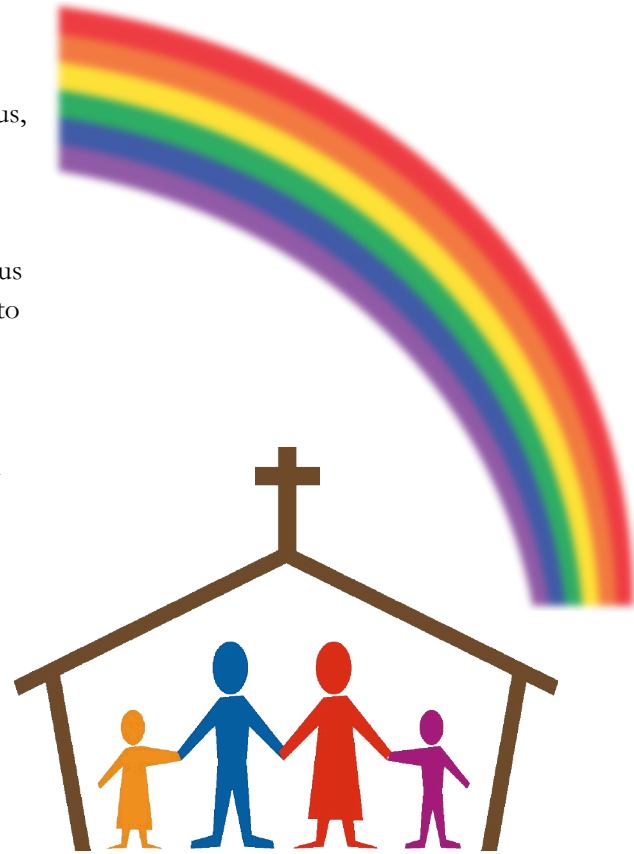
Pastor Leia Continued

don't. All of it is done by me, on top of planning the service and putting all of the readings, prayers, and music on a new webpage that I create every week. It's a labor of love because I care about all of you and want to know that you're able to sing and read and interact from home, but I cannot overstate how much work it is.

Some churches were fortunate enough to have already had good recording systems in their sanctuaries before last spring. Others have installed them since then, which usually costs about \$10,000. It's a good investment, but a large one and also requires having multiple people trained to use the new systems.

I know that all of you miss being in the sanctuary. I desperately miss the Before Times, and being with all of you, and feeling natural light fall on my face through colored glass, and feeling tangibly connected to the church that I've come to love so much over our years together, and so many little things that I always took for granted. I know that no online service, however well technically executed, is ever going to feel the same as standing in a pew and sharing a hymnal while singing together. I know that we're all angry about everything

the pandemic has taken from us, and desperately longing for vaccines to change the world, and so, so lonely. There are many things going on around us that we are literally powerless to change and I'm not sure we'd really be human if we weren't frustrated by that. We're all trying to do the best we can in a season of our lives that is difficult for all of us, and right now, the best way that I can lead worship is from home.



Happening This Week

Tuesday, February 2, 8pm: Bible study on Facebook Live

Wednesday, February 3, 8pm: evening prayer service on Facebook Live

Thursday, February 4, 5pm: virtual fellowship on zoom

<https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-cocktail-hour-2021-02-04/>

Sunday, February 7, 10am: worship on Facebook Live followed by virtual fellowship on zoom

<https://peoplespresbyterian.org/events/virtual-coffee-hour-2021-02-07/>

PPC ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 31, 2021

11:00 a.m. via Zoom

BE ADVISED: The zoom link is the same one used for coffee hour. You can join the conversation by clicking <https://zoom.us/j/146874134?pwd=K1krZkFrTnJMTHTFoV2JwdTk1QWdXUT09>. If you don't have the set-up to join a video conference, you could also join by telephone by dialing (312) 626-6799 and entering the meeting code 146 874 134, followed by the password 075003.

An Agenda and the usual Reports documents will be emailed to everyone on the PPC Google Groups email list during the week prior to the meeting. All the usual orders of business will be conducted including reports, election of Elders, Deacons, and the 2021 Nominating Committee, and the Pastor's Call for 2021 will be presented and voted on.

The Annual Meeting is ordinarily held in conjunction with a potluck lunch. Since that won't be happening this year, we encourage you to provide your own coffee and snacks

If you are not currently on the PPC Google Groups email list, please contact Alayna at the PPC office so she can add your name and email address.

-Nancy Kuzniar, Clerk of Session

Misson

Hello Friends,

As we all make our way through this pandemic, we find ourselves in different situations. For some of us, our income has not changed but for others their income has decreased or lost all together. All our regular bills continue to come in and many are items that are necessary - rent, gas, electric, water, etc.

There is an idea for those of us who received stimulus checks and really do not need them for our daily expenses. Aid in Milan has a fund that protects people who receive shut off notices for those necessary bills. As the government limitations are lifted on these items, the need will increase very quickly.

So, if you would like to donate to the shut-off fund at Aid in Milan, please send a check, of any amount, to the church office , 210 Smith Street, with "Aid in Milan" written in the memo section. Let's help our neighbors in these very uncertain times.

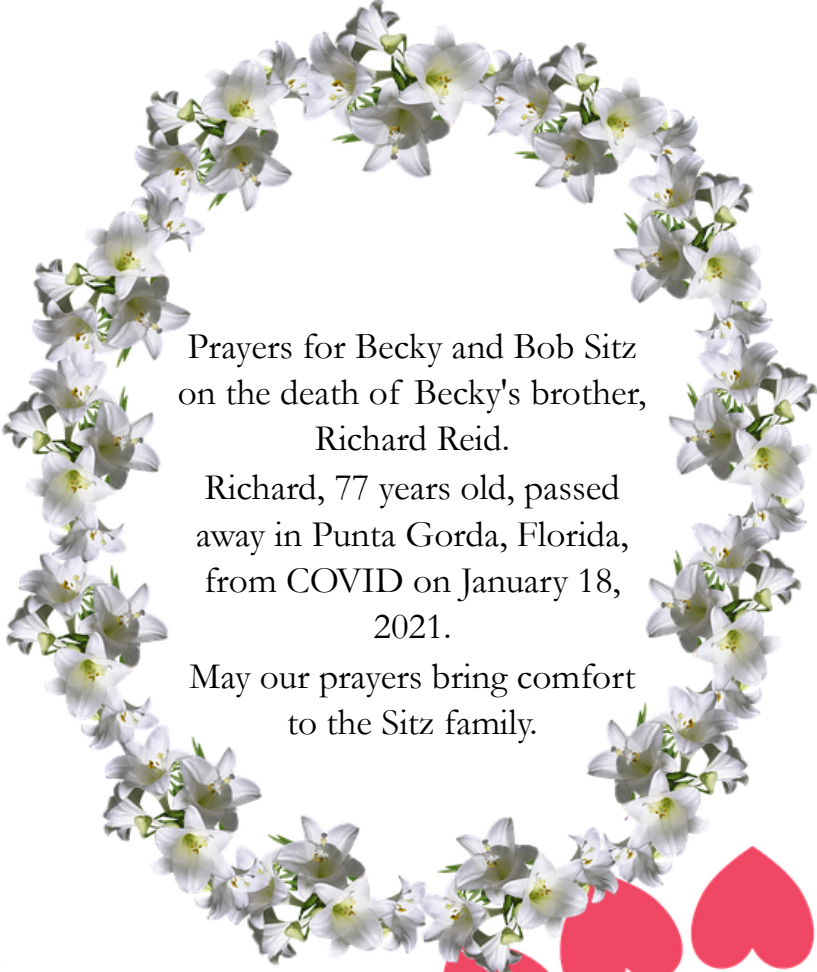
We also learned that Aid in Milan is in need of teenage/adult sized winter gloves. If you would like to donate some new gloves (so they do not have to be quarantined) please slip them into the mail slot outside the office.

Thank you for your constant and generous support for the citizens of Milan.

-Mission Committee




Caring Corner



Prayers for Becky and Bob Sitz
on the death of Becky's brother,
Richard Reid.

Richard, 77 years old, passed
away in Punta Gorda, Florida,
from COVID on January 18,
2021.

May our prayers bring comfort
to the Sitz family.



Mike Gauntlett has been hospitalized
for an injured elbow from a fall at his
home in mid-December. He will be
returning home this Friday, January
29. It has been a long hospital stay for
Mike and he is very anxious to get back
to his house. Prayers for continued
and complete recovery.

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