



INCOMING AND
OUTGOING
OFFICERS
--PAGE 2



Red & White: I Feel Seen

It's that time of year: the Spring rains have passed, the greenery is in full bloom, the chance of snow is still ever-present (gotta love Indiana weather!), and the potential energy of everyone and everything is so high that you can practically hear Creation vibrating with excitement.

For me, this is when my truest colors show. Those colors? Red and white. Let me share:

I am fair-skinned Ameri-Canadian of Northern European descent with seasonal allergies. My Canadian flag could offer some red and white, but it's so embedded within me that I don't even bother unfolding a flag. This is the time of year when my eyes turn red and itchy, my nose gets red from frequent blowing, and my skin is winter-bleached white... but only until it turns a radiating rouge that offers warmth long after the sun has set. Hair? What's left bleaches white. Sun screen? White on red. My feeling about it? I smile (a white smile), laugh (cue some blushing cheeks), and go hunting for something blue to at least pretend to hide in the midst of y'all!

In the Church, we're in the month of Red-and-White, too! We're maintaining the white liturgical paraments (the accent décor around the sanctuary) from Easter and we will keep them around until 50 days after. That fiftieth day? Pentecost! This is the day when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the Apostles and when we say that the Church was born.

But why white and red?

White is used to represent purity, light, glory, and joy. We use it at Christmas and Easter, specifically, but then also use it to celebrate sacraments (Lord's Supper—associated with Easter; and Baptism—associated with beginning and end of life), at funerals (nodding to eternal glory and light), and at weddings (because it matches the dress... and because weddings are about joy and purity).

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From the Archives...

PRESBYTERIANS AND PARKING CARS

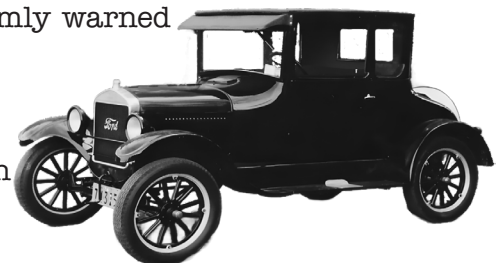
With so much gratitude, we thank forever IPC member BILL FERLING for sharing photos! In addition, we thank the brilliant Irvingtonian BILL GULDE whose blog "Vintage Irvington" is a great source for lost history! He is currently President of the Irvington Historical Society! Did we say brilliant???

So what about parking cars?

This one lot, and two church buildings (1908 and 1929) at 55 Johnson Ave, never had a parking lot. IPC members walked, and also parked their Model T Fords on the curb of Julian and Johnson Avenues. When the current church held large events, members were firmly warned about where they could and could not park!!

What occupied the area of our current Julian Ave parking lot Residences. Irving Court Street is still marked by a street sign on Julian Ave at the entrance to our current parking lot. It was designed as the street for eight home lots that were never built.

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Thank you to IPC officers completing their terms
The following IPC members recently completed their terms on Session, the Board of Deacons, the Endowment Board, and as Trustees. Each is indispensable to fulfilling the missions and ministries of Irvington Presbyterian Church. Thank you!

SESSION:

Lloyd Crain*
Michelle Eckert
T.J. Hengst* (Clerk)
Kathy Moorhead*
Kristin Shaw
Bri Wooden

TRUSTEE:

Kaiden Harris
Steve Holzhausen*
Melissa Jester*
Steve Lewis
Hal Page

* - indicates ending a second 3-year term
^ - indicates current Moderator of respective council
+ - indicates standing for election to the class of 2029

ENDOWMENT:

Lynda Dunlevy
Kristin Swick^
Patrick Wooden*

DEACONS:

Ann Kitchen-Stauffer
Gail McNierney
David Owen
Janet Wilzbacher

We welcome IPC's newest officers!

SESSION:

Michael Brocker*
Ann Kitchen-Stauffer
Jason Reed*
Kristin Shaw

TRUSTEE:

Hal Page
Todd Simmons
Jack Simpson

ENDOWMENT:

Lynda Dunlevy
Matt Harris
TJ Hengst
Kristin Swick

* - Ordained;
^ - Pending Training

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Red is used to remind us of the Holy Spirit, which is associated with the fire that falls and dances upon the heads of the Apostles on Pentecost. Liturgical rule-followers believe that red should only be used one Sunday every year—Pentecost Sunday. I think that's silly, and so I like to drag out the red whenever it can be justified! We can justify doing so any time we celebrate the Holy Spirit being poured out: when we ordain and install officers; when we welcome confirmation class members; and whenever we lay hands on people in prayer and bless them for service and ministry. We used all the red we could find for the service installing me as the pastor of IPC, for example.

Now you know! When you happen to catch a glimpse of a sunburn that looks like it might be from over-zealous but poorly-applied sunscreen use, be assured, it's simply life imitating art; it's my skin-deep commitment to the liturgical season.

Pentecost anticipation and Eastertide blessings to you, dear friends!



Pastor Tom

Continued from Page 1

So what residences?

In 1924 (when our little brick church was here), Creighton Realty built a large Arts and Crafts style double which sat east-west where our current doubles sit. The two photos from Bill Ferling are fascinating in that the Cub Scout troop is dated 1935. See the Arts and Crafts double behind them??

But where exactly did that big building sit? So when you look at the photo of vacation Bible school on the IPC south steps from 1955, you will see the large Arts and Crafts double. Also, you will notice that some vehicles are parked up by the church bldg. In 1941 Mrs. Ruth Towles donated the land of former Irving Court to our church where minimal parking was begun. (Look for the bronze plaque in the Narthex which honors her generous donation.

So what's the point?

HA! We have questions and hope you have answers.

- (1) Did Mrs. Towles own the big historic double?
- (2) Did IPC members or staff live in the double? Maybe a minister?
- (3)Sadly.....when was that double demolished?
- (4) When was the Julian Ave parking lot created in it's current configuration?
- (5) When were the current one-story brick doubles built?

And we haven't even researched the LURCH (Library+Church) parking lot!!
Helpful tips from Bill Gulde.

Old photos of family members often show historic buildings in the background. Bill wrote a blog about the Lollis family on Johnson Ave...and there sat our sweet brick church across the street! We are delighted to receive or scan your historic Irvington photos with love!!!



GRADUATE INFORMATION

The graduation season is quickly approaching and IPC would like to recognize the accomplishments of all of the members, friends, and IPC adjacent folks who are graduating from high school, college, or a technical program. Please contact Craig Shaw at cshaw@irvpresby.org with the name of the graduate, where they are graduating from, and future plans. The recognition of graduates is scheduled for Sunday, May 31st during the 10:00 AM worship service.

Your IPC historic geeks.....
Frank Hurdis & Sheri Patterson

IN MEMORIAM Bernice Cole

(January 8, 1935 - April 17, 2026)

The Christian sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of Bernice Cole.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Eva Merida	5/2	James Young	5/17	Robert McAulay	5/26
Dylan Stout	5/2	Joan Brown	5/19	Todd Simmons	5/26
Wendy Turow	5/4	Christopher Ayres	5/20	Geraldine Gra	5/27
Joshua Barrett	5/5	Lana Wooden	5/20	Sally Johnson	5/28
Griffin Hamm	5/8	Olivia Page	5/24	Scott Stroud	5/28
Carol Monroe	5/8	Gary Bowman	5/25		
Kristy Quinn	5/13	J. Surgener	5/25		



Christian Education Update

We continue to follow the Spark curriculum, which closely aligns with our weekly preaching schedule. This helps our children engage with the same Bible stories and themes being explored in worship, creating a meaningful connection for the whole family. To bring these stories to life, we've added a weekly video component. Each lesson now includes a video from "Hey-O! Stories of the Bible" on YouTube. These fun and engaging videos help reinforce the message in a way kids really enjoy.

Parents are encouraged to follow along with or rewatch the videos at home with their children during the week. It's a great way to continue the conversation and deepen understanding together. You can find all the Bible stories here: www.youtube.com/@SaddlebackKids

We are also still looking for volunteers to serve in the Children's Church. If you feel called to help nurture the faith of our youngest members, we would love to have you join us! Please reach out to Joshua for more information. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children grow in faith and community!

ICAN Senior Hygiene Kits | May 18th @ 6:30 p.m.

LIFT will gather to assemble Senior Hygiene Kits for ICAN as part of a community service project. The senior hygiene kits will provide care and dignity for senior men and women. ICAN will distribute the kits to our Irvington neighbors in need. Your hands and feet are all that are needed since all the materials needed to assemble the kits will be provided.

Please mark your calendar for a fun evening of fellowship! We will gather on Monday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the IPC Parlor. Please bring a snack to share. Women of all ages are welcome, and please feel free to invite a friend to join us – the more the merrier! We will be collecting feminine hygiene products for Westminster. Please contact Kathy Moorhead (317-430-3402) if you have any questions.

A JOYOUS CELEBRATION

On Saturday, March 28th, IPC Member Helen Akoko celebrated her birthday in a most joyous and spirit-filled way. A Service of Thanksgiving for Helen's 65th Birthday was held in the IPC Sanctuary. The church was filled with prayer and music and the pews were filled with friends, colleagues, and family from across the country and around the world. A beautiful and lively offering was collected involving singing and dancing. The celebration then moved to another venue

with fantastic food, dancing, laughter, and fun late into the night. Thank you for sharing Helen's birthday celebration with us, Akoko family!



JOIN IPC AT THE INDY PRIDE PARADE

The IPC Justice Advocacy Team is happy to invite you to join us at the Indy Pride Parade on Saturday, June 13, at 10 a.m. The parade is a celebration of inclusivity in Indianapolis, and we'd love for IPC to have a presence at the event to demonstrate that IPC is a safe, welcoming place for all. There are two ways to participate again this year: walking in the parade or watching and cheering.

- Those interested in walking will be joining with our Whitewater Valley Presbytery siblings in a large group. Once known, the location and time to meet will be shared.
- Those wishing to stand, watch, and cheer will meet up with other IPC members at the northeast corner of Massachusetts Avenue and East Street at 9:30 a.m.
- If you would like to avoid driving and parking downtown, Rev. Reinink will be taking the IPC bus from the church lot. More details on departure time will be made available later.

Please fill out the Indy Pride sign up form either through this [link](#) or by using the QR code indicating your participation preferences. The sign up link will also be on the IPC website and in Friday emails.

INDY PRIDE



YOUTH NEWS

We have some exciting events and opportunities coming up—be sure to mark your calendars and get involved!

YOUTH SUNDAY – MAY 17TH

Our youth will be leading worship in a special way! They will be serving, preaching, and singing in the choir, sharing their gifts with the entire congregation. It's always a meaningful and inspiring service—come support our youth!

MAC & CHEESE COOK-OFF FUNDRAISER

Right after the Youth Sunday service, stick around for some delicious fun! We're hosting a Mac & Cheese Cook-Off to raise money for our summer camp fund. Come hungry and ready to vote for your favorite dish!

WEEKLY YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

Don't forget—Youth Group meets every Sunday from 5:30–7:30 p.m. Join us for fellowship, games, and growing together in faith. Everyone is welcome, so bring a friend!

KINGS ISLAND TRIP – COMING IN JUNE

We're planning a fun trip to Kings Island this June! We're currently waiting for the bus to be repaired before confirming the date. Stay tuned for more details—we can't wait for this exciting outing!

MEN'S SOFTBALL!

Indy Christian Sports Fellowship Men's Softball League will be starting soon.

Anyone interested in playing, please contact Matt Harris at 317-979-5652 or mattharris1981@yahoo.com.

SUMMER PROGRAMMING BEGINS

Starting Sunday, May 24th, summer programming begins. Children entering 2nd grade and above will remain in Worship during the summer months. Preschool, Sunday School, and Nursery care will continue to be available. Elementary Sunday School classes will resume on Rally Day in September.

Mac & Cheese Cook-Off!!

Camp Scholarship Fundraiser

Sunday, May 17th 11:00 AM Fellowship Hall

Entrants will provide their most scrumptious Mac & Cheese creations.

You get to sample them, vote for your favorites, and help support the IPC Camp Scholarship Fund.

\$2 at the door for unlimited samples of all entries.

Vote with \$\$ for your favorites!
Drinks and desserts also available!



Entrant
Registration



While the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir enjoy their summer break, June and July will see all kinds of soloists and small groups performing special music for anthems in worship. If you've ever been interested in offering up your musical talents in worship outside of the realm of choral singing or bell ringing, this is your sign!

I'm happy to meet with any musicians one-on-one to rehearse or assist in your musical ideas. Instrumental playing, solo singing, duets trios and quartets -- all kinds of musical performances are possible!

Talk to me (Doug Shafer-Johnson) in person or send me an email at dshafer-johnson@irvpresby.org to inquire or discuss further details.



Grief Support Group

Monday, May 4 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Grief Support Groups at Northminster. Join us for a 6-week, in-person series beginning Monday, May 4th, from 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Grief is a deeply personal journey, and each person experiences loss in their own way. However, healing can be supported through connection. Being in community with others who understand loss can bring comfort, validation,

and hope. This group is a free resource for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. We provide a supportive, confidential, and compassionate environment where participants are encouraged to share as they feel comfortable.

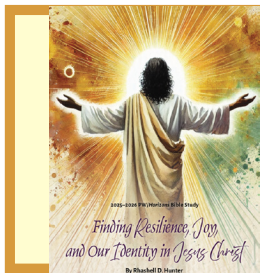
Whether your loss is recent or occurred years ago, this group offers a safe space to:

- Share your experiences and emotions
- Connect with others on a similar journey
- Receive encouragement and support
- Navigate the day-to-day realities of grief

This is a general loss support group, open to anyone seeking support—no matter the nature of your loss.

Register online at: <https://northminsterindy.shelbnextchms.com/external/form/5d58do57-6aee-4ce4-9ff4-6193fc9obobe>

You don't have to walk this journey alone. Feel free to contact Denise Harrington, Senior Ministry Director, with any questions.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Christ
Unable to come on the 3rd Thursday to Bible Study?
Interested in hearing what we're learning together?

You can join us! Contact the Office for the Zoom link to join us live, or watch the recordings at irvpc.link/pwbiblestudies.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the parlor at 10 a.m. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact Steve Payne. All are welcome!

Alzheimer's Support Groups for Caregivers continue to take place here at Irvington monthly on the 2nd Tuesday in the parlor at 1 p.m.

alz.org | alzheimer's association



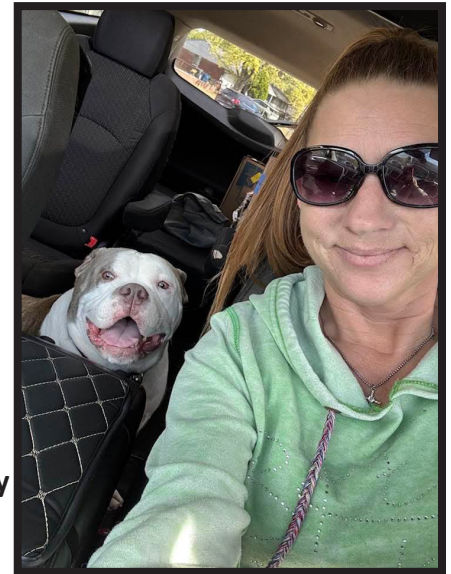
Pawsitively Uplifting

SHARE A STORY AND A PHOTO

Family pets are animals that live with people and bring JOY, LOVE, and COMPASSION! Do you have a dog, a cat, a rabbit, a parrot, a turtle, or a hamster? If you do and want to share a couple of paragraphs and a picture of you and your pet, please email them to Craig Shaw and/or Jackie Cox/ Coxjackie3@gmail.com.


Rescuing an American Bully is an exercise in unlearning stereotypes. Those who share their lives with these dogs know the truth: they are essentially "velvet hippos"

with an inexhaustible supply of affection, wanting nothing more than to be loved by their human. Many come from backgrounds of neglect or misunderstanding, yet they possess a remarkable capacity to forgive. They aren't just pets; they are shadow-companions. What makes the American Bully special is their emotional intelligence. They are notoriously sensitive to their owner's moods, offering sloppy kisses or goofy antics to lighten a heavy atmosphere. Despite the "tough" exterior, they are often the biggest softies, more interested in belly rubs and naps than anything remotely intimidating. Rescuing one of these dogs is more than just saving a life; it's an act of advocacy. Every well-behaved, happy Bully on a leash

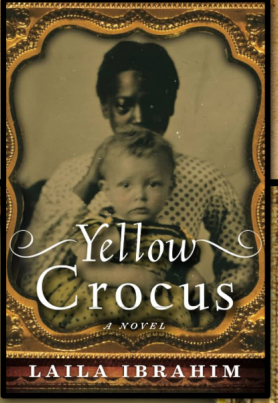


challenges the biases of passersby. By choosing to rescue, you aren't just getting a loyal protector—you're getting a goofy, snoring, oversized lap dog who will spend the rest of its life trying to prove it was worth the second chance.

--Jamie Ludwig



May 13th
7:00 PM
IPC Parlor



Yellow Crocus takes place in antebellum Virginia where an enslaved wet nurse, Mattie, raises the plantation mistress's daughter, Lisbeth. Their relationship creates a deep bond challenging racial boundaries and forces difficult choices.

This deeply moving tale of unlikely love traces the journey of these very different women as each search for freedom and dignity.

The Justice Advocates of Irvington Presbyterian Church & the Irvington Branch of the Indianapolis Public Library invite the community to be part of a

Community Book Read and Discussion

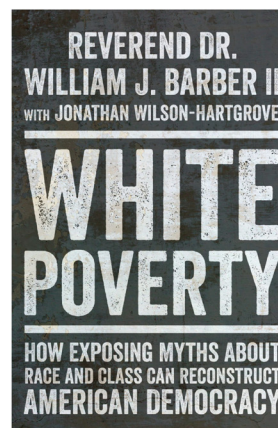
on Rev. Dr. William Barber and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove's

White Poverty: How Exposing the Myths About Race and Class Can Reconstruct American Democracy

Tuesday, May 12 and Tuesday, May 19
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

at the Irvington Branch of
The Indianapolis Public Library

***Limited copies of the book are available at the Irvington Presbyterian Church office and at the Irvington library branch. White Poverty is also available as an ebook, audio book, or in print through the library.*



Sunday, May 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM | U40ISH BBQ in the Courtyard
Gather, get to know you, and brainstorm future activities. For those whose childhood included Saturday morning cartoons and who were too young to have children at the turn of the millennium.

SEAL

SEAL

Irvington Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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JACK'S O R N E R

ORGAN FAILURE

Back in the day, our little red brick church had no organ, only a piano. This mission was given to the Deacons. They went to the "Organs are Us" store and bought an organ. What could possibly go wrong? The organ was

installed, and a concert was planned.

The organ company sent their organist, and it was an embarrassment. He was drunk, struck all the wrong notes, and completely messed up the program. The audience was told that their tickets would be good for another concert.

On Sunday morning, July 18, 1920, the organ was dedicated, and the program went as expected. It didn't take long for the organ to start acting up. Our church had an organ repairman who tried to keep it in repair. It was said that his fingers were badly damaged from replacing and bending copper wires.

The organ was sold to another church after it was completely rebuilt.

Using this experience to good use, we tried out several organs before going to the Muller Company of Hagerstown, Maryland. They had built and installed more organs than any other company. The organ was built to meet our church's requirements. On March 15, 1925, the organ was dedicated to God. Success!

