

The congregation of

Irvington Presbyterian Church

invites you to become a member of

our church. New members bring

life, energy and talent into our

congregation. Together, we are

building a community dedicated to

building up and supporting the

ministry of Christ.

INQUIRY CLASSES

At various times during the year Inquiry Classes are held for visitors. These classes provide information on the ministry and mission of Irvington Presbyterian Church, as well as basic information about what it means to be a Presbyterian. These classes meet in the church Parlor and are taught by the ministers. Class topics include:

1. Church history.
2. Basic Reformed theology.
3. Church structure and governance.
4. Our IPC mission.

For information about the next scheduled Inquiry Class, please contact the church office or call the ministers at 317-356-7225.

Irvington Presbyterian Church

55 Johnson Street
Indianapolis, IN 46219
317-356-7225
www.irvpresby.org

Irvington Presbyterian Church

BECOMING A
MEMBER OF
IRVINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.

MATTHEW 18.20

Welcome

If you are currently a member of another church and would like to join IPC..

...you will be transferring your membership. When we receive the name and address of your church, our Church Office will request a transfer to IPC. (See *Vows of Membership #4 for those transferring from another church.*)

If you currently are, or have been, a member of another church and would like to join IPC but we are unable to obtain a letter of transfer...

...you will join by Reaffirmation of Faith. On the day of membership you will be asked to reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) honors baptisms from all denominations so, new members do not need to be baptized again. (See *Vows of Membership #1-4 for those joining by Reaffirmation of Faith.*)

If you are joining a church for the first time and have never been baptized...

...you will first be baptized, as part of the worship service. You will then join by Profession of Faith. On the day of membership you will be asked to profess your faith in Jesus Christ. (See *Vows of Membership #1-4 for those joining by Profession of Faith.*)

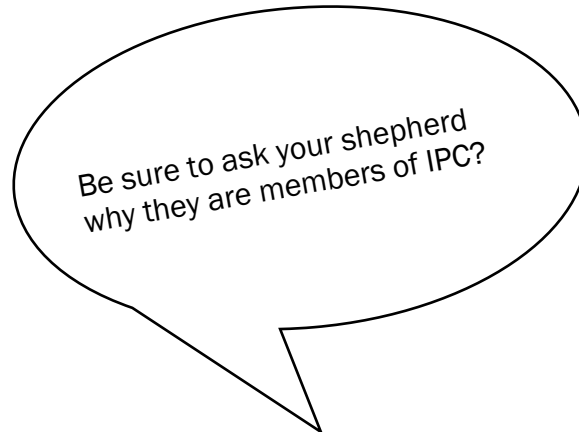
Joining

The Worship Service

On the day of membership and near the beginning of worship, the minister will issue an invitation for new members to step to the chancel (front of the church.) Once gathered, the minister will lead a liturgy of membership, including the Vows of Membership. At the end of the service the congregation will have an opportunity to greet you at the west entrance.

Shepherds

You will be given a shepherd, a member of the congregation, who will help welcome you into IPC. This person will contact you from time to time and introduce you to various ministries of the church in which you may have interest. Your Shepherd can answer questions about the church and help you feel at home at IPC.



Vows

Minister: For those joining by Reaffirmation of Faith or by Profession of Faith:

Because you come to us by profession of faith or reaffirmation of your faith, I ask you therefore, to reject sin, and to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, in which you were baptized.

1) *Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?*

Response: *I do.*

2) *Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?*

Response: *I do.*

3) *Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?*

Response: *I will.*

(The liturgy continues.)

Minister: For those joining by Reaffirmation of Faith or by Profession of Faith, and those transferring from another church:

4) Do you promise to be a faithful member of this congregation, to share in its ministry through prayer and your gifts, your study and your service and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Response: *I do.*