

A PLACE TO
BELONG...

A PLACE TO
BECOME...

A PLACE TO
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

PEOPLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Church Mouse

Volume 12 || Issue 5

June 2018

Manse Cat Monthly: Musings from Pastor Leia / her cat

Points of Interest:

♦ **Pastor Leia's message**

♦ **VBS — dates + theme!**

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On Pentecost Sunday, as we went out in peace to love and serve God and our neighbors, I closed our service with a scenario to act on: the Holy Spirit soared through our sanctuary and in Her enthusiasm, She knocked over the candles on the table, which were still lit at the time. “Let the fire of the Holy Spirit burn in your hearts,” I implored, “but please exit as quickly and safely as you can through the nearest accessible exit: either down two steps and through the columbarium chapel, or out the back and down the ramp to the parking lot. We’ll take a headcount outside and then share fellowship as usual.”

I am assured that our sanctuary is very unlikely to catch on fire, but regardless, the flames of the Holy Spirit inspired me to call for a fire drill Pentecost morning. Remembering that the original structure of our church burned down in 1951, I think that it’s important to occasionally refresh ourselves on our emergency preparedness. Have you ever been a part of a fire drill at a church before? Have you ever taken note of where our fire extinguishers are located? Do you know which exit is the most accessible from where you usually sit? Remember that the most accessible exit might not be the closest — if you use a walker or have trouble with steps or an uneven patio, you’re better off exiting through the main sanctuary doors and not through the chapel.

Did you know that an average of 25 home fires started by candles are reported every day in the US? It’s important to keep lit candles at least a foot away from anything that might catch on fire, to keep wicks trimmed short, and to never leave a burning candle unattended. Alternatively, there are options for flameless LED candles or electric wax melters that can make a room smell like a scented candle is burning. If you’re committed to your real candles, make sure that you keep them on a sturdy and heat-resistant surface or stand, and away from drafts, paper, children, and pets (ESPECIALLY cats named Gingersnap who are completely entranced by fire).

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The Bible is full of stories of big things happening that people didn't expect — I'm sure that the Israelites would have had bread prepared, packed, and ready if they had known what day they would have escaped from slavery and fled from Egypt.

Do you keep emergency supplies in your car, in your home, in your office, in your basement? I admit that my familiarity with tornadoes is mostly limited to The Wizard of Oz, but I have put some water in the basement, and I'm planning to take some flashlights, blankets, shelf-stable food, and a couple good novels down there, too. I'd love to get some pointers from people who associate tornadoes with something other than cute little dogs and green witches! I grew up having regular earthquake drills, but tornadoes were not something I was trained on.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us daily to walk closely with Jesus, and may we draw ever nearer to God, even in times of danger and uncertainty.

Pastor Leia



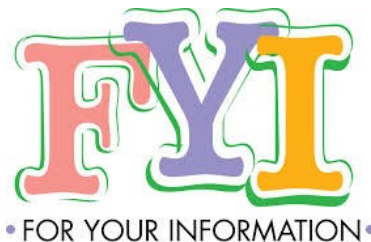
NEW Church Mouse Newsletter schedule

We are going to experiment with moving towards having a full newsletter published every other month instead of ten times a year. We want to keep the newsletter and its articles relevant and important, and think this might be the best way to do that.

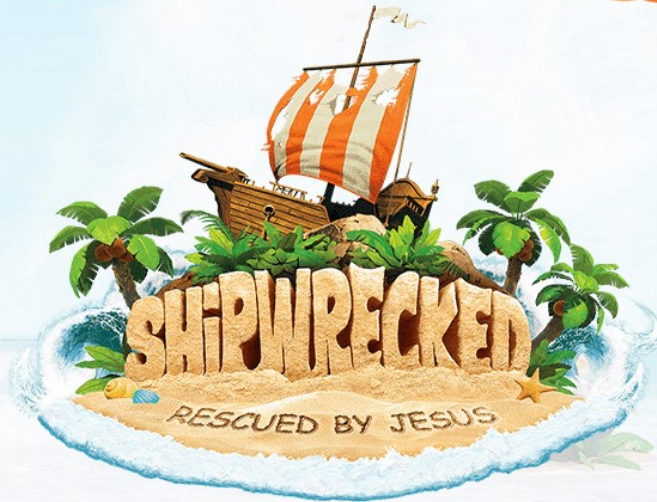
We will continue to send out the monthly calendar every month so that everyone will know about the events for the upcoming month, and we hope to start putting more events on it soon!

If you find yourself going through PPC news withdrawal, though, we've been doing a lot of posts to our Facebook page lately.

As always, we welcome any and all suggestions and comments. Please let us know your thoughts!



SAVE THE DATE



Vacation Bible School

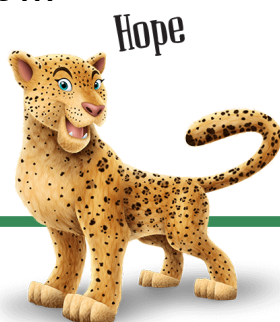
July 9 — July 13

We are going to be Shipwrecked!

Vacation Bible School is scheduled to begin July 9 – July 13 with kickoff Sunday July 8, and closing Sunday, July 15.

Friday, July 13 will be our Family Picnic!

We are in need of teachers so if you are interested, please let Carole London know.



Medical Moment

By Diane London



Medical Moment: On **Saturday June 23**, I will be teaching a **FREE** group class at the IHA office in Milan. The class will be held from 10 am to 11 am, and a continental breakfast will be provided.

This class will focus on Advanced Care planning, naming an advocate, considerations for the last phase of our lives and the type of Medical Care you would or would not want to receive.

Some topics we will discuss include selecting your advocate (someone who will speak for you if you are not able to speak for yourself), palliative care, hospice care, and considerations for planning a funeral. Open discussion is encouraged. This class gives you an opportunity to ask questions you may have about end-of-life plans.

You will be able to complete your Advanced Care planning document the same day of the class because the other class participants can provide witness signatures for your document if you feel comfortable finalizing your document the same day.

You must have an IHA physician to attend this class, and RSVP is required. Please let Diane London know if you are interested in attending or if you have questions.

Diane London RN, BSN



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EMAIL
ME!



Subscribe to our PPC Yahoo Email Group:

Send an email to this address:

ppcmilan-subscribe@yahoogroups.com



If you have any questions about joining or using any social media, Nancy S. is happy to help! Just stop by the office!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor Since our last Session meeting, we are halfway through our New Members class (which has thus far included the miraculous feat of getting through 2,000 years of church history in one hour). I have bought new pamphlets to update the narthex info racks, found ways to incorporate tea into Bible study and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles into a sermon, and we are halfway through our current Bible study book ("Wearing God" by Lauren Winner). In the next month, I am looking forward to what should be a very memorable Pentecost service, starting a summer Bible study series on Revelation, and hosting a concert in our sanctuary on May 24. Gingersnap is still wearing her white collar with spring flowers for the season of Easter, but is looking forward to putting on a red Wonder Woman collar for Pentecost.

Cancer Hats Currently for 2018, 108 soft hats have been knit and delivered to St. Joe's Oncology Unit, and four have been sent to a cancer patient in Missouri = 112 hats delivered.

Church Computer Session approved the purchase of a Church Windows payroll module, for a one-time purchase cost of \$379, plus an annual \$69 charge to cover support.

Buildings and Grounds New flush valves for the five church toilets were purchased and installed. A Manse basement storage door was repaired.

Christian Education On Sunday May 13, we celebrated Mother's Day, and the women of the congregation received a flower after the worship service. Graduation and Youth Sunday will be held on June 10. A Graduation breakfast will be held at 8:30 that morning in the Fellowship Hall honoring our graduate, Amanda Clarke. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for kick off on Sunday, July 8, and wrap up is on Sunday July 15. We are still in need of teachers - please contact Carole London or Lisa Pratt if you are interested in helping.

Membership The Membership Committee is putting together a new member packet of information for those who will be completing the new member class.

Mission and Outreach \$1,075 was collected for One Great Hour of Sharing. The Pentecost Offering is currently being collected.

Worship and Music Notes from Worship and Music Meeting May 8: Pastor Leia shared exciting plans for Pentecost Sunday on May 20, and ideas for decorating the sanctuary on that day were discussed. Tickets are available for the Bobby Jo Valentine Concert to be held on Thursday, May 24 in our Sanctuary. Posters will be distributed in various places in downtown Milan, and information about the concert is being shared with area churches. Gluten-free wafers are now available for Communion. New/different versions of the Gloria Patri, Doxology, and Lord's Prayer are being explored.

History – we do make progress In working to clean up old Building Committee files, the Clerk found several "wish list" pages from the early 1980s. These show how many of these "hopes for the future" have actually been accomplished, such as paving the parking lot, new carpet in the sanctuary including under the pews (originally the floor under the pews was vinyl tiles), air conditioning, and stained glass windows. Many changes and improvements have been made since the sanctuary was first built.



PPC Cancer Hats Project

From: Nancy Kuzniar



Next "Hats" date:

June 21

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Join us!

The group continues to meet on the third Thursday afternoon of each month, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the church Lounge, to visit while we work. Hats are gathered and a delivery is made to St. Joe.

Last year, a total of 222 hats were delivered to St. Joe Hospital's Oncology Unit and placed in baskets so that chemo patients could choose a hat, free of charge, to help keep their heads warm. Even in warmer weather, heads not used to being exposed are likely to feel chilly.

Please consider joining us in this project. There is no standard pattern – we knit or crochet whatever design appeals to us. The only real "rule" is that the yarn be SOFT. And washable.

The PPC Cancer Hats group also continues to knit and crochet hats at home, and away from home, while waiting for appointments and other events. Any "down time" is a good time to work on a hat!

If you do not have available time to join us, please consider donating SOFT pretty yarn for others to use to make hats. Soft store-bought hats are also welcome – just drop them off at the church and we will see that they are delivered.

Please join us in helping others.

Following "Hats" date:

July 19

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Join us!



Brown Bag Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Church Lounge

There's no special agenda – just bring your lunch and enjoy conversation with others while you eat and relax.



The 3rd Wednesday of every month!

Following date will be July 18!



2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
					1	2
3 10 am Worship, Communion, Green Tape Sunday, Handbells, CE <i>New Member Class</i> (after worship)	4 7:00 pm Handbells <i>End of year</i> <i>potluck</i>	5 7:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting - lounge	6 9:00 am Bible Study group - lounge 7:00 pm Bookworms - lounge	7	8	9
10 8:30 am Graduation breakfast - Fellowship Hall 10 am Worship: Youth/ Graduation Sunday, CE <i>New Member Class</i> (after worship) Session Committee Reports due to clerk	11	12	13 9:00 am Bible Study group - lounge	14	15	16
17 10 am Worship, CE <i>New Member Class</i> (after worship) Session Packets ready for pick-up	18	19	20 9:00 am Bible Study group - lounge 6:00 pm CE Meeting- YR 7:00 pm Session meeting - lounge <i>*Attendance</i> <i>required for new</i> <i>members!</i>	21 9:30 am Newsletter Collating - lounge 1-3 pm Hats for Cancer - lounge	22	23
24 10 am Worship, CE <i>New Members join the</i> <i>church!</i>	25	26	27 9:00 am Bible Study group - lounge	28	29	30



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