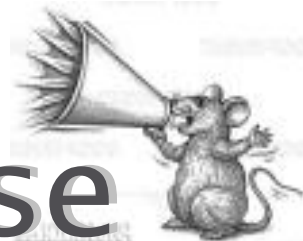


# The Church Mouse



Peoples Presbyterian Church, Milan, MI



## The reason I come to church

By Pastor Kelly Boubel Shriver

### Special points of interest:

- A report on the Chicken Broil, Pg. 2
- Rebuilding Our Walls, Pg. 3
- Reception Invitation, did you receive one? Pg. 4

### Inside this issue:

Mission and Outreach Report	5
Session Highlights	5
Christian Education Report	6
October Calendar	7

I'm going to go ahead and let my nerd flag fly proudly in this letter. You have been warned!

This is no secret, but I love Sci-Fi. I think I can say with confidence that it's my favorite genre of television shows, and near the top of my list for books and movies. I love campy aliens and imaginative planets, questions of space and time, artificial intelligence, and what makes us truly "human." Within the genre, my tastes range broadly. On a Friday night you might find John and me watching anything from Doctor Who to Star Trek (The Next Generation, of course!) to Battlestar Galactica or a great movie, like District 9. We love the tacky (aliens made out of fat, they're surprisingly adorable) and the serious, the apocalyptic and the utopian. Sci-Fi, as a genre, really captures my imagination. I love it.

It's not universal, of course, but one of the reasons I most love Sci-Fi is that I find it to be the most compellingly hopeful vision of our future I could imagine. Take Star Trek, for example. In Gene Roddenberry's imagined universe of the future, humans have moved beyond warring with one another. We are a united planet, concerned for the care and keeping of our environment, spending our time and energy exploring the universe to learn more about the unknown. Poverty and want are absent in the Star Trek future, because the society takes care of everyone's basic needs. All extra energy and funds are put toward science, exploration, art, and creative endeavors. It's hopeful in the extreme.

Doctor Who is the same way. Although the episodes deal with major questions of human history, both an imagined future and the truly lived past (Pompeii, World War II), in the end, the verdict is fundamentally hopeful. Humans are scrappy, tenacious survivors in the face of every terrestrial or alien threat. And for all of our flaws, people seem to keep coming out ok in the end. The Doctor keeps coming back, over and over again, because of the pull of our hopeful little planet on his two hearts.

Honestly, I love this, because I need relentlessly hopeful stories in my life. In the face of difficult news and overwhelming uncertainty in the future of our planet, our country, our town, our church, my own life...I need to be surrounded by stories of hope. I need to believe that the future is going to be ok, that we can in fact learn to live in peace. That exploration and learning can be foundational values of society. I need to hear, again and again, that we are capable of so much more than I currently see.

And so, I'm sure you've seen this coming...it's not just Sci-Fi I need in my life, as

Continued on Page 2...

## Continued from Page 1...

fun and sweet as it may be. This is also, at its core, the reason I come to church. It's the reason I'm giving to our building campaign. It's the reason I pledge to our general fund. It's the reason I teach adult and youth classes. It's the reason I serve at the Riverside meal. It's the reason I'm always out in our community, looking for new ways for us to serve. Because I need to hear stories of hope, and I know other people need to hear them, as well...and we have a whole book stacked full of them. Stories of ordinary people being used to free the captives. Stories of life brought out of death. Stories of tiny little churches growing into a movement of billions. And beyond our good book, we carry the stories of our people. Stories of a community that survived a fire and rebuilt the church. Stories of children raised and nurtured in the faith.

So, I'm going to keep watching my favorite tv show (and, good gracious, if you are a Whovian, please tell me, now. I need to discuss the latest season!). But, more importantly, I'm also going to keep connected to our stories. Stories that give us a hope and a future.



## Mission and Outreach Report: Another Fantastic Chicken Broil!

By Carol Volland, Mission and Outreach Committee Co-chair

The PPC Chicken Broil held on May 23 was a GREAT SUCCESS!!! Thanks to everyone for all their hard work. A special THANK YOU to Von Thompson, Ellen Bell, and Chris Thompson and his Sous Chef for making this happen. Special thanks also to Gary & Audrey Brown; Cindi Thompson; Sharon Thompson; Steve & Sue Barney; Dave Butler; Jeremy Bell, and his children, Roman & Katie Bell; Ken & Carole London; Cindy Marsh; Jo Lawver; Jenny Bell; Alex Volland-Frand; Dale & Janice Losee; all the other helpers; and all of the dessert makers. What a PPC Team!

Over 110 meals were served, including 17 take-out meals. There was a profit of \$847. A 25% building use fee of \$212 will go to PPC.

Again this year, the net proceeds (\$635) from the Chicken Dinner will help support Veteran Projects. This year \$318 will be given to the **Dundee Military Moms of Michigan** to use with their on-going "**Support the Troops**" programs. Many packages are sent to active troops throughout the year, as well as various other ways they support veterans in need. This dedicated group of mothers are also using funds to include phone cards when possible. Be sure to see the thank you note and picture of many of the "heroes" who are giving so much. The picture is on the table in the Narthex.



The rest of the proceeds (\$317) will be sent to The **Vietnam Veterans of America. The Washtenaw County VVA-310** is an organization dedicated to the continued care of Veterans. Being very supportive of our nation's current Service members, they have shipped thousands of "Care Packages" around the world in the past years. This is part of their "**Support Our Troops Campaign.**"

The Mission and Outreach Committee and the congregation of Peoples Presbyterian Church sincerely thank past and present veterans and their families.



# Stewardship: It's time to "Rebuild Our Walls"

By Steve Barney, Stewardship Committee Chair

Last month we explained that the Stewardship Committee will conduct a special Capital Campaign to raise money to complete much-needed repairs to the church, in addition to the regular General Pledge Campaign that we do each year. Here are the details on how both of these campaigns will work:

The Building Campaign theme is "Rebuilding our Walls," and you will see this theme name being used in many ways over the length of the campaign. It is raising pledges, and raising money, to pay for specific, high cost, building repairs and updates that have to be done over the very near future in the church building and in the manse. Monies will be used to pay for items like a new roof over the sanctuary (it's at the end of its life, and we are experiencing numerous leaks), new pump motors for our boilers (so we have heat!), waterproofing the basement of the manse (to stop the flooding), updating and working to eliminate possible water leaks in the church nursery, installing new electronic controls on our church heating and cooling system, re-painting the exterior of the church, and re-siding the manse garage. These are items that we do not plan for, or budget for, in our annual Stewardship Pledge Campaign, so we need a separate money raising campaign to cover these essential items. This campaign will begin now. You can elect to pay your pledge over a two-year period of time until the end of December 2016.

The other General Pledge Campaign is our familiar, annual Stewardship pledge drive to supply the funds to pay for operations and programs at the church for the upcoming year. Your pledge dollars pay for items like salaries of the employees, utilities, insurance, office supplies and mailing costs, per-capita dues to the Presbytery, the costs of running various programs associated with the Session committees, and many other items. Like last year, our goal is to raise \$100,000 in pledges for the 2015 calendar year. This is the amount needed to maintain the current level of programming and operations at Peoples. Our annual Stewardship campaign began on September 21 and will run through Stewardship Sunday, November 2.

If you have any questions regarding either of these campaigns, please feel free to talk with any of the members of the Stewardship Committee (Steve Barney, Jack Cranson, Doris Campbell, Brian LaFuente) or Rev. Kelly Shriver.

The Stewardship committee would like to thank you for your continuing support of God's work, and thank you for prayerfully considering your pledge to Peoples Presbyterian Church. Our mission and ministry to our members, friends, and neighbors is only made possible because of your generous donations.



## Check this out!

A new pledge card has been designed and has a separate space for the General Pledge and the Building Campaign. These are in the pew pockets in the church sanctuary and will be mailed out with the PPC annual Stewardship letter.

On the back of the card this year, you will see that we have included the Electronic Giving Authorization Form. Giving electronically keeps your pledge coming in to Peoples on a regular basis. If you need more information on how easy this is to set up, please call Michele in the office at 734-439-1922.

**Peoples Presbyterian Church Financial Stewardship Commitment for 20\_\_**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Grateful for God's love in Jesus Christ, I (we) make the following commitment to support the mission of the church through our congregation, presbytery, synod and General Assembly (general pledge).

Your General Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per  week  month  other (ie. Bi-Weekly or One Time): \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) would like to make the following commitment to support the 2015/16 "Rebuilding Our Walls" pledge fund. "I said to them, "Come, let us rebuild the walls." Then they said, "Let us start building!" Nehemiah 2:17-18

Your Building Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per  week  month  other (ie. Bi-Weekly or One Time): \_\_\_\_\_

(This commitment may be increased or decreased due to changing circumstances. Please notify the church office.)

**Electronic Giving Authorization Form**

Date of first donation: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
mm dd yyyy

Date of last donation (optional): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
mm dd yyyy

Frequency of donation (please check one):

Monthly on the 1st

Monthly on the 15th

Bi-Weekly (every other week)

One Time

Amount of donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ General  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Building

Please debit my donation from my (check one):

Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #)

Checking Account (attach a voided check)

I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Routing No: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

⑆1234567890123456789010001⑈  
Routing Number      Account Number      Check Number

**Office Use Only:**

Effective date of authorization: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
mm dd yyyy

Type of authorization:

New authorization

Change donation amount

Change donation date

Change banking information

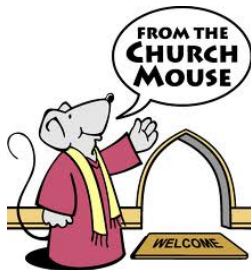
Discontinue electronic donation

# Buildings and Grounds Report

By Jack Cranson, Buildings and Grounds Committee Chair

- ✓ Repaired the a/c in the manse.
- ✓ Replaced a switch plate in the manse garage.
- ✓ Repaired light fixtures in the halls and the choir room.
- ✓ Replaced 12 bulbs in the church.
- ✓ Edged the church sidewalks.
- ✓ Installed a new doorbell at the handicap entrance of the church.
- ✓ Repaired the church's push lawn mower.

Many thanks to Jim Cullip, Richard Brown and Rod Cranson for all the help.



## Did you receive your invitation?



Thank you all for supporting

## Peoples Presbyterian Church

A place to belong...  
A place to become...  
A place to make a difference.





# Mission and Outreach Report: Peacemaking

By Sue Barney, Mission and Outreach Co-Chair

Peoples Presbyterian had the opportunity to host the August meeting of the "Mission Cluster," a group of people with various backgrounds from area Presbyterian churches, who meet regularly to discuss ways that we can work together on various local projects.

An example of this joint effort is the Riverside Community Meal. PPC (with your help) continues to send volunteers to serve at the community dinners at First Presbyterian in Ypsilanti on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

The projects have included our work to collect and donate personal care items for a Health Fair that was held at First Presbyterian in Ypsilanti. We have also volunteered to work on Mercy House in Ann Arbor, a facility for local homeless.

On the last Sunday in September, we will be sharing information about the up-coming Peacemaking Offering and how these funds go to work. The offering will be collected and dedicated on Sunday, October 5, during the World Communion Sunday worship service.



ALONE WE ARE STRONG.

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER!

Give what you **have**. To someone, it may be **better** than you dare to think.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS from September 17, 2014

By Nancy Kuzniar, Clerk of Session



**Rev. Shriver:** Much of August and September has been spent preparing and kicking off our Fall Events, including:

- † Annual Stewardship Campaign and Sermon Series (starting Sept 21)
- † Capital Campaign for "Rebuilding our Walls"
- † Sunday Morning Cartoons: Starting Sept 21, a weekly class for Junior and Senior High Youth
- † Adult Education Animate: Practices Class, Sundays starting Sept 21- this will also function as our New Member class for 2015
- † Wednesday Morning Bible Study will be tackling Ezra and Nehemiah starting Sept 10
- † Starting to plan for Advent (already!)



**Financial:** Net Non-committed money at the end of August was \$6,909.54.

**A.E.D. – (Automatic External Defibrillator):** The church's A.E.D. has been donated to Milan Seniors for Healthy Living and on August 26, Rev. Shriver delivered it to them. Milan's Police and Fire Departments have been notified that the A.E.D. is no longer on site at the church.

**Mission:** PPC hosted the Mission Cluster group on August 28, providing juice, muffins and coffee. This multi-church group of local Presbyterians meets regularly to discuss and support ways that we can work together for various local area projects. On the last Sunday in September, information will be in the bulletin, as well as "Minutes for Mission," to share information about the upcoming Peacemaking Offering which will be collected and dedicated on Oct. 5. We continue to volunteer at the Riverside Meal for local Homeless at First Presbyterian Church, Ypsilanti.

**Christian Education:** Friday, October 31 is Halloween. The church will host a Trunk or Treat event in the church parking lot on Halloween evening during Milan's trick or treat time of 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

# Christian Education: We are having so much fun!

By Carole London, Christian Education Committee Chair

Peoples Presbyterian's Christian Education Fall Kick-Off was Sunday, September 7. If you missed out, here's a quick update on what happened. It began with the "Blessing of the Backpacks" by Pastor Kelly. She presented all the students and the school staff members with a special cross clip to put on their backpacks for a safe and exciting new school year.



Rivet, our Vacation Bible School (VBS) mascot, delivered a no-bullying message to the kids, and then they learned the amazing story of David and Goliath. We shared our personal "giants" and were assured that with God on our side, we will be able to overcome any "giants" that come along.

Keeping with the David and Goliath message, recently, there appeared a 9 foot Goliath on the wall of the sanctuary along with his 12 foot spear. The kids then made their own 9 foot paper Goliath, wrote their "giants" on Goliath, and then threw marshmallows at him hitting him in the forehead (the only place he did not have any armor). The children enjoyed acting out the story in skits.



**The last Sunday in September (this coming Sunday), the kids will gather up their own 5 stones, put them in a pouch, and learn the meaning of each of the stones. Don't miss out, come and join us!**

Lord,

Thank you for all  
my Blessings!



The Fall mission project for Christian Education is to collect 80 packages of baby wipes for the Milan Food Bank at the Vineyard Church. Our baby wipe pyramid, at the time of writing this article, has 28 packages and still needs an additional 62 to accomplish our mission. Thank you to all the people who have donated to this project so far, **but we still need more**, so please help if you can!



It is time again for the fourth annual Pop Tab Battle for the Ronald McDonald Houses of Ann Arbor and Columbus. Cocoa-Cola will be awarding the winning House with a \$1,000 gift. The tabs have to be delivered to the Ann Arbor Ronald McDonald House by Saturday, November 29. This is the date of the Michigan/Ohio State football game. We lost the challenge by a small margin last year - let's bring in the tabs and beat Ohio State! Go BLUE!!





Everyone in the community is invited to come by the church during the Halloween celebrations on Friday, October 31, from 6-8 pm, for some special surprises!! There will be Trunk or Treating available, a special Halloween project, and lots of other fun things being planned! We will be providing warm beverages for the adults as well. So encourage your friends and neighbors to come by and enjoy a Halloween Celebration at PPC on one of the most fun nights of the year!



Halloween



# October 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p>October Fellowship Hour is hosted by: Christian Education</p> </div> 			<p><b>1</b> 9 am Bible Study</p> <p>7 pm Bookworms</p>	<p><b>2</b>  7 pm Handbell Practice</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>
<p><b>5</b> 9 am Choir Practice 9 am Sunday Morning Cartoons <b>10 am Worship: World Communion Sunday, Peacemaking offering received &amp; dedicated, C.E.</b> 11 am Animate: Practices Class/New Members Class Session Committee Monthly Reports due to Clerk.</p>	<p><b>6</b>  6:45 pm T.O.P.S.</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> 9 am Bible Study</p>	<p><b>9</b>  7 pm Handbell Practice</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>
<p><b>12</b> 8:45 am Deacons Meeting 9 am Choir Practice 9 am Sunday Morning Cartoons <b>10 am Worship: , Genesis Bells, C.E.</b> 11 am Animate: Practices Class/New Members Class Session Committee packets are ready for pick-up.</p>	<p><b>13</b>  6:45 pm T.O.P.S.</p>	<p><b>14</b>  7 pm Worship &amp; Music Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>15</b> 9 am Bible Study</p> <p>7 pm Session Meeting</p>	<p><b>16</b> 1 - 3 pm PPC Hats for Cancer Project</p> <p>7 pm Handbell Practice</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>19</b> 9 am Choir Practice 9 am Sunday Morning Cartoons <b>10 am Worship, C.E.</b> 11 am Animate: Practices Class/ New Members Class 11 am Mission and Outreach Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b>  6:45 pm T.O.P.S.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> 9 am Bible Study</p>	<p><b>23</b>  7 pm Handbell Practice</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b>  9 am Stated Meeting of Presbytery - Milford Presbyterian 238 N. Main, Milford, 48381</p>
<p><b>26</b> 9 am Choir Practice 9 am Sunday Morning Cartoons <b>10 am Worship, Reformation Sunday, Handbells, C.E.</b> 11 am Animate: Practices Class/ New Members Class Church Mouse newsletter Articles are due for the November Issue.</p>	<p><b>27</b>  6:45 pm T.O.P.S.</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b> 9 am Bible Study</p>	<p><b>30</b> 9:30 am Church Mouse Newsletter Collating</p> <p>7 pm Handbell Practice</p>	<p><b>31</b>  6 - 8 pm Halloween Surprise in the parking lot</p>	

# Peoples Presbyterian Church

210 Smith Street, Milan, MI 48160



*The Reverend Kelly Boubel Shriver, Pastor*

Phone: (734) 439-1922

Email: [ppcoffice@peoplespresbyterian.org](mailto:ppcoffice@peoplespresbyterian.org)

Web address: [www.peoplespresbyterian.org](http://www.peoplespresbyterian.org)

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon. to Wed. 8am - 4pm

Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 9 am - 1pm; Thurs. 9am - 4pm



## Newsletter Editorial Staff

Nan & Jack Cranson, Nancy Kuzniar, Gordon & Judy Parker, Michele Ward

Place  
Postage  
Here

Peoples Presbyterian Church  
210 Smith Street  
Milan, MI 48160