

ONLINE EDITION



TAKING CARE OF YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AT HOME

- Stay connected with family and friends: Regardless of whether you are staying home alone or with members of your family it's important to stay connected to other people. This could mean more texts and phone calls, facetime or video chats or sending cards or emails. If you are struggling, try joining an online support group or contacting a counselor for an online session.
- Focus on the positive: Try to keep a good outlook. Focusing on the positive experiences in your life you can impact the level of anxiety you experience.
- Get some fresh air: If you can, go outside and get whatever level of physical activity is healthy for you.
- Find what helps you relax: Try to read some new books, websites, podcasts, music or apps that can help you relax and get plenty of sleep.
- Laugh: Fill up your joy cup by talking to people who make you laugh, play games, watch funny movies or videos of kittens and puppies, whatever gets you laughing.
- Come up with projects: Find things to do around the house or yard. Set goals like de-cluttering, trying new recipes, or reorganizing cupboards and closets, build a rocket ship in the back yard.
- Feed your soul: Make time to focus on your spiritual side by reading, participating in online devotions, enjoying nature, start journaling, doing breathing meditations and focused prayer, or create art!

THOUGHTS ON REOPENING CHURCH

Though there is no timeline yet on reopening the church for worship or other gatherings, the staff and session are in discussion about how to do this safely when the time comes. Different protocols may apply in different settings:

Worship – One of the most important parts of worship is enjoying close proximity to our brothers and sisters in faith. However, as long as the need to provide a six-foot distance from each other remains important, certain parts of worship will be adjusted. Our practices of Passing the Peace of Christ, passing the Offering Plate, Ushering, Choir seating, Communion and Baptism will be modified to provide safe distances.

Church Office – It has always been a pleasure to welcome church members and friends into our church during weekdays. Lori Chapman and our volunteer receptionists enjoy welcoming people and showing them great hospitality. In this new age of virus-spread however, it may be necessary to limit access to the church office. We can expect to develop new practices of visiting the office.

Meetings/Studies – While we certainly expect to return to our usual in-person meetings and Bible studies at some point, for the near future online video meetings and conference calls will probably need to continue.

Fellowship - We all cannot wait to be together in coffee hour, at softball games, lunches, etc. However, for the safety of everyone we will need to rethink how we will gather together in groups. Unfortunately, eating donut holes together will need to wait for a while.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

In a first for IPC, on Thursday, April 16, we received three new members into the church through an online "virtual" meeting with the session of the church. We recorded a Zoom meeting where the session watched as we used our liturgy for the Public Reception of Members, and then we replayed the video during our live stream worship on Sunday morning.

We welcome Martha McDonald, Brett High and Kelsey High into the church. Many of you know Martha from her ten years as the IPC Christian Education Director, as well as being the mother of IPC member Anne Frangos and mother-in-law of Dave Frangos, grandmother of Kaitlin McDonald & Kimberly LaCava, and great grandmother of Grayson. Brett & Kelsey High are the parents of Elliana. Kelsey has been familiar with IPC for many years and participated in the church with her cousin Katie.



THANK YOU

We would like to thank our IPC Family for all their love and their sympathy expressed at the passing of Kevin's father, Jack Moorhead. These are unusual times and your support has meant so much to us.

*Thank you,
Kevin & Kathy Moorhead*

APRIL SESSION WRAP-UP

The Session of the church met for their regular monthly meeting in Zoom video chat on April 28. Items discussed included...

...the overall health of the congregation, including that we had lost our first member to death due to COVID-19. It was noted that the Pandemic Relief Fund had reached \$2,185 and another \$5000 was approved in a grant from the Central Indiana Community Foundation. The Smock Fund had also approved a \$5000 grant to the Deacon Family Service Fund. All of these funds are for emergency needs of the congregation.

- ...the activities of the church staff during the shut-down. Staff members continue to connect to the congregation in many ways including, phone calls, video calls, live streaming worship and through social media.
- ...the need to think about reopening. A Reopening Team was formed to put together a plan for session. Members of the Team include Kathy Moorhead, Mark Kesling, Jan Schreibman, Scott Stroud and both pastors.
- ...the financial welfare of the church. It was noted that the church was financially stable through March and while contributions in April were trending downward, the overall cash flow of the church was strong. The Finance Committee was still awaiting word on their loan request to the Small Business Administration through the Payroll Protection Program of the Federal Stimulus Plan. It was also noted that PayPal could now be used to contribute to the church, through the website. Additionally, first quarter giving statements would not be mailed out, but instead be mailed out at mid-year. They would be available though upon request.
- ...the sale of the Hospitality House. One final appraisal was needed by the Buyers and then a Closing Date would be scheduled.
- ...a plan for the Ordination and Installation of New Officers. Though postponed by a month due to the shut-down, new elders, deacons and trustees would be installed and ordained in a Zoom video meeting on Thursday, April 30. The liturgy would then be replayed during the live stream worship on Sunday, May 3.
- ...a thank you to elders who's terms were ending including: Emma Holzhausen, Phil Parkinson, Katherine Holle, Lana Wooden, Scott Stroud, Matt Hoke, and Kaitlin McDonald.

The meeting concluded with prayer including the Lord's Prayer.

Bob

WELCOME NEW OFFICERS

After a month delay, in May our new elders, deacons and trustees will be ordained and installed into their new roles. We welcome their service!

At the same time, we thank all of our church officers who extended their terms by a month but now leave their roles for a much-needed break. Thank you to:

ELDERS

Katherine Holle
Lana Wooden
Scott Stroud
Matt Hoke
Phil Parkinson
Kaitlin McDonald

DEACONS

Aerial Lewis
Robyn Dickerscheid
Emily Digos
Jan DeCoito
Abby Giddens

TRUSTEES

Joe Stuckey
Pat Stout
Jim Messer
Ron Watson – President

Emma Holzhausen (Youth Elder)



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

Writing newsletter updates continues to be a challenge when things change from week to week and day to day.

For the time being – while we are still not meeting in person at the church – we will continue to provide lessons that families can do at home. Those include short video recordings, which are posted on our website, and accompanying instructions for activities, crafts, and discussion, which are being emailed to our families in order to respect copyright

restrictions on some of the material.

The materials are meant to cover the spectrum of ages, from toddlers through elementary, so please pick and choose what works best for your family!

I welcome feedback about how these resources are or are not working for you so we can better meet your needs during this time. If you have not been receiving the emails with the supporting materials, please let me know by emailing clesmeister@

irvpresby.org. You may also contact Hannah Braun at her NEW church email: hbrown@irvpresby.org.

VBS, which had been scheduled for early June, will likely be retooled to some sort of virtual or at-home program. Information about that will be coming once we have a better sense of what's happening.

Please continue to read the church emails and check the Facebook page for the latest updates on Christian Education.

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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.

Albert Einstein actually turned down the Presidency of Israel at a late life. Einstein wasn't a citizen of Israel but was Jewish. Einstein was German descent. His actual answer was "I am deeply moved by the offer from our state of Israel and sanded and ashamed that I can not accept it. All my life I have

dealt with objective matters, hence I lack both the natural aptitude and the experience to deal properly with people and exercise official functions." Facts about Albert Einstein, The Physicist was revolutionary changing the way we thought about the entire world,

both visible and invisible. He helped win World War II for the US. He also helped discover the universe. The part of the brain

that deals with handling sensory information was 15 % larger than normal. One of his quirks was to never wear socks. Einstein loved the violin and named his Lina. He lived and saw his life in music. Early in his life, he worked in the Paton office, evaluate patents for electromagnetic devices. Intelligent as he was, he often forgot names, faces, and dates. Einstein smoked a pipe claiming it helped calm a man. He mastered calculus at the age of 15. He was a man who worked on his ideas until the day he died. A man who focused every minute of his life to science and discovery.

