

A PLACE TO BELONG...

A PLACE TO BECOME...

A PLACE TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

**Special points of
interest:**

- VBS - Save the Dates
- Pentecost Sunday
- Youth Sunday

**We are continually col-
lecting:**

> **Pull Tabs**
> **Box Tops**
> **Plastic Caps & Lids**

Inside this issue:

Session Highlights **2**

Christian Education **3**

June Calendar **6**

July Calendar **7**

PEOPLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MILAN, MI



The Church Mouse



Volume 11, Issue 5

June/July 2017

WARM HEARTS

From my Wesleyan tradition, John Wesley wrote, "In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

"I began to pray with all my might for those who had in a more especial manner despitely used me and persecuted me..."

In the Reformed tradition, of which our denomination is a part, faith is central to our life. We celebrate the deeply spiritual writings of people like Calvin, and acknowledge the importance of others with which the PC(USA) has collegial relationships, whose clergy can receive calls to our congregations and moderate our sessions.

We also require our teaching elders [clergy] to affirm, and ruling elders [members of session] (hopefully) to accept, the doctrinal essentials as represented in our approved creeds – "The Nicene Creed," "The Apostles' Creed," "The Scots Confession," "The Heidelberg Catechism," "The Second Helvetic Confession," "The Westminster Confession of Faith," "The Shorter Catechism," "The Larger Catechism," "The Theological Declaration of Barmen," "The Confession of 1967," and "A Brief Statement of Faith – Presbyterian Church (USA)."

All this is a blessing from the Pentecost Experience (Acts 2:1-4) -- *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.*

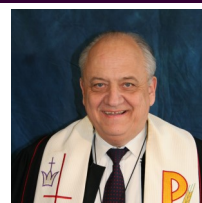
We of main-line Protestantism are at our best when we are able to combine head and heart, with our emotions giving us the "fire" to grow our faith and our intellect giving us the framework to develop it. Typically, many of us are better with our intellects than our emotions, but they each need to influence the other. If the Power of Pentecost is increasingly going to be present at Peoples Presbyterian, I believe we need to have several people willing to attempt to combine head and heart in intentional anonymous growth experiences.

Doris Ann and I believe a group for men, and a group for women, would be the best approach. We are looking for two more women and four more men so the groups could be viable

May our hearts be warm, our intellects be challenged, and our faith fulfilled, as the power of Pentecost become increasingly real at Peoples.

Dick

Sincerely,



FAREWELL



As you may have already heard, I will be leaving Peoples and moving on to another position. It is essentially the same job I have been doing here, but I will be working at the church I attend with my family.

I did not plan to leave Peoples so soon, but I was approached by my pastor, and feel this is the direction I should take.

I have truly enjoyed my position here, and getting to know all of you. You are wonderful caring people and I am blessed to know you. I hope that we will be in touch on occasion.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Office Administrator.

Blessings,
~Laura



MAY SESSION COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

By Nancy Kuzniar, Clerk of Session

One Great Hour of Sharing: Total received is \$1,244.69.

Pentecost Sunday is June 4. Everyone is encouraged to **wear red to church** that day.

Youth Sunday is June 11. The children will participate in many aspects of the worship service.

The June Session meeting date has been changed to Wednesday, June 28, 2017.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 10 – 14 with kick off on Sunday, July 9, 2017 and VBS wrap up on Sunday, July 16, 2017.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

By Carole London Christian Education Committee Member



This year's VBS will be July 10 - 14 from 6pm to 8pm. The theme is MEGA Sports Camp and the main story will be David and Goliath. We will be discussing what our personal "Goliaths" are and how we can overcome them like David did.

There are true stories of a variety of professional athletes who have faced tremendous set backs in their lives but through strong faith and courage, not only survived - but excelled in their desired sport.

For a craft idea, we are collecting tin cans in different sizes: big #10, and a bit smaller size. They will be used for "walking cups" by putting a rope handle through the can and the child can place their feet on top of the cans to walk as stilts and become their own Goliath, ready to overcome any hurdle that might come along.

Our nightly offerings will be donated to the Special Olympics organization for our Mission Project. We appreciate the great work they do and are pleased to be able to support them.

Our local Outreach Project will be to collect jars of peanut butter and jelly for Aid in Milan, to help the children of Milan have a nutritious lunch during the summer.

We are very excited to announce that for our Friday's Grand Finale, we will be hosting the Flying Aces, who are professional Frisbee performers. They will present a one hour show for us from 7pm to 8pm. The performers will also be available to assist the children in showing them some techniques of Frisbee throwing.

Flyers will soon be mailed out with all the information for the week, and inviting everyone to join us and bring friends. If you know of some children - neighbors, friends, grandchildren - who would like to receive a flyer, please pick one up in the Narthex or let us know and we would be happy to mail one off to them.

Plans are moving along and if you would like to be a part of this very high-energy week here at Peoples, just let us know - there is something for everyone!!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION continued

By Carole London Christian Education Committee Member

Lenten Mission Project

Our Lenten Mission Project brought in 85 pieces of children's clothing, 58+ craft items placed into a Craft Tool Box, 57 individual craft kits, 10 storage containers and \$40 in donations.

Delivery has been made to the Fostering Futures Organization in Ann Arbor. The staff members were very appreciative of our interest in helping them assist the children who become victims of awful family crisis situations. Fostering Futures has never had anyone donate items for their clothes closet, crafts for the children for parental visitations, and donations for their "emergency fund."

We should be very proud of our very successful mission project that greatly benefited the members of a population who cannot help themselves - our precious children.

Plastic Caps and Lids Collection

Thanks so very much to all the adults and children who helped to sort and clean the approximately 200 pounds of plastic caps and lids after the worship service on April 30.

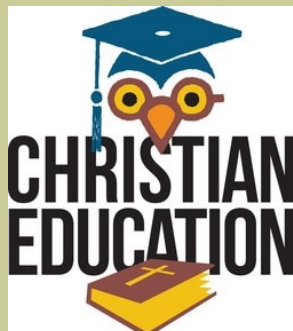
We filled 7 large trash bags with acceptable caps and lids and they will eventually be officially weighted at Dr. Michael Sweet's Milan Veterinary Clinic.

We are about half way there, with 200 pounds. We need a total of 400 pounds, so **keep bringing in all the caps and lids** and let's get this collection completed. If you need a list of the acceptable and not acceptable caps and lids, they are on the Narthex table. Thanks so much for all your support!

The children of CE were shown a video of how the plastic is ground into a powder and then turned into park benches, tables, statutes, etc. at Green Tree Plastics in Evansville in Indiana.

They saw pictures of the available styles of benches and colors to chose from. We are working with the Buildings and Grounds Committee for a special placement for the bench once we receive it.

This is a very exciting project for the children and the congregation.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION *continued*

Youth Sunday

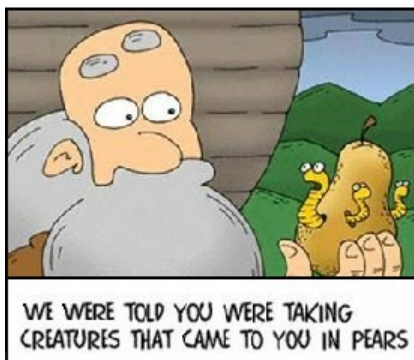
Our Youth Sunday will be June 11 during the worship service. We have two college graduates - Robert Bulmer from Eastern Michigan University, and Courtney Rae from Monroe County Community College. If you are aware of any other graduates, please let the committee know.

The younger youth will be involved in many parts of the worship service. We are practicing for our various parts in the service. Don't miss CE class, so you can help us prepare for a wonderful service. Our acolytes will be recognized and given a special pin for their name tags. CE Adult Support members will also be honored during the service.

A family potluck will follow worship on Youth Sunday. See you there!



Sunday, June 4, is Pentecost Sunday. You are encouraged to **wear red** as a symbol of power and fire of the Holy Spirit and we will receive and dedicate a Pentecost Offering





June 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 10 am Worship: Day of Pentecost, Communion, Handbells, Pentecost Offering, Green Tape Sunday, C.E. 11:15 am Deacon meeting - Lounge	5	6	7 7 pm Bookworms Lounge	8	9	10
11 10 am Worship: Graduation/Youth Sunday, C. E.	12	13 7 pm Worship and Music - Lounge	14 	15 1-3 Hats for Cancer Project - Lounge	16 10:00 am Audrey Edwards Memorial Service	17
18 10 am Worship: Father's Day, C.E. Session Committee Reports due to Clerk 	19	20	21 6 pm C.E. Meeting Youth Room	22	23	24
25 10 am Worship: C. E. Session Reports ready for pick-up	26	27	28 7 pm Session Lounge	29	30	



July 2017



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 10 am Worship: Communion, Green Tape Sunday, <u>No</u> C.E.	3	4 	5	6	7	8
9 10 am Worship: C. E. VBS Kick-Off	10	11	12	13	14	15
		V acation	B ible	S chool		
		6-8 pm VBS	6-8 pm VBS	6-8 pm VBS	6-8 pm VBS	6-8 pm VBS
16 10 am Worship: C.E.	17	18	19	20	21 	22
23 10 am Worship: C. E.	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10 am Worship: C. E.	31					