

■ January 2020



TUESDAY,
JANUARY 7TH
5:30-7:00 PM
IRVINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join the wise men as they follow the star to Bethlehem and see what they find.

FREE DINNER!

Irvington
Presbyterian Church Est. 1906
55 Johnson Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219
(317) 356-7225 www.irvpresby.org



WINTER RETREAT

Coming soon!

After a busy holiday season, after a January of dreary weather, after being sequestered in your home because of the winter, there is only one thing to do:

RETREAT!!

Join us for a weekend retreat at Geneva Center in Rochester, Indiana on Friday, January 24 through Sunday, January 26. For a cost of \$90, you will get two nights lodging, four meals, relaxation, conversation, laughter and some personal and faith development. Our retreat leader will be the indomitable, energetic, witty, and vivacious, Sheri Patterson. Sheri will present a series of workshops that will help us be comfortable and satisfied with ourselves. Less than therapy but more than mere table-talk, Sheri will get us talking, laughing and finding ease with ourselves.

Sheri is a former Principal of the Year in Indiana, a member of IPC, and served as co-chair of the search committee that brought Rev. Heimach to IPC in 2003. To register for the retreat, please contact Rev. Heimach or the church office.



In November and December, the Designated Associate Pastor Nominating Committee conducted a series of interviews with candidates for this position. After selecting a nominee, the Committee will present the person to the session for approval. The Committee will then seek approval of the Presbytery. When the way forward is clear, the Committee will present this person to the Congregation. Please keep the Committee and the Candidates in your prayers.

LIVE STREAM IPC

When sitting on a beach in the Bahamas, ...bring IPC with you!
When waiting at an airport because of a cancelled flight, ...tune in to IPC!
When you are home due to illness or weather, ...invite IPC to join you!

Whenever circumstances cause you to miss worship, you can still be part of our family of faith by tuning in to "IPC Live." By going to our website, www.irvpresby.org, or to our Irvington Presbyterian Church Facebook page, you can find our worship service streamed live at 10 a.m. each Sunday morning. Or, if your flight was just called at 10 a.m., tune in later to watch the service on video. Either way, you won't have to miss an anthem, a prayer or a sermon. And for your convenience, you can even donate to IPC online on our website. If you do watch on Facebook, please check-in so we can say Hi.

Hope to see you "live" every Sunday in 2020!



IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY:**Wednesday, January 1**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

IPC OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday, January 5

6:00 pm, Caring and Sharing Group, Parlor

Tuesday, January 7

12:00 pm, Tuesday Circle, WNV

5:30-7:00 pm, Messy Church, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 8

10:00 am, Men's Bible Study, Room 24

Monday, January 9

7:00 pm, Investment Club, Room 24

Thursday, January 9

1:30 pm, Daytimers Circle, Parlor

Sunday, January 12

11:30 am, Deacons Meeting, Parlor

5:00 pm, Youth Group, Laser Tag, Location TBD

Monday, January 13

7:00 pm, Investment Club, Room 24

Wednesday, January 15

6:00 pm, Young Adults Pizza Church, Jockamo

Thursday, January 16

10:30 am, Thursday Circle, Parlor

Friday, January 17

12:00 pm, Voyagers Luncheon, Fellowship Hall

1:00 pm, Voyagers Program, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 19

11:30 am, Endowment Meeting, Parlor

Monday, January 20

6:30 pm, L.I.F.T., Holzhausen home

7:00 pm, Evening Circle, Welcome Center

Tuesday, January 21

1:00 pm, Alzheimer's Support Group, Parlor

7:00 pm, Trustee Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, January 22

10:00 am, Men's Bible Study, Room 24

Friday, January 24-Sunday, January 26

IPC Adult Retreat, Geneva Center

Sunday, January 26

Time TBD, Youth Group, Cookie Decorating, Fellowship Hall

Monday, January 27

1:30 pm, PWC CT, Parlor

Tuesday, January 28

6:30 pm, Session Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, January 30

1:30 pm, Circle Leaders Bible Study, Parlor

Dear Presbyterians,**HERE WE GO AGAIN**

It is January of 2020, the start of a New Year. The older I get the more I realize how fast time seems to fly by. A lot happens in a year when you look back and think about it, but at the same time I realize I did not succeed in getting everything I had set out to accomplish in a year done. Some of the things on my list included yoga, exercising more regularly, learning to play the mandolin and organizing the photos that are stored in boxes. But there is other stuff too, like I had hoped to find the key to contentment. I hoped to be more compassionate and face challenging moments with more grace and patience. I was sure that after reading the Book of Joy, I would find it more readily available in my life (and maybe it actually is a little more so than before).

The good news is the start of a New Year is another opportunity to make all those things I didn't get started last year and maybe even a few new ones going. Our faith assures that it is never too late to grow in our faith. That this moment right now is a perfect moment to practice forgiveness, to show compassion to others, to get to know God a little better through worship, prayer, community and service. So, Here I Go Again! May God bless each of you as you begin the year with faith, hope and love to make it the best one yet!

Elizabeth

Thank you to all of the IPC members who generously gave to the PC(USA) Christmas Joy Offering! Over \$1600 was collected on the Joy Offering Tree this year. Thank you for tying one on!



YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

JANUARY 12TH

Laser Tag, 5:00 pm, location TBD

JANUARY 26TH

Cookie Decorating with Andrea Hogg, cost \$3/youth to cover supplies

WE HAVE MOVED!

The Youth Room has officially been moved up to the third-floor library. We put in a lot of hours and elbow grease to turn the Children's Library into a space that better fit our needs. While we do still have some improvements to make, we are so happy to have a new home in the church. The new Youth Lounge will be host to many deep conversations, fun sleepovers, and great fellowship.



IPC

SCHOLARSHIP

Thanks to the generous gift of an IPC member, scholarship money is available to members of the church who are pursuing higher education. The IPC Scholarship awards funds to IPC members enrolled in college or technical school to support their transportation and/or move-in costs. Upon request, these funds may also be used to purchase books or other supplies needed to support their education. Each scholarship awarded will be no more than \$250 for both the fall or winter semester, totaling no more than \$500 in a twelve-month span.

To apply for this scholarship, please contact Rev. Heimach. Applications will be received through January.



A Messy Epiphany will happen on Tuesday, January 7, from 5:30-7 p.m. Through crafts, activities, story, and song, we'll explore what happened after Jesus was born. As always, we'll have dinner and fellowship. Join us for a fun and engaging experience for people of all ages! If you're open to

helping with crafts, food, or setup/cleanup, please contact Carolyn Lesmeister or Jackie Cox.

SCENES FROM MESSY ADVENT



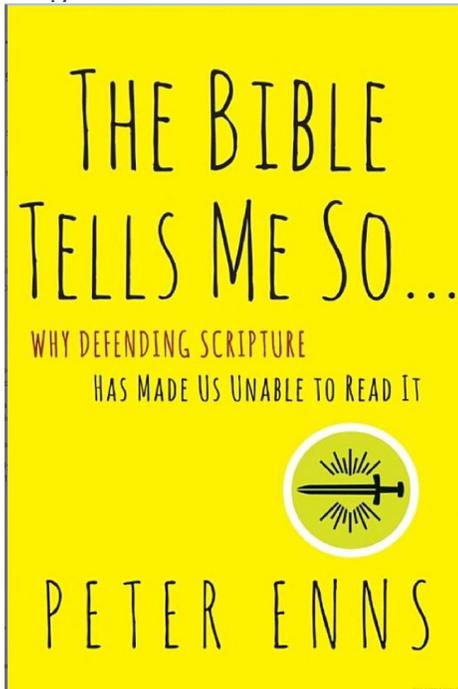


Christ's Café Being Honest about the Bible

In this age when our faith is challenged on all sides, it is important to be honest about the Bible, and what it says and what it doesn't say. Join us in this study to reclaim a Bible that doesn't need to apologize for its truths and its failings, and everything in between.

As a guide, we will be using a book titled, "The Bible Tells Me So... Why Defending Scripture Has Made Us Unable to Read It" by Peter Enns, Professor of Biblical Studies at Eastern University.

Whether you are new to the Bible or well-versed, this is a study essential for what promises to be a year when people of faith need to know what they believe. Join us in the Parlor each Sunday at 9 a.m., starting January 12th.



C.E. CORNER

Children's Sunday School will continue to meet at 9:15 a.m. in January, wrapping up our exploration of the Christmas story and our related peg doll creations.

After that, we'll begin a unit on the life and teachings of Jesus, which will take us into the Lenten season.

We are gauging interest in starting a group for people raising children, so if you

have children or grandchildren in your life and would be interested in exploring the spirituality – both blessings and challenges! – of that experience, please let Carolyn Lesmeister know. The tentative format would be a book study, but the details of when and how we meet are to be determined based on interest.



Brianna Wooden's depiction of the Angel Gabriel, made in Sunday School class

MUSIC SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

At the end of January, the Chancel Choir and Children's Choir will each sing an anthem based on the same verse from the lectionary, Matthew 4:12-23. This is the story of Jesus asks Simon Peter and Andrew to follow him and become fishers of men. Likewise, he asks James and John to come with him and they go too.

The Chancel Choir's anthem is titled "Come, Follow Me" and it is arranged by R. Paul Thompson. The text is from a hymn of the same title. Much like "The Summons," a favorite from our hymnal focusing on the same verse in Matthew, "Come, Follow Me" has a call and response pattern. At first, we seem to hear the voice of Jesus asking us to come and follow and later, we sing our response, reflecting on following him beyond our time on earth to holier spheres. It is a beautiful contemplative piece we enjoy each time we get it out of the music library.

The Children's Choir will sing a new anthem called "Nets of Love." Our Children's Choir loves to sing songs that tell stories, and it is amazing what can be absorbed by simply setting words to music. Singers and listeners will almost feel the rock of the boat as they sing this tune in a lively 6/8 time. Along with learning the story as they sing the song, our young singers will continue with a chorus of the following lyrics conveying an enduring message, "Nets of love must be woven, mended faithfully. Nets of love bearing good news casted sea to sea. Follow me."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

A BIG thank you to everyone who donated to help make the Westminster Christmas Basket program a success. With your generous support, over 300 families will have a brighter Christmas.





Several IPC members recently traveled to Rushville to attend the open house for IPC Elder Jan Roberts' 100th birthday! Happy Birthday, Jan!

Living
In
Fellowship
Together

GREETINGS OF GRATITUDE

Emma Holzhausen

Emma Holzhausen is working on achieving her Girl Scout Gold Award. She is spreading awareness

of the importance of mental well-being. Emma will lead us in creating "Greetings of Gratitude" and we will also learn about the science behind our emotions. We will be gathering at the home of Emma and Mandy Holzhausen, 815 Wallace Avenue on January 20th at 6:30 p.m. Women of all ages are welcome and please feel free to invite a friend to join us. Please bring a snack or beverage to share. We will be collecting feminine hygiene products for Westminster. Contact Emma or Mandy Holzhausen if you have any questions.

**Mark your Calendar for Upcoming Events:
(Third Monday of Each Month)**

- February 17th – TBA
- March 16th – TBA

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

The Christian sympathy of the congregation is extended to Ned Brown in the death of Ned's daughter, Kathy Lewis.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

The Christian sympathy of the congregation is extended to Liz Kaznak-Hall in the death of Liz's uncle.

MEXICO MISSION TRIP *Last Call!*

For almost 20 years, IPC members and friends have been traveling to Reynosa, Mexico to build a house for a family. With the guidance of Faith Ministry, a faith-based ministry in McAllen, Texas, we work alongside people who are committed to improving the lives of those living in the colonia, a suburb of Reynosa that lacks many city services.

This year's mission trip will be Sunday, March 8 through Saturday, March 14. Currently we have nine people committed to the trip and we have space for 3-4 more. The cost is a flight to McAllen, Texas and several meals including the cost of hiring a cook for meals. Cost of supplies for the house and overnight accommodations in Mexico are covered by our fundraising efforts including the Fish Fry, Wreath sales and other events.

If you would like to attend the trip or find out more, please contact Rev. Heimach ASAP.



PWC GATHERING

DATE: Thursday, January 16

TIME AND PLACE: Lunch at 12 noon, Fellowship Hall

COST: \$7

Program: Hope by Kristin Jones of the Julian Center

Devotions: Barbara Hays

Hostess: Thursday Circle

Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, January 13.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

SENIOR MATTERS

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR JANUARY

The Men's Bible Study will meet this month only on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of January on the 2nd flr. in room 24 at 10 a.m. The dates are January 8 and 22. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact Patrick Durkin. All are welcome.

IPC SENIOR CONSULTANT *DENISE HARRINGTON*

Denise is here to answer questions, supply information and referrals. If you have questions about Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, Caregiving, Rehabilitation Therapy, Estate Planning, Grief, Probate and Guardianship or need a referral for Elder Law, please contact Denise at 317-509-7085 or dharringtonipc@gmail.com.

VOYAGERS

Friday, January 17 at 12 p.m. Voyagers will meet in Fellowship Hall for lunch then at 1 p.m. for the program. All are invited to attend the program at 1 p.m.

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Homebound communion is always available, as we believe it is important to incorporate the whole body of Christ into our sacramental life together. Communion will be served next in worship on Sunday, December 24. If you are unable to be at worship and/or would like to receive Homebound Communion, please contact Rev. Heimach at 356-7225 or rheimach@irvpresby.org.

alz.org®

alzheimer's association®

Alzheimer's Support Groups for Caregivers continue to take place here at IPC monthly on the 3rd Tuesday in the parlor at 1 p.m.

SENIORS GONE WILD CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



Irvington Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

55 Johnson Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 46219-6498

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JACK'S C O R N E R

Jack Simpson, IPC member, explores the archives for stories of the church, its past members and other bits of interesting information and lore.

I read a true story in Readers Digest that I thought was worth sharing.

It was Christmas Eve 1949. Elizabeth (15) was feeling sorry for herself, because they didn't have enough money for a new dress.

Chores were done and she was ready for her Dad to read the Bible, but Dad bundled up and said for her to bundle up too. She

was even more upset Dad was dragging her out in the cold.

He hitched up the horses to the wagon and they went to the woodshed. They loaded up the wagon high with wood they had spent all summer hauling down the mountain. He then went to the smoke house and got a side of bacon and a large ham. There was also a sack filled with shoes.

Mrs. Clark lived two miles down the road. Her husband died a year ago and she was trying to raise three kids. He said little Jake had

gunny sacks wrapped around his feet while he was trying to find wood to heat with. They unloaded the wood behind Mrs. Clark's house. They knocked on the door and asked if they could come in. She had a blanket wrapped around her and the children were huddled under a blanket. Dad said, "we brought you a few things" and put the meat on the table. He then handed her the sack containing the shoes. There was a pair for her and each of her children. She bit her lip as the tears ran down her cheeks.

He then asked his daughter to fetch some wood and soon the house was warm. He then gave each child a piece of candy. Mrs. Clark said, "God Bless You. I know the Lord sent you. I prayed he would send one of His angels." Then everyone tried on their shoes and they all fit. How did he know what sizes?

At the door Dad turned and said they were cooking more than they could eat. He said he would pick them all up at 11 o'clock tomorrow to take them back to his house for dinner. On the way home Dad explained that the money they saved for her dress was spent on the shoes and candy and hoped she would understand. She understood – that gift was much greater than a dress.