



A LITERARY EVENT

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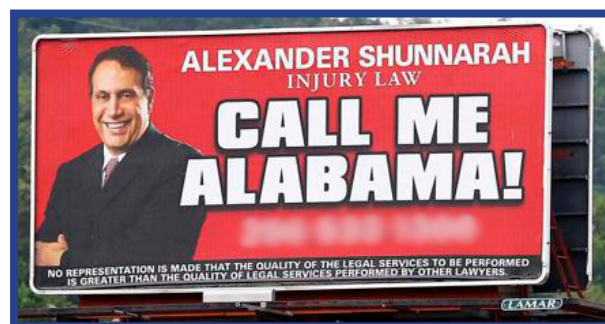
Together: Building

“Call me Alabama”

A billboard for a regional injury law firm pops up along the interstate highways we were driving on vacation. I couldn't help but wonder if the lawyer was declaring a desire to get hired and happened to forget a comma, or if he was demanding a new nickname. “Call me, Alabama” is different than, “Call me Alabama” after all!

Punctuation makes a difference, doesn't it? This was on my mind as we were exploring various themes for our 2026-2027 capital campaign. There are so many ways to say what this campaign is about and for, and the Committee was doing its best to encompass it all. Craig, fulfilling his role as the Communications Director, had written down our committee's thoughts and then succinctly and effectively found a way to get many of the ideas together when he wrote: “Building: Faith, Family, & Future.” The punctuation prompts a pause, encourages ambiguity, triggers reflection... Together, the words and punctuation prompt a reminder, project a vision, and invite participation. As we move through this season of fundraising appeals concurrent with the projected work to be done, we will find ourselves repeatedly brought back to the fundamentals of our church's calling:

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We have had our share of hot days this summer; walking into an air-conditioned sanctuary has been blissful. Can you imagine how they did it before the church had AC? Then you have those frigid winter days, when a warm sanctuary provides a welcome embrace on a cold blustery morning. The time has come for our church to replace the boiler and the air conditioning unit (the one that services the sanctuary).



*Contribute to the
Capital Campaign*

Thankfully, Jon has been busy writing grants. We have been blessed to receive TWO matching grants to fund HVAC replacements as well as electrical upgrades, masonry repairs, flat roof replacement, and window repairs. However, these grants will only fund HALF of the project costs and come with a condition - they must be matched.

Thus, session has voted to launch a capital campaign to fund these building repairs. We need to raise \$330,000 by November 30, 2027 to secure these gifts. That's where you come in. Please consider making a pledge to support this campaign. Your pledges (and gifts) will help trigger these matching funds.

Please note, as you plan your giving, we will be conducting two campaigns this year. The capital campaign will raise funds for building repairs; the annual stewardship campaign will fund the church's operating expenses (utilities, salaries, etc.). The annual campaign will begin later this fall.

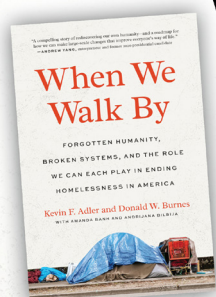
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Faith—called to be a Church that exists by and for our Christian faith, rooted in Christ, surrounded by God's love;

Family—a community that is known by God's love characterized by relationships that resemble a family of believers who support, care for, celebrate, and fulfill a commitment to our understanding that we are meant to be in community with one another; and

Future—by recognizing our past, both as God's children whose testimonies are shared through the Scriptures and as the saints of Irvington whose testimonies are held in our neighborhood, our individual and family histories, and even in our facility, we learn about God revealed to us so we might recognize the Holy Spirit's work among us as we look ahead.

When We Walk By Workshop



Led by
Jackie Cox and
Gary Conway

Think about the last time that you saw or interacted with a person experiencing homelessness. What did you do? What did you say? Did you offer money or a smile, or did you avert your gaze?

SESSION I

SESSION II

September 20th September 27th

In the Parlor after the worship service.



Please join the Justice Advocates in exploring issues of homelessness with a creative approach.



And, lest we get hooked on any one of those, it is prefaced by the context, the product, the goal, the response, the imperative, the activity, and the call to action: Building.

We are raising funds for this season's goals, dreams, duties, and day-to-day activities—responding to our past and preparing for what is coming. Together, we will work to ensure the building in which we dwell—the one that houses the history, our family of faith, and our collective future ministry of serving Irvington and beyond is hospitable, safe, secure, and structurally sound. In the months to come, we will also learn and discern what our future might include, improve, or support, too!

Join us in our season of building: Our building of faith, family, and future.

Excited to be in
this season with you,

Pastor Jon

SALLY HEPWORTH

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE SOULMATE

Sanity
is
subjective.

**Mad
Mabel**

A NOVEL



IPC BOOK CLUB

Wednesday,
September 9th
IPC Parlor
7:00 pm

Irvington Book Club's September selection is *Mad Mabel* by Sally Hepworth, a #1 Best Seller published this year.

Watch for the official placement and unveiling of
William Lawson's commissioned painting of IPC!



IRVINGTON HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL WELLNESS FAIR

SAVE the DATE

We are excited to kick off the 80th Historic Irvington Halloween Festival. Last October, IPC hosted the third Irvington Halloween Festival Wellness Fair. Over 300 neighbors received information and resources, along with free flu vaccines, and safely disposed of 100 lbs. of expired/unwanted medications. IPC will partner

again with the Irvington Halloween Festival Committee, Community East Hospital, Jane Pauley Community Health Center, ICAN, Be Smart (gun safety), Irvington Public Library, and Versiti (mobile blood drive), among others.

How can you help? We will need volunteers on the day of the Wellness Fair. We will provide lunch for our community partners, so we will need donated cookies and brownies. They were so well received that we will be collecting funds to purchase smoke and carbon monoxide detectors again this year. These will be the gifts for the drawings held throughout the day of the fair. Most importantly, we need you to come and visit with our providers. They are so excited to return and serve YOU!

Please mark your calendar now for Saturday, October 24th. Watch for volunteer sign-ups and more information in October. If you have any questions, please speak with a member of the Justice Advocacy Team.



Irvington Halloween Festival Wellness Fair

HEALTHCARE SHOULDN'T BE SCARY!

Saturday
October 24th
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

55 JOHNSON AVE.
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46219
WWW.IRVPRESBY.ORG

Irvington Presbyterian Church Est. 1906



Rally Day

Sunday,
September 13th

10:00 AM Worship
11:30 AM Pitch-in

Come & celebrate the beginning of the new IPC program year!

Congregational picture after worship on the South steps.

The IPC Choir returns to the chance!

Children's Sunday School begins.

Sign up for Christian Education opportunities!

Pitch-in after the Worship Service
Mac & Cheese and hot dogs will be provided.
Please bring a dessert if your last name begins with A-K.
Bring a side dish if your last name begins with L-Z.

Irvington Presbyterian Church Est. 1906

THANK YOU FROM THE ICAN FOOD PANTRY

Irvington Presbyterian Church ICAN Food Pantry thanks you for the monthly donations to our food pantry. This past donation was so generous of your congregation.

Diane Roudebush's car was overflowing!



ICAN

Irvington Community
Advocacy Network



Do you want to ring? Do you want to sing? If you do, we've just the thing. Join the chancel choir and the bell choir! The Penni J Lewis Memorial Bell Choir rehearses Thursdays from 6:30 - 7:30pm and the Chancel Choir rehearses Thursdays from 7:30 - 8:30pm. No auditions are required and all are welcome. If you have any questions about commitment in either choir before showing up, you can contact Doug at dshafer-johnson@irvypresby.org (but, you are free to just show up too!)

Come make music with us this year!



L.I.F.T Group

**Bring Your Own Project (BYOP)
Night!**

September 21st | 6:30 p.m.

Do you have a project at home you just can't find time to finish? Whether it's knitting a sweater, organizing old family photos, writing thank-you notes, or finally fixing that broken item, bring it with you! This isn't just for crafters—it's for any project that needs dedicated time to tackle. Don't have a project right now? Come anyway for fellowship and fun conversation. We will gather on September 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the church parlor. Bring your project along with your favorite snack or drink to share with the group. Don't forget to invite a friend. Please contact Jess Young at 317-670-9368 with any questions.



Harmony Collected

Community Choir

Join our 2026 - 2027 Season

**Rehearsals:
Tuesdays at 6:30 PM
Beginning September 8th**

Events held at **Irvington Presbyterian - 55 Johnson Ave.**

**Belonging Centered, Radically Welcoming
No Audition or Experience Required**

Scan the QR code below for more info and to sign up.

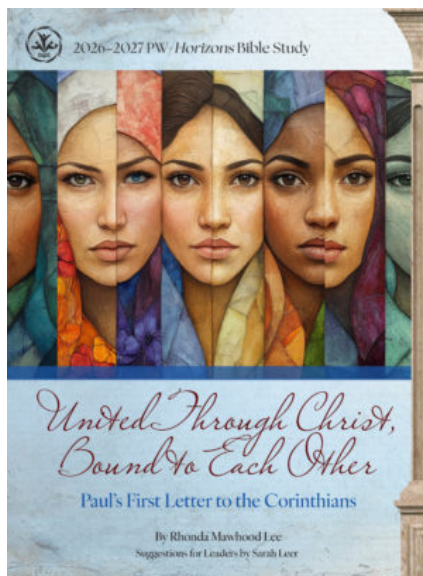


info@opencirclearts.org



A DECENT AND ORDERLY EVENING

On Thursday, August 6th, Pastor Emeritus Rev. Bob Heimach discussed his recently-released book of anecdotes, lessons learned, humorous stories, and touching remembrances entitled *Decently and In Order: Christmas Fireballs, Dive Bombing Bats, Killer Softballs, and Other Holy Moments of My Life in Ministry*. Rev. Heimach shared his purposes in writing, his writing process, and the nuts and bolts of self-publishing. He also signed copies of his book read a portion of one of the chapters involving a machette and a surprise overnight visitor to IPC. Nearly 60 members and friends of IPC were treated to an entertaining evening and fantastic snacks. If you are interested in purchasing a copy of Rev. Heimach's book, please contact him at ranguspab@gmail.com. The cost for a book and mailing is \$16.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
 Third Thursdays of each month
 Begins September 17th at 10:30 AM in the Parlor
 Followed by lunch at a local restaurant

This year's book:
**"United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other:
 Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians"**
 Author: Rhonda Mawhood Lee
 Book cost: \$14

Contact Gail McNierney with questions.

YOUTH NEWS

The Youth are joining the kids from Downey Christian every fourth Sunday of the month for ice cream, games, or a movie. We invite others to join us!

This is a new tradition, and we want to extend our hospitality to the neighborhood! If anyone has contact with a church or nonprofit organization that runs programs for teens and thinks they might enjoy receiving an invitation, I'd love to meet them.

CHILDREN'S UPDATES:

Sunday School kicks back off on Rally Day, September 13! We have lots of fun activities and lessons planned, and I would like to find more volunteers to help fill the classrooms.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 6th in Fellowship Hall following worship, we will celebrate all September 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 lori@irvpresby.org to share your birthdate.

Janice DeCoito
Joan Fogg
Logan Stout
Carole Higgins
Anna Hawks
Kyrie Harris
Hannah Braun
Sandy Page

09-01 Samuel Hawks
09-01 Kyleigh Welch
09-01 Don Nixon
09-04 Nancy Singleton
09-05 Joseph Dial
09-06 Cora Brozan
09-11 LaVonne Mitchell
09-13 Brianna Wooden

09-19
09-22
09-26
09-26
09-27
09-28
09-30
09-30

Thanks to all of the musicians who shared their talents with us during summer worship!



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 |  alz.org

From the Archives...

The First Five of IPC

In the new History Nook outside Fellowship Hall, we honored our 10 ministers of IPC with framed photos. This month, you are invited to “match” the minister with the anecdote or fact!

Printed here in order of service:

1. Dr. Jonathan C. Day (“Jack”)

2. Rev. John S. Martin

3. Dr. Loudon A. Harriman

4. Dr. George William Allison

5. Dr. John B. Ferguson

_____ a) At his retirement, IPC held a “love feast” at Ellenberger Park where 700 attended

_____ b) He enlisted in World War 1

_____ c) Girl Scout Troop #1 organized, Mrs. Woodrow Wilson gave them a silk flag

_____ d) Found the original bell from the little brick church in a pile in the coal yard, Mr. Jenkins had it and refurbished, and it was hung in the new building

_____ e) Was a Major in the National Guard

_____ f) He could neither read nor write at age 18

_____ g) Burned the old mortgage April 25, 1920 in the little brick church

_____ h) “Urged” to join the Ku Klux Klan..... NO!!

_____ i) When he was installed, IPC was \$121,000 in debt

_____ j) The first woman Elder was installed at IPC during his leadership

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

MY GA EXPERIENCE - PART 2

It is the morning of June 22, my first committee meeting. All times listed on the schedule were based on Milwaukee. We started at 9. I really felt for those on the west coast (start time 6 am!). The initial committee meeting was opened by the co-moderators of the General Assembly (Rev. CeCe Armstrong and Rev. Tony Larson). They spoke about general assembly and gave some extra administrative announcements. At one point they lost all audio and video. I kept thinking where was Craig (Shaw – our IT pro), but they soon recovered. The committee meeting started on time. The moderators went over some housekeeping items. We went over the committee covenant we created when we had the meet and greet. It covered how we would conduct ourselves and how we would treat each other. We were reminded that everyone is different, but one in God. Each day of committee opened and closed with a short worship service. Everyone was instructed that in order to speak we were to use the My GA business tools (the moderators could mute you at will). We had been given a total of 12 overtures to discuss. During the 3 days, some of the overtures that were debated and voted on were about Artificial Intelligence (AI), White Christian Nationalism, Human Trafficking, a new Confession, and more. Overtures I thought would take a long time to discuss went very quickly and others were drawn out to point where many of us were frustrated. I had been thankful I had read (and reread) the overtures to be discussed. The moderators were very fair when calling on someone to speak for or against a motion or suggest an amendment (there was a LOT of those!). By the end of the 3 days, everyone knew who the talkers and wordsmiths were. Did I take copious notes? Of course! Did I learn more about AI than I ever wanted to know? Probably. Those 3 days staring at a computer screen were extremely long. At the end, my comfy chair was no longer considered comfy!

At this point I was ready and excited to attend General Assembly. I knew I would not only get to meet my committee members in person (a 2 inch zoom box doesn’t cut it), but other commissioners from across the U.S. ready to do the Church’s work. It was now time to start packing for my flight to Milwaukee.

(Part 3 to come.)

--Elder T.J. Hengst



SEAL

SEAL

Irvington Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

55 Johnson Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 46219-6498

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JACK'S O R N E R

While searching the internet, I found an interesting story. Do you see fewer birds each year in your yard? One in four birds in North America has been lost. Twenty-nine percent of all birds in the U.S. are now in decline because of habitat loss and drought. Habitats are being paved over, and meadows are being turned into apartments. Look at your backyard. Is it quiet? Summers are getting

hotter, and weeks without rain are becoming more common. In winter, people put out birdseed, and in spring they put out birdhouses, but there seems to be no water. Birds have trouble finding water in their neighborhoods. People buy pretty bird baths, but they aren't made with birds in mind. Glazed stone, plastic, or ceramic. But birds' feet can't grip them, or they are too deep. Insects can slip in but can't get out. If not kept clean, bacteria and parasites build up. Walter, a man in Vermont, came up with the perfect bird bath. A copper-coated surface gives birds a grip, and a graduated bowl with shallow edges is easy to clean.

