

■ August 2023



WEDNESDAY WONDERFUL PICTURES

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PNC UPDATE

Does the PNC have much to report? As a matter of fact, YES!!! At the time of the newsletter deadline, the PNC will be accompanying our potential candidate at the Committee on Ministry meeting on July 26th. If all goes as planned, the PNC will request that the IPC session call a **Congregational Meeting for Sunday, August 13th, immediately following worship.** Our nominee will be preaching on that Sunday and at the conclusion of worship, the Congregational Meeting will be called to Order. You will receive by mail and email a copy of the PNC Report for the past year, along with the Terms of Call for our nominee.

The PNC has been committed to finding the right individual to lead IPC and to join the congregation in the important work of ministry. The committee is very excited to give this update but at this time we are limited to how much information we can share until after the July 26th meeting.

Is there anything that I can do? So glad you asked. Yes, your continued prayers for the PNC, our nominee, and the Committee on Ministry are essential in this time of discernment. Also, be confident that God continues to walk with us in this season of discernment and calling our new pastor.

✝ Path to Pulpit ✝

- New Pastor begins, Reception, & Celebration
- Signing the Pastoral Terms of Call for our New Pastor
- Nominee approved by the Congregation
- Presenting Nominee to the Congregation for vote
- Presbytery Approval of Call
- ✓Negotiating the Terms of Call
- ✓Select Nominee
- ✓Arranging with Presbytery for Necessary Examinations and Approvals of Finalists
- ✓Interviewing Finalists
- ✓Receive and Evaluate PIF's
- ✓Enter MIF online with Church Leadership Connection (CLC)
- ✓MIF approved
- ✓MIF submitted to Presbytery for approval
- ✓MIF approved by IPC Session
- ✓MIF submitted to IPC Session for approval
- ✓MIF completed
- ✓PNC begins work on MIF
- ✓PNC meets with Presbytery Liaisons
- ✓PNC Created

PNC - Pastor Nominating Committee
MIF - Ministry Information Form
PIF - Personal Information Form



Sundaes on Sunday!

Sunday, August 13th 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. In the West Courtyard

DEAR PRESBYTERIANS,

It's August Ya'll! One of my favorite things to do this summer has been to go to the pool at our local Ransburg YMCA. I go with my towel, book, sunscreen and one of those flowery swim caps, made famous by old ladies everywhere. One thing I noticed pretty quickly at the pool is how often the lifeguards were blowing their whistles, especially in the area where I preferred to sit and read! Thus, disturbing my peaceful sunny learning time. My first thought was something like "wow, why do so many people keep breaking the rules?!" Because the idea of someone blowing a whistle and pointing at me in front of everyone for doing something wrong is an actual nightmare. Did they not care about the rules? Did they enjoy making the poor lifeguards keep blowing their whistles over and over again? Were they engaged in some kind of rebel dare contest of who could get whistled at the most without getting asked to leave? I needed more information. Here is what I observed.

First, I realized that the part of the pool I like to go to is considered the deep end. In order to keep everyone safe, if you want to be in the deep end of the pool a person must either be tall enough to comfortably stand at the deepest depth and still have their head above the water OR they must be able to pass a swim test that is administered by a lifeguard. Once they pass the test, they get a wristband so all the lifeguards know they can safely swim in deep water. I have no objections to these rules, they seem reasonable and important for everyone's safety. There is plenty of space in the shallower waters for anyone unable to be in the deep-end. And there's nothing special they are missing out on in the deep end like a slide or diving board, which I would really enjoy and would have thought about breaking the rules to use. So, you may ask "Then Mo, why were so many people breaking the rules!?" Well, I'll tell you. People were breaking the deep-end rules because they didn't know they existed! If they were posted anywhere, I couldn't see them, at least not near the actual deep end. Yes, there is a rope between the shallow end and the deep end but unless you know that the rope is in fact a magical barrier for which the right to enter you must bear proof, it just looks like a rope. Kind of like the old "smoking and non-smoking sections in restaurants. Sure, you can keep the kids from sitting right next to a chain smoker as a rule, but I don't think the smoke, much less lung cancer knows or was ever deterred by a rail separating the two designated sections. *Continued on Page 4*

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. John Graham-July 17, 2023
The Christian sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of Dr. John Graham.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the church Parlor. Please join us if you can. If you have questions, please contact Steve Payne.

AUGUST YOUTH NEWS

All youth will be back in school in August, and we will continue meeting each week. Information and photos about youth group are posted regularly on Instagram. For up-to-date information and pictures follow us on Instagram @irvpresbyyouth.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

August 6: 5:30-7:30

August 13: 5:30-7:30

August 20: 5:30-7:30

August 27: 5:30-7:30

SUMMER SUNDAYS

Summer Sundays are now available for children in PreK to 2nd Grade. All children will play together on the playground, weather permitted. If not, then children will play games inside. Sunday School classes will resume in the Fall. Please contact Hannah Braun (hbraun@irvpresby.org) if you have any questions.

**YOUNG ADULTS
PIZZA CHURCH**
Young adults, pizza church will meet Tuesday, August 8th at 6:00 p.m. at Jockamo's.



Wednesday Wonderful

@Irvington Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, August 9th
5:30-7:15 p.m.

All ages are invited to join us for an evening of dinner, stories, songs, games, crafts and other fun activities!

Each month will have a different theme relating to the big idea of SERVICE.

August's theme is:

**Service to Teachers
at School #57**

Donation Needs:

- Sharpies
- Flair Pens
- Gum
- Candy
- Small Lotions
- Small Hand Sanitizer

(Donations accepted through the month of August and can be dropped off at IPC)

Registration is not required, but greatly recommended, so we can plan accordingly.



55 Johnson Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46219
(317)356-7225
www.irvpresby.org



The Justice Advocacy Team needs YOU!



Irvington Presbyterian Church Justice Advocates

The IPC Justice Advocacy Team needs YOU! The JAT meets quarterly to plan events and share opportunities to learn more about social justice issues facing our community. If you would like to learn more about how you might become involved, mark your calendar for our next meeting. We will be meeting on Sunday, August 6th after worship in Room 24. For more information, please contact Kathy Moorhead at 317-430-3402.

Finance Committee update on member contributions needed to support the work and ministry of IPC:

Budgeted through April: \$133,333

Received through April: \$113,609

Member Contribution YTD Gap:

(\$19,724)

Current YTD gap to eliminate budget deficit:

(\$17,381)

Please prayerfully consider what you are able to do to help us close the gap.

Thank you for all you do for IPC!

Continued from Page 2

Again, I have no issues with the rules themselves if they are fair and make sense. I do have an issue with unexpressed rules and expectations. For one, I'm sure the lifeguards don't enjoy calling people out for breaking rules they never knew existed, and I'm sure it spoils the fun of kids just trying to enjoy their time at the pool. Yes, there will always be a few people looking to bend or break the rules, but for the most part, the people who got the whistle genuinely had no idea they were doing anything wrong. How could they if they never were told? You shouldn't be labeled a cheat if you don't know there are supposed to be rules to the game in the first place.

Similarly, in any society, community, congregation, and relationship, we need to keep in mind that no one is in fact a mind reader. If we don't share our expectations and needs with one another how can they ever be met? This is when there are bound to be problems. If we are all going to run around blowing our whistles at each other for the expectations, we have made up in our heads we are in trouble. It's a recipe for feeling hurt, shame or resentment especially if someone claims we did something wrong but never communicated the needs in the first place. Churches are places of great traditions, but sometimes those traditions act more like unwritten rules and unsaid expectations, and when that happens, we end up with a lot of whistleblowing, fun-ruining, and destroying of peaceful learning time!

Last week, I met with one of the Y staff members to offer some unsolicited advice on my observations (he took it better than I normally do) I recommended they post the guidelines and how to take a swim test prominently by the deep end of not all around it. That way swimmers could understand if and how to use that area. My hope is that would take some of the pressure off the poor lifeguards to always be the fun-ruining literal whistle-blowers as well as keeping people from feeling embarrassed or ashamed when they get called out for doing something they didn't know was wrong.

I'm not sure if they will take my advice, maybe by the time this newsletter comes out we'll have a system in place that is clear and keeps everyone swimming safely, or maybe nothing will change, and I'll just need to invest in so noise canceling headphones. But it's got me all riled up about unwritten rules and unexpressed expectations in life and sometimes in faith communities and how we can avoid it with fair expectations and clear communication. Maybe you've experienced something similar. Thank you for coming to my "TED Talk" and have a great August!

In Christ,

Marianne

KENTUCKY MISSION TRIP 2023

The truth is going on a Mission Trip is hard work. It's hot and sweaty. You are pushed physically to do things you haven't done before; you are pushed socially to live with a group of people for a full week. You sleep on a twin-size air mattress in a room that is usually either too hot or too cold. You are completely out of your comfort zone, especially when plans are continually changing and are out of your control.

However, all of these inconveniences are overshadowed when you meet a survivor and hear their story or see where the tornado took two thirds of the trees. The heat is a bit more bearable when you see the fence you've been working on all day is built and fully painted or when someone delivers popsicles to the jobsite. The sunburn doesn't sting as bad when you deliver the vegetables from the garden to someone that has been displaced by the tornado. You don't notice the body aches so much when you are celebrating a birthday or going on the daily trip to Walmart to get matching t-shirts or more snacks. Sharing a room with other people doesn't seem so bad after you've shared Karaoke with them, and everyone sang along to the best version of Don't Stop Believing that you've ever heard.

So, yeah, going on a mission trip is hard, but if it were easy, it wouldn't have such an impact on our hearts.

~Mandy Holzhausen



Living
In
Fellowship
Together

Unfortunately, plans for our August LIFT gathering need to be changed due to our speaker, Bridget Tetak, having an unforeseen conflict. Bridget will be available for our October gathering.

A big thank you goes to Josephine's in Irvington for opening their boutique to us on Monday, August 21st at 6:30 p.m. We will gather at Josephine's (5620 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis) to view their fashions as they transition to the fall season. Josephine's is pleased to offer contemporary fashions featuring sizes extra small to 3X, and a variety of accessories. Not only will we be able to view the latest fashions, but Josephine's will also be providing refreshments for the evening. Women of all ages are welcome and please feel free to invite a friend to join us. Please contact Janet Wilzbacher (317-459-2400) or Kathy Moorhead (317-430-3402) if you have any questions.

SEAL

SEAL

Irvington Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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JACK'S CORN ER

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

Walmart brings in \$36,000,000 an hour in which \$20,928 is profit. Between January 1 through March 11, Walmart makes more than Target does in a year. Walmart is larger than Home Depot, Kroger, Costco, Target, Sears

and K-Mart combined. It is the largest company in world history, employing 1.6 million people. They sell more groceries than anyone in the world. There are 3,900 stores in the USA and 1,906 are super centers. They have 7.2 billion purchase experiences a year where there are only 6.5 billion people on earth. They have done this while 31 large supermarket chains have filed for bankruptcy. 90% of all people in the USA live within 10 miles of a Walmart.

Walmart

