

A PLACE TO  
BELONG...

A PLACE TO  
BECOME...

A PLACE TO  
MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE

### Points of Interest:

- ♦ *Pastor Leia's  
Installation*
- ♦ *First Friday  
Movie Night &  
Potluck*

### Inside this issue:

<i>Manse Cat Monthly— Pastor Leia</i>	1-2
Toledo Mud Hens game	3
First Fridays Movie & Potluck!	4
Christian Education	5
New Members & Youth Spotlight	6
Mission and Outreach	7
Hats for Cancer & Membership	8
Session Highlights	9
PPC Social Media accounts	10
August calendar	11

# PEOPLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## *The Church Mouse*

Volume 12 || Issue 6

August/September 2018

### Manse Cat Monthly: Musings from Pastor Leia / her cat

With summer nearing its end and the temperatures finally going down (hallelujah!), I've been busy lately working on the church calendar for the next six months. Even though I've been out of school for a few years and most of you have been out of school for longer, I think the cycle of the school year is ingrained in our inner clocks. New things begin in the fall, even if we don't need to buy new crayons and binders and pens to prepare for them!

Since many families with kids have irregular schedules in the summer (the same often goes for adults who work in education!), church programming years often start in the fall so that everybody is together again. Last year, I arrived at this church right at the start of the programming year, when you voted me in as your pastor on the same Sunday that we blessed the backpacks for the fall semester.

What sorts of programming would appeal to you as we plan ahead for the rest of year? Would you be interested in adult education classes? Are there topics you'd like to learn more about from a guest speaker? Are there any questions about Christianity you've always wanted to ask? Do you have any ideas for ways we could engage with our larger community? Can you think of any outreach projects we should look into taking on? Have you ever wanted to sing in a church choir or ring bells? Would you be interested in being a lay reader? Are you eager for the opportunity to share a new favorite dish at a potluck? Have you ever wanted to learn more about planning your own funeral? Would be interested in joining Bible study or another kind of small group? What do you love about this church that we could do more of? I'd love to hear from you!



Continued on page 2

Over the next six months, I'm looking forward to preaching another month of Genesis and then spending all of September with Moses before returning to Jesus stories and the lectionary as fall turns to Advent. I've been having a lot of fun with our Bible study of Revelation, which we'll be continuing until we read a new book together in October, *What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?* by Martin Thielen. I hope that our new First Fridays movie and potluck nights will be a source of joy and fellowship for our church family, and I will be excited to see how it evolves and what kinds of dishes and films we'll get to experience and discuss together.

Obviously, I'm already looking ahead to Halloween and planning a costume for Gingersnap and a costume for myself that will tie in to a special sermon for the last Sunday of October—it just may be one that you won't want to miss! And of course, I know I'll be getting busy soon writing new settings for this year's Christmas Carol communion, but that still feels far away as I sit here writing while Gingersnap plaintively watches a summer thunderstorm through the window (I think she is disappointed that there are no birds to watch in the rain).

But most of all, as I start to pencil things into increasingly dog-eared planner, I'm looking forward to continuing my walk with Christ alongside Peoples Presbyterian Church.

Pastor Leia



### Pastor Leia's Installation Service

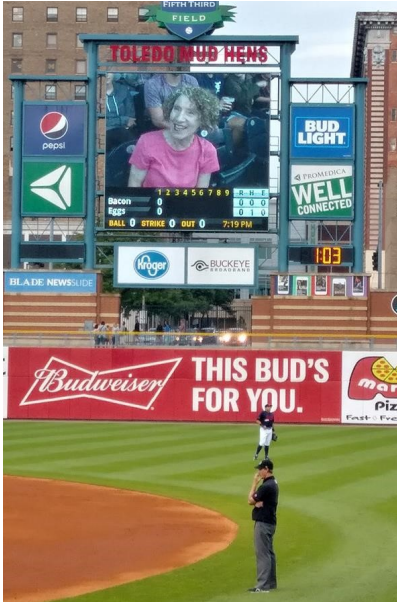
Pastor Leia's Installation Service will be on  
September 2, 2018 at 3:00 pm.

Pastor Leia will preside over a new sung communion setting that she wrote for the occasion—in duet with another pastor friend!

Doris Ann Campbell is organizing a reception to follow the service. All are welcome to attend!

## Toledo Mud Hens Game—New Annual Tradition!

There were about 30 of us who traveled down to Toledo to watch the Mud Hens game on Saturday, July 21.



We had perfect weather, and even better was our time for fellowship and the enjoyment of all the typical concession stand goodies!

Mary Huber played a game on the big screen . . . and won! She received a gift card from ABC Warehouse! Yay, Mary!

Fireworks after the game were constant, impressive, and lengthy - worth staying until 10:30 pm at the ball stadium!

Getting home around midnight did not keep us away from church the next day . . . we were there, were you?

*Thanks to Mary and Bob Elliott who organized the Mud Hens trip!*

They even provided a trivia question page before the game and a winning prize of a Mud Hens bobble-head to the lucky winner!

This special bobble-head will be a traveling prize each year . . . join us next year for your chance to have the pleasure of possessing the Mud Hen bobble-head for a year.



***"A good time was had by all!!!"***



## First Friday—Movie Night & Potluck

In August, we will be starting "First Fridays Movie and Potluck Nights!!!"



Meet at the church at 7:00 pm and bring friends and a dish to share. Dinner and a movie should be a great way for our community to come together in fellowship and conversation. We will eat and watch the movie in the church lounge.



### FIRST FRIDAY MOVIE

Join us Friday, August 3 at 7:00 pm for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (1999).

This fun and over-the-top film version of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's beloved musical stars Donny Osmond. The movie is not rated and is appropriate for all ages. There will be a time for questions, thoughts, and discussion after the film. Join us for fun, food, and fellowship!

# Christian Education

By Carole London  
Christian Education Committee

Hello, Peoples . . .

All the castaway children at Shipwrecked VBS experienced a fun-filled week of activities, toe-tapping music videos, life changing lessons, keepsake crafts, water games, and assorted sea creature snacks. Certainly a week to remember!

Our lessons reminded us that no matter what happens to us . . . Jesus will rescue!! When we are lonely, when we worry, when we struggle, or when we feel powerless - Jesus will rescue us! He is our best friend and wants to hear from us all the time. Whether we have a problem, something to celebrate, a prayer request, or if something wacky happened to us.

Our local outreach project was collecting bottled water for **Aid in Milan** so all the families in town will stay hydrated all summer.

**Soles4Souls** was our mission project and we collected two full donation boxes of used shoes. (see more below!)



Our Grand Finale was indeed Grand! After our family worship, Capain Evans and Scott Goodwin from the Milan Fire Department joined us for the potluck, and then entertained the kids with a huge "tropical storm" out in front of the church (our grass received a well-needed watering!). The kids went wild . . . in a good way!

Such a success is not possible without the generous and continued support of the congregation with food, money, time, talents, volunteers, and most of all your prayers and well wishes!!!

**Thank You!**

- CE Committee



## Soles4Souls mission project a success!

We collected 75 pairs of children's and adult shoes during our week of VBS along with \$115 in our nightly offering. The shoes will be delivered to DSW in Ann Arbor and the money donation will be sent directly to Soles4Souls.

Thank you everyone for your donations of both shoes and money. It feels so good to support such a very worthy organization that is helping so many needy people in our world. *We can make a difference!*

## Dates to remember:

☆ **Fall Kick off: September 9** . . . . . you won't want to miss it

☆ **Christmas Pageant: December 16** . . . help tell the favorite Christmas Story!

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We were recently blessed with SIX new members of our Peoples family! For six weeks, we gathered to talk about our faith and had classes on "The Bible and the Revised Common Lectionary," "Church History from the Early Christians to Peoples Presbyterian Church," "Elders, Deacons, and Presbyterian Government," "Doctrines and the Book of Confessions," "Theology, Ethics, the Christian Life, and LGBT History," and "Worship and the Sacraments." We wrote our own class confession of faith and collectively planned the worship service at which five of our six new members were formally introduced to the congregation. Our new members are not new faces to this church, but I encourage everyone to welcome them to our family and get to know them better!

- † Boston Bashaw
- † Brooklyn Bashaw
- † Amanda Clarke
- † Alex Vollink-Frand
- † Sara Fital
- † Patti Fitzpatrick



Pictured, left to right: Sara Fital, Amanda Clarke, Brooklyn Bashaw (back), Patti Fitzpatrick, and Alex Vollink-Frand. Not pictured: Boston Bashaw.

## YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Camron Heeringa (left) and Reese Rupert (right).

In May, Camron and Reese had a softball game against one another!



## Riverside Community Meals

Did you know that each month, we have volunteers who bake/donate dessert and serve meals to the homeless at First Presbyterian in Ypsilanti?

If you prefer not to bake/donate dessert, you can still volunteer to come and serve food to the homeless. Or, if you prefer to only bake/donate dessert, but not attend, you can do that too!



**WHERE:** First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti  
300 N. Washington Street



**WHEN:** 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month



**WHAT:** Bake/donate desserts and/or come serve, sit, and talk with the community

Mission needs your help. We are still very involved in taking desserts on the fourth Wednesday of each month to First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti for their Riverside Community Meal program. The Riverside Church is part of the Ypsilanti Hunger Coalition: an association of local churches including First United Methodist, Holy Trinity, First Presbyterian, and St. Matthew's United Methodist, who for several decades have prepared and served free meals for those in need in the Ypsilanti area. The meals typically feed 60 – 80 people, sometimes more, on a weekly basis.

Peoples Presbyterian Church provides a dessert once a month for 60 - 80 people. It can be **any dessert**—in the past we have brought sheet cake, cupcakes, cookies, and brownies.

You do not have to feel obligated stay for the meal to help serve; you can drop off a dessert or contact anyone on the Mission Committee to deliver your dessert. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please consider helping out! If you have any questions, please contact Chad Lawver.

**A huge thank you to the congregation for the Pentecost Offering.** We raised a total of \$530. A \$200 donation was made to Milan High Schools' Lifesavers (anti-depression and suicide) and Peer Mediation (Healthy conflict resolution and positive relationships) Programs!



# PPC Cancer Hats Project

From: Nancy Kuzniar



Next "Hats" date:

**August 16**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm**

**Join us!**

**August 16**  
(the third Thursday)

**1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

**PPC Lounge**



To socialize while we knit or crochet or sew hats for cancer patients.

The hats are donated to the Oncology unit at St. Joe Hospital for patients who have lost their hair due to chemo treatments.

Following "Hats" date:

**September 20**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm**



## Note from Membership

Our new church directory, published by Lifetouch, is almost ready—we have been looking over the proof, and will soon have it finalized! Then, it will be sent to the publishing department for printing!

Hopefully you will have your new directory within the next month. Thanks to all who participated in the portrait sittings. We hope you are enjoying your complimentary portrait!

- Sue Barney and the Membership committee





## Session Highlights – June 20, 2018 Meeting

**Pastor** Since our last Session meeting, I have coordinated a colorful and multilingual Pentecost service, attended a volunteer appreciation dinner at the federal prison, met with several local pastors, finished the book *Wearing God* by Lauren Winner in our Bible study group, concluded our New Members Class, and planted purple flowers in the manse window boxes. Over the upcoming weeks, I'm looking forward to our summer Bible study reading of Revelation, continuing a summer sermon series on classic stories, planning some fun events for our church family, and attending a family wedding on the West Coast. Planning is also underway for my installation service, September 2 following worship. Gingersnap is currently wearing a rainbow collar for Pride Month.

**New Members** Six new members were approved on June 20, 2018: Boston Bashaw, Brooklyn Bashaw, Amanda Clarke, Sara Fital, Patti Fitzpatrick, and Alex Vollink-Frand. They will come before the congregation on Sunday, June 24, 2018. With these additions, the church now has 116 Active Members, and most continue a tradition of family membership at PPC.

**PPC Women's Group** The Cancer Hats group continues to meet monthly to create hats for cancer patients who have lost their hair. To date for 2018, 140 knit hats have been delivered to St. Joe's Oncology Unit, and four have been sent to a cancer patient in Missouri = 144.

**Buildings and Grounds** Repaired sound system connections with Dave Butler. Trimmed trees around church and parking lot. Grass cutting is proceeding weekly. There is new roof damage that has resulted in more flooding in the pastor's office.

**Christian Education** Graduation Sunday and Youth Sunday started with an excellent breakfast prepared by Ellen Bell. Amanda Clarke told us what she was going to do after graduation and her plans for the coming year. The youth did well with the service.

We are gearing up for Vacation Bible School where we will be "Shipwrecked" for the week. We will be doing t-shirts for all the kids and volunteers. The fire department will come on Friday evening after our closing potluck to spray the kids with fire hoses. After VBS we will be working on Bible lessons during Sunday School.

**Membership** Membership continues to work with Nancy S. on the finishing details for the new Pictorial Church Directory.

**Mission and Outreach** The \$1,070 collected for One Great Hour of Sharing has been sent in. The Pentecost Offering brought in \$530; \$212 (40%) will be given to Peer Mediation and Life Savers at Milan High School, and \$318 will be sent to PCUSA. A Christmas in July Collection, organized by the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church congregation, has invited local congregations to participate. Sue Barney is organizing the PPC effort.

**Worship and Music** Discussion of future Worship Services revolving around members' favorite Bible stories and favorite hymns. Positive comments were made regarding Pentecost Sunday, with members taking part in the service in various languages, releasing of balloons and doves. The Bobby Jo Valentine concert was discussed; hopefully he will be in the area in another year or two.



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EMAIL  
ME!



**Subscribe to our PPC Yahoo Email Group:**

Send an email to this address:

[ppcmilan-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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!



# AUGUST 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
 			1 9:00 am Bible Study group - lounge Revelation 7-8  3:00 pm Calendar Planning Meeting	2	3  7:00 pm <i><b>First Fridays</b></i> —Movie & Potluck!	4
5 <b>10 am Worship, Communion, <u>Green Tape Sunday</u>, CE</b> Session monthly reports due to Clerk	6	7	8 No Bible Study	9	10	11
12 <b>10 am Worship, CE</b> Session packets ready for pick-up	13	14	15 No Bible Study  6:00 pm CE Meeting— YR 7:00 pm Session meeting - lounge	16  1-3 pm Hats for Cancer - lounge	17	18
19 <b>10 am Worship, CE</b>	20	21  7:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting - lounge	22 9:00 am Bible Study group - lounge Revelation 9-10  Riverside Community Meal at First Pres in Ypsi	23	24	25
26 <b>10 am Worship, CE</b>	27	28	29 9:00 am Bible Study group - lounge Revelation 11-12	30	31	



# Peoples Presbyterian Church

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*Pastor: The Reverend Leia Rose Battaglia*

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Website: [www.peoplespresbyterian.org](http://www.peoplespresbyterian.org)

Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

## Newsletter Editorial Staff

Nan and Jack Cranson, Nancy Kuzniar, Gordon & Judy Parker, Nancy S.



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