

A Sermon on Being Blessed

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for April 25th, 2021 (and beyond)

I begin this sermon by wishing the Joker a happy 81st birthday. In Washington State, the jurisdiction that #TaoFu governs the area in which the physical manifestations of me, my church, and mission headquarters can be found, the minimum wage is \$13.69/hour. That is the minimum objective value of any work anyone does in Washington State including tipped professionals (i.e. servers). Though the federal minimum wage for tipped professionals is \$2.13/hour guaranteed. It does vary by state. For the purposes of this sermon, I'll be using the WA \$13.69 rather than the FED \$2.13 to calculate value of labor hours in objective terms.

For most victim, consumer, and survivor requests, it takes me 15 minutes per request if the request is sent via e-mail. Often people are looking for reporting resources, guidance with navigating the reporting process, an opportunity to inform the public or raise awareness, and additional victims in the event they are pursuing a civil lawsuit. Or, people are looking for more information on an entity enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program (for conversion programs+) because they are considering it or are reconsidering it. I respond to such inquiries from 3pm-11pm daily. Phone calls and crises that demand more attention can last hours and/or take up to months in some situations to resolve. There have been a few that have taken more than one year. All such communications I do my best to limit to between 3pm-11pm daily. However, if there is an actual emergency, I will make exceptions and will respond outside of those hours. I've been doing this since 2002. Please see my credentials (including education and work history) at <https://www.cope.church/credentials.pdf>. To understand more about my situation, you may also wish to see <https://www.cope.church/medical.pdf>. I've done all of this with a great generosity of spirit on a shoestring budget. In 2020, the church and mission received a total of \$1,191 in funding from congregants and supporters. That did not cover overhead (Overhead refers to the ongoing business expenses not directly attributed to creating a product or service. It is important for budgeting purposes but also for determining how much a company must charge for its products or services to even make ends meet) for 2020. So, some cuts were made for 2021 that reduce accessibility, but not availability. This is why 2021's minimum fundraising goal is \$1000. For more information see <https://www.cope.church/fellowship.htm> (scroll down to goals). So far there has been one Anonymous gift of \$25.25 in the name of Rage Against The Machine this year. Thank you "Anonymous". You are welcome.

The Prometheus-themed Mystery Bonus Blessing cannot be described without likely revealing what it is in the event no one has spoiled the surprise for you yet. The objective value of all it entails (without valuing my design, just the labor + materials) is less than \$1, which includes shipping and handling. All are eligible for one mystery bonus blessing whether they give to the church and mission or not while supplies last. (2500 limit). See <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> and scroll down for more info.

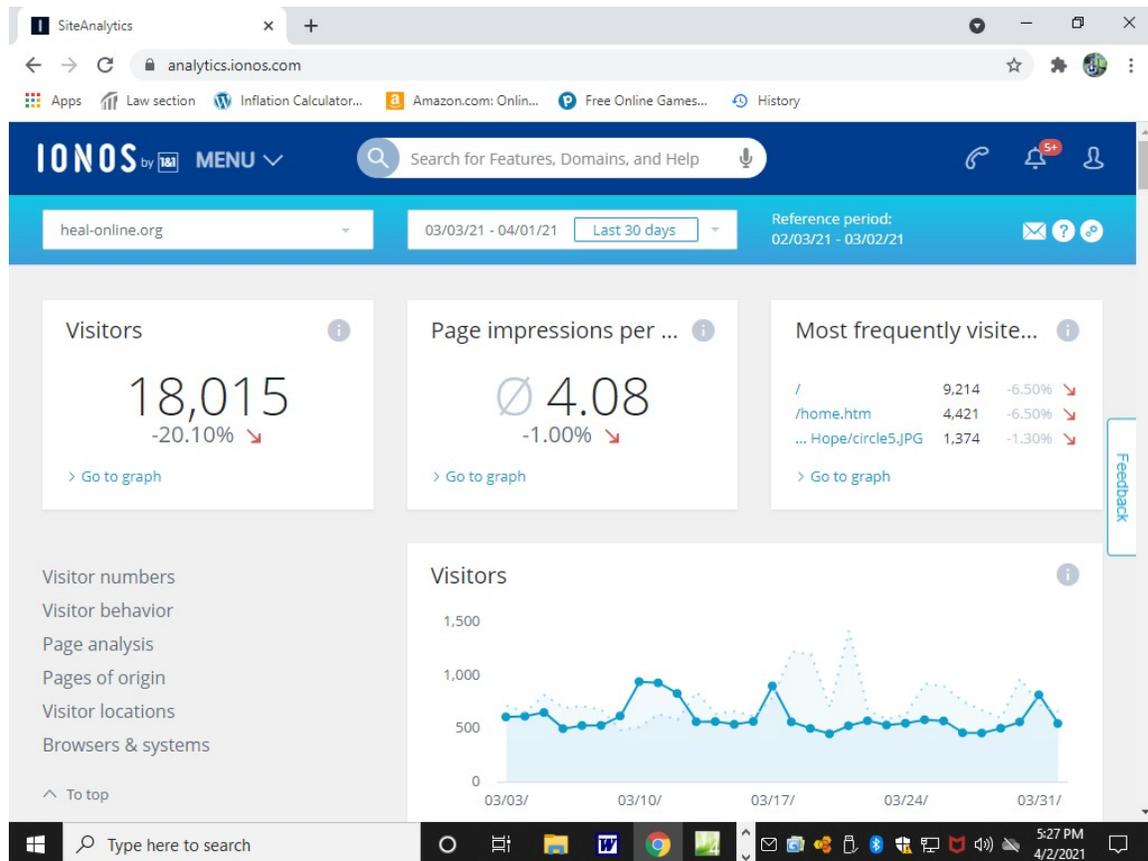
The Cat Lovers Bonus Blessing, which also entails a little mystery, objectively cost \$0.17-\$0.50 in materials and \$7.98 in labor per toy. The materials include yarn (est.

\$3.44/7 oz), re-purposed cardboard (donated/free), and a noisemaker with a value of approximately \$0.005-\$0.33 in the free market. I make them and it is a 35-minute labor of love for sure. The shipping and handling/packaging will cost an estimated \$5 per unit shipped. And, of course you will get any active bonus blessings you do not disclaim and/or pay forward. However, as a result of expenses associated with this bonus blessing, there is a minimum \$7 gift amount that must be received so I can get it to you. The toys are durable, safe, and cats love them.

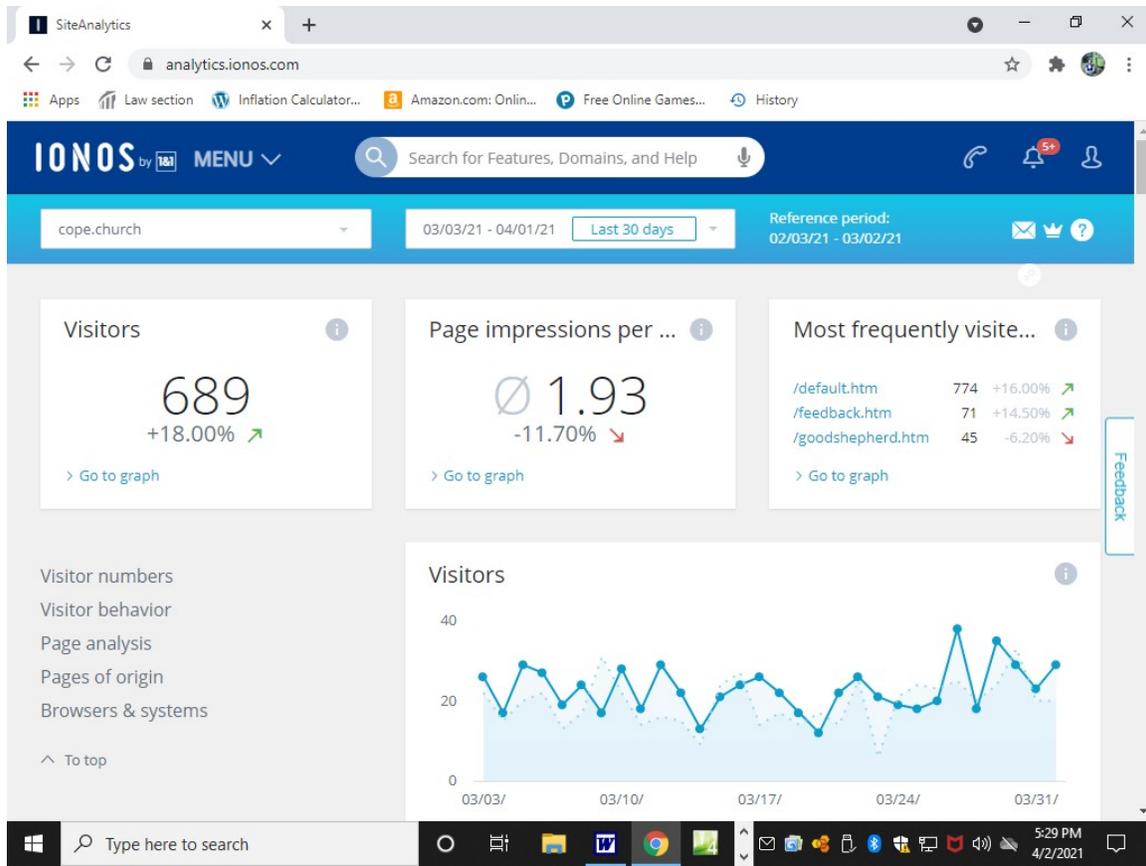
The “Just For Fun” Bonus Blessing, which is the astrological birth chart and report prepared with Expert Astrologer software, is available just for the asking whether or not you choose to help fund the church and mission as long as you accept online delivery in the form of a .pdf. You also need to provide your correct birthday, time of birth, and place of birth. These take me less than 10 minutes depending on whether or not I have to get the longitude and latitude of your place of birth and add it as a new location.

I currently serve over 28,000 mission services recipients. Source: <https://www.cope.church/mission.htm> (scroll down for screenshot as cited source).

Last month, the virtual mission received over 18,000 visitors:



The virtual church counts 689 congregants for March-April 1st, 2021:



Some say I'm too generous, but, isn't that what charity is all about? I believe leadership means leading by example. Golden Rule. Bless you and please join the Fellowship! See <https://www.cope.church/fellowship.htm>.

MEDITATIVE QUESTION:

If you were me, what would you do if in my current position? (Read all the credentials and medical stuff first and be honest....)

I'm doing what I'd do and that's how I know. Gnosis.

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.

For More About COPE and the HEAL Mission, see:

<https://www.cope.church> and <https://www.heal-online.org>