



A WORTHY CELEBRATION

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## PUTTING A PRICE TAG ON “PRICELESS”

“You’re my faaaavorite son,” my mother likes to say with a big grin before asking me to go and do a favor for her. I am, in fact, her only son (if we discount my brothers-in-law, to be fair). Naming one’s favorite child is generally understood to be something of a “no, no” in our society, isn’t it? Kind of like talking about your family’s income or starting arguments about any of the three “Rs” in the workplace (religion, race, and racy relationships). Similarly, it can feel somewhat taboo to put a price tag on certain things in life. A little later in the newsletter, you’ll see us trying to put some values onto some things that you may not have considered before! Why? Because, as Dr. Ram A. Cnaan at UPenn says, “If you do not count it, it does not count!”

It can feel strange and even taboo to assign figures to certain activities, things, and people or to impose a value upon a relationship or experience, but occasionally, we need to do that in order to get a realistic picture of what’s going on! We have programs and activities for children and youth and, regardless of how many participants are present, we need at least two adults present. We value our integrity and the safety of our children to the degree that we require it. We consider the impact of what is communicated by the Deacons delivering fresh flowers to individuals in our community to be so valuable that it is worth the expense of having those arrangements each week in worship. We are always weighing the cost and value, the impact on our people and the impact on our budget every time we make a choice about programs, facilities, activities, and ministries. We are always putting a price on things that we don’t want to consider the cost of!

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## The Economic Halo Effect of the Irvington Presbyterian Church

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In 2016, Partners for Sacred Places, in partnership with Dr. Ram Cnaan of the University of Pennsylvania, published a study that found that the average historic sacred place generated over \$1.7 million in economic impact annually. The study, rooted in research funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc. in 1996, became the foundation of an assessment that is provided by Partners for Sacred Places as a service to congregations across the country. The study uses a standardized process to assign financial value to the myriad of ways that communities of faith contribute to the overall wellbeing of a larger community.

IPC was offered the opportunity to have a congregation-specific Halo Effect Study by Partners for Sacred Places by virtue of being part of the 2025 cohort of the National Fund for Sacred Places grant program. The study was conducted through an on-site visit and a few virtual meetings in early 2026. Below is a summary of the highlights for IPC’s Halo Effect study. More information can be found using the links at the end.

### SUMMARY

IPC is tucked away into a tranquil corner of the East side of Indianapolis at the corners of Johnson and Julian Avenues. In its second building, the congregation has been a pillar in the community for 120 years. With the beautiful and light-filled sanctuary, bustling Fellowship Hall and education wing, and owning three duplexes in the neighborhood, one of which houses a community day care, IPC boasts a significant and varied economic impact effect. This is further emphasized by the strong and symbiotic partnerships IPC holds with several local nonprofits and congregations.

*Continued on Page 3*

# From the Archives...

## A LOVING IPC MOTHER



“She was a shining example to all by the way she lived her life.”

“Our” wonderful Lillian Leonard Beavers lived to a hearty 103.7 years, passing on May 28, 2026. You may know her as the creator of the Centennial Quilt hanging in the Welcome Center...900 hours designing, constructing, and hand quilting in 2006. Amazing!

And much earlier as a student at Arsenal Tech HS, Lillian became a brilliant seamstress, repairing an old flag, and stitching a new one that flew above the school! Daughter Carolyn Leonard Terry shared that she had the best-dressed Barbies on the East side!!

Second son, Gerry (pictured on the right in the b/w photo) shared his memories of 81 years growing up in our church.

*“She took me to Irvington Presbyterian Church where I discovered Christ. Mom and Dad met while working at Lilly, married, and created a wonderful family life for Carolyn, Larry and me. Their deep involvement for 45 years at IPC gave us great preparation for life—coat and tie every Sunday morning, youth choir, youth fellowship, and Fellowship Hall dinners.”*

**NOTE: Both Lillian and Hiram served on multiple church boards after joining IPC in 1949.**

Long after the passing of Mr. Leonard, IPC member Dr. Tom Beavers proposed to Lillian and they lived happily until his passing.

103 years old!!! Funny, smart, “bossy”, and she loved her children and grands dearly! It all started at Irvington Presbyterian Church!

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



*Continued from Page 1*

In this newsletter, you'll find a report from one of our grant providers that will do just that: put a dollar figure to the impact of IPC. The act of assigning those values is strange at first, but if considered in the context of our total ministry, desired impact, and potential opportunities, it provides helpful perspective and offers support to the journey that lays ahead for IPC. Because, as we continue to discern what God is calling IPC to be and do in the years to come, we will be doing a lot of valuation and discernment as we decide what is worth trying, keeping, removing, repairing, assessing, changing, etc.

What is invaluable to you? What is the fiscal impact of the Church in your life?

In wonder of the wealth of wonderful people in our congregation and community,

### IN MEMORIAM

We extend Christian sympathy to the friends and family of Lillian Leonard Beavers, who passed away on May 28th, 2026.

We are grateful for the life she lived and lift up in prayer all who love and cared for her.

Continued from Page 1

The Economic Halo Effect of Sacred Places considers dozens of factors, which are summarized into the following thematic categories: Direct Spending, Education, Open Space, Magnet Effect, Individual Impact, and Invisible Safety Net. When considered as a whole, the average historic sacred place generated over \$1.7 million in economic impact annually to its surrounding community. As can be seen in the summarizing table below, IPC's unique impact on its community is sizeable and notable in its own rite:

Benefit Type	Description	Calculation
<b>DIRECT SPENDING</b>	Spending on operations and building maintenance that is funneled into the local economy.	<b>\$1,048,057</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	E.g. an early childhood education program or parochial school; benefits to the economy by freeing parents to work and lowering the costs to taxpayers for social programs	<b>\$277,120</b>
<b>OPEN SPACE</b>	Green space and recreation space improves the environment and lowers energy costs.	<b>\$96,749</b>
<b>MAGNET EFFECT</b>	Hosting events and operating programs catalyzes visitor spending at local businesses, restaurants, and events.	<b>\$675,556</b>
<b>INDIVIDUAL IMPACT</b>	Intervening in individuals' lives enables people to work, find social stability, live more resilient lives, and reduces government spending.	<b>\$184,111</b>
<b>INVISIBLE SAFETY NET</b>	Operating and hosting community-oriented programs that supplement the activity of the local government and social service agencies and organizations, adding value to the community, improving the properties, and making the area more desirable and positive	<b>\$563,177</b>
<b>TOTAL "HALO" ECONOMIC IMPACT VALUE:</b>		<b>\$2,844,771</b>

*A more in-depth explanation of the above table will be included in the August newsletter.*

## 3rd ANNUAL IPC TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER FOR ICAN

Mark your calendars – on Saturday, August 1st, the Mission Committee will host the 3rd annual Trivia Night Fundraiser for the Irvington Community Advocacy Network (ICAN). This not-to-



be-missed extravaganza will be held at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Admission is a free-will offering, and snacks and drinks will be available. Prize drawings will be held throughout the evening, so you have a chance to win something, even if you can't answer a single question (which is highly unlikely). This event has raised about \$1,500 each of the last 2 years, so please plan to attend, bring some friends, and support ICAN. For any questions, please contact Kevin Moorhead.

# Irvington Presbyterian Church

Established 1906

## 120 YEARS AND WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED!!!

"I know the plans I have for you: to give you a future with hope," says the Lord.  
-Jeremiah 29:11



## I would like to ask the members of IPC for help!

There are two volunteer roles we're trying to fill:



1. Youth workers! I need volunteers who can show up for two hours on Sunday evenings, 5:30-7:30. Every week, we create a craft or art project or do a community service project, and we have dinner together.
2. Sunday School workers! I need volunteers who can spend 45 minutes in the Sunday School classroom with the kids during Sunday morning worship.

The lesson plans and activities are prepared by me (or Hannah Braun), so there is no pressure to bring a devotional or lesson! All we need is your presence.

I know there are people in the congregation who love the kids and want to contribute, but some of you are already on several committees and teams, and your schedule can't fit another long-term commitment. That's okay! If you want to help out but only have one free Sunday, you should still reach out.

There are 19 open time slots from now until Rally day, and I would be absolutely delighted if those were filled by 19 different people.

In order for the kids and youth to keep gathering together in a safe environment, we need the adults of the church to participate and be the policy-required "second safe adult" present in the room.

It's truly a fun opportunity, and I'm looking forward to filling out our schedule for the rest of the summer.



--Alexander

### MEN'S SOFTBALL!

Anyone interested in playing, please contact Matt Harris at 317-979-5652 or [mattharris1981@yahoo.com](mailto:mattharris1981@yahoo.com).

WEEK OF JULY 6 - NO GAME

Monday July 13th

6:15 p.m. Field #2 vs. Brookville Road 1

Tuesday July 21st

6:15 p.m. Field #1 vs. Realife

Tuesday July 28th

6:15pm Field #1 vs. People's Church

All games are played at Heather Hills Baptist Church, 1421 N. German Church Road, Indianapolis, IN 46229.

**IPC BOOK CLUB**

**July 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 PM**  
**IPC Parlor**

**WHAT**  
*the*  
**WIND**  
**KNOWS**

**AMY HARMON**  
New York Times Bestselling Author



*On Sunday, June 14th, three new members were welcomed into the congregation during the 120th Anniversary Celebration Worship Service. Joining were long-time IPC attendee and Eastsider Shirley Sheeks, Mrs. Nancy Singleton, and Miss Deb Alger!*



*IPC Members who joined with other Whitewater Valley Presbytery congregations in the Indy Pride Parade: Katherine Gering-Williams, Rev. Reinink, Fox Alexander, Kristin Shaw, Peter Stockwell, Kyrie Harris, and Casey Harris*

# JULY BIRTHDAYS

The first Sunday of July, in Fellowship Hall following worship, we will celebrate all July birthdays! We will have cake and other goodies! If we have omitted anyone's birthday, it may not be recorded in the church office.

You can email Lori at [lchapman@irvpresby.org](mailto:lchapman@irvpresby.org) to inform her of your birthdate.

Eli Eckert	July 2	Pastor Jon	July 15
Caleb Wolf	July 3	Neil Lewis	July 16
Elizabeth Cook	July 4	Deb Michael	July 17
Nikolaus Brahtz	July 5	Marcia Lauer	July 20
Debbie Hoke	July 5	Jim Little	July 23
Nicholas Vella	July 6	Jan Schreibman	July 24
Ally Wolf	July 6	Colleen Wood	July 24
Jayne Stuckey	July 10	Megan Knoble	July 26
Bill Ferling	July 11	Reese Padrick	July 27
Patrick Wooden	July 12	Beth Hawks	July 27



If you're interested in joining, please contact Pat Lewis at [pmclewis@yahoo.com](mailto:pmclewis@yahoo.com) or David Owen at [davidDPU81@yahoo.com](mailto:davidDPU81@yahoo.com).

- July 18th: Picnic/Hike/Ziplining

-August 15th: Dinner Out (TBD)

Everyone is welcome to join us at any of our upcoming 2026 events. Our activities usually take place on the third Saturday of each month unless otherwise noted. Upcoming events include duckpin bowling, attending a hockey game, and going to a play.

Thanks--David Owen

## 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](http://alz.org) | association



## Pawsitively Uplifting

This is Michael, my son. He has two wonderful English Bulldogs. The one sitting with him is Glacier, and Toad is on the floor next to him. Every time I visit, each of them greets me. They both love playing with toys and going on car rides. Michael and Margaret say they are both part of their family.

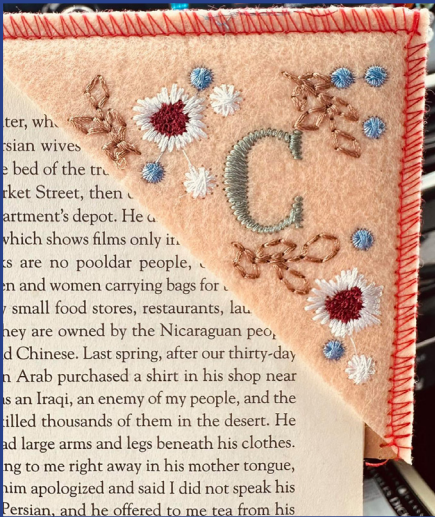
--Jackie Cox



Horizon House needs backpacks for adults who are unhoused. Horizon House also needs socks and items to help heal blisters and other foot problems. If you are able to donate any of these items, please place them in the Horizon House box in the area next to the parlor.

Humans are amazing. We can attach meaning to objects and create a shortcut back to those we love. This bookmark belonged to my Nana, Carolyn Sue Jones Sorter.

Adopted at birth and moved from Dallas to Indy before pre-K, I grew up without seeing myself reflected around me. That changed in 2004 when I found my biological family—and at the center was Nana. She introduced me to love that asked for nothing in return. She



became home. With every hug, shared genetic trait, and “bless your heart,” she helped make me whole.

I had her for 21 years before she passed last

June. Now, this bookmark is my way back to her. In quiet, in-between moments—at kids’ practices or band concert intermissions—she’s with me. I open my book and I can see her red hair, hear her Texas drawl, and remember how she changed my life with her love.

--Jess Young

### THE 227TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PC(USA)

By the time you read this article, Milwaukee will be bidding farewell to the last truckload of Presbyterian paraphernalia and shooing the last of the mid council leaders out of the convention center, but in the final days of June, each of the 164 presbyteries in our denomination sent over 500 commissioners and delegates to gather together and discern God’s will for our church. Together, first in committees meeting online, then in-person in Milwaukee, they will address much of the formal business of the denomination’s work and then discuss, review, study, pray about, debate, and eventually vote on a host of matters that will impact the ministry and mission of the Church. The big topics this year include: the recent restructuring and oversight of our national agencies (including the functional elimination of our entire mission coworker network); financial management policies regarding divestment from the fossil fuel industry; policies and programs that relate to Israel & Palestine; gender-affirming healthcare; how to maintain the faith, purity, and discipline of the Church while simultaneously being a safe place for the LGBTQIA2S+ community and advocating for things like gender-affirming healthcare in a theological context; and the public witness of the Church as it relates to national politics and movements like Christian nationalism. You can learn more by visiting the PC(USA) website or by watching out for more reporting in coming months. IPC has two direct connections to this year’s General Assembly—TJ Hengst and Rev. Bob Heimach are serving as half of the delegation from our Presbytery and we will certainly invite them to share their reflections and insights into the decisions made and their impacts. More to come next month!

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SEAL

# Irvington Presbyterian Church

*The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

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## JACK'S O R N E R

Helping others might unexpectedly become your job. At times, we come across someone who needs immediate help, and you might be in the right place to help, whether it's an accident, a water rescue, a heart attack, or choking.

I read a story about a

man hiking in Arizona in 100-degree heat who became lost and had no phone service. He was out of water and dizzy. He thought that firing his gun might draw attention if anyone was in the area. Thirty minutes later, he fired again to signal distress. A retired firefighter was hiking nearby and believed someone was in distress. He found the man lying down and disoriented. The man told the firefighter his car was three miles away by a lake. He gave him water, which didn't seem to help. The man was 26 years old, 6'5", and 210 pounds. The firefighter was 5'7" and 155 pounds. Trying to hold him up and walk was nearly impossible. He had to yell at



the man, "You want to see your wife and kids again?" The man grew heavier and drifted in and out of consciousness. The theme here is never give up, no matter how hard it is. You found yourself here for a reason, even if it seems impossible. Oh! The man lived because a stranger knew he was the only one to help and didn't give up, no matter how hard it was.