### April 2025



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE --PAGES 3



Come worship with us at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday!

#### Dear Presbyterians,

Baseball Hall of Famer, Frank Robinson, famously said, "Close don't count in baseball. Close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades." I was attempting to celebrate a near-hole-in-one with my youth group at a minigolf course when a high school freshman was the first to share this "wisdom" with me while he casually walked past me toward the next hole. It took a moment to register the dig he had made at my ego, and then another second to realize how funny the statement was. I have loved the phrase ever since. So much of our life is lived in a world that is labeled as black and white; right and wrong; right or left; conservative or liberal; or even masculine or feminine.

It's strange, since so much of our life ends up being spent in



between: trying to parse out the black and white from amidst the gray; judging if something is ultimately right or wrong in the long-run; or looking around to see what others are doing before plastering a label on it of being masculine or leftist or Republican or whatever label is needed to help us process day to day life? Even as I write this, I'm listening to the news and forcing myself to constantly consider whether a specific headline is "good" or "bad" based on my personal convictions, beliefs, and worldview as opposed to simply absorbing the slant or bias provided by the program commentaries.

The reality is that we tend to--or attempt to--place a label on most things in life, even though most things in life really deserve to be left without a label! We are creatures who like habits and default to being efficient in life's dealings. It's easier and more efficient

### From the Archives...

#### Building the "New" IPC Church

And so, after our little brick church served Irvington Presbyterians valiantly, 1908-1927, the building was taken down so that the new Gothic structure would take it's place. (BTW, a brick from the original building is in Lori Chapman's office!!!)

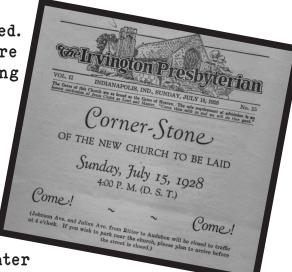
The cornerstone-laying ceremony took place on Sunday, July 15, 1929 at 4:00pm. (See the photo with women in hats and knee socks).

The bulletin for that service read at the bottom, Johnson Ave. and Julian Ave. from Ritter to Audubon will be closed to traffic at 4 o'clock. If you wish to park near the church, please plan to arrive

church, please
before the
street is closed.
Remember, there
were no parking
lots for this
building at
the time.
During the
ceremony,
they began
with The
Lord's

Prayer, and later sang the hymn "Faith of Our Fathers", then the official cornerstone-laying.

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"This stone which God hath made and man but found, we have, with high heart, purchased."

--John E. Reed, the Finance Comm.

George William Allison was the minister, and the congregation met at Carr's Hall until the building was completed. (at the northwest corner of Washington and Ritter streets.). The program stated that Rev. Allison lived at 254 South Ritter.

that Rev. Allison lived at 254 Sc

'So very thankful for those who came before us!!!

IPC History Geeks, Frank Hurdis and Sheri Patterson

Continued from Page 1

to deal with things if we can sort them into column A or column B, categorically processing them from then on. For example, living with the motto, "I read it on social media, it must be true," would make life easier, because everything one reads would be "right" or "true." But we know that would leave one living in a world of lies! The unfortunate truth is that we must consider every single statement and make a value assessment. And even then, white lies and partial truths make it nearly impossible to apply blanket value assessments! What can we do in this liminal space? How can we be "good Christians and seek the "truth" in this world?

In Jesus we have a model of living in this world of "in between-ness". Part of what made his teachings so troublesome to the religious leaders of his day is that he would often suggest bending the rules so that life in between the assumed dichotomy was not only obvious, but possible, and even celebrated. As we follow Jesus through Luke's account of his final journey toward Passover in Jerusalem, we will keep pulling ourselves into the middle spaces where Jesus dwelt. We will continue to be reminded of how hard it is to stay in that middle place.

Why is this an important reminder? Because it takes a ton of energy to and self-confidence to stick around in that space! It is so much easier to slap a label on something and move on than it is to stay in the space of having to assess and reconsider something or someone over and over again. But giving someone a second chance is what Jesus' teachings on forgiveness are all about. And remaining vigilant for the sneaky ways sin might creep into our lives was another theme of Christ's parables. And being attentive to how God is moving in our world is critical to our continued spiritual growth and development. So, it is important. Even if it is exhausting. And there is one perk that comes with hovering in that grey space for as long as we will.

Forty days of reflecting on the in between will bring us to Easter morning: a glorious morning of great hope, joy, and goodness. The contrast will feel stark in all the best ways as we sing songs of triumph and adorn our service and sanctuary with fresh flowers and plants of all colors and outstanding beauty; as we sing loud 'Hallelujahs!,' transforming a space with dark purple and, even, vacant of, paraments with a scary wooden cross into one full of new life.

Join us on Maundy Thursday as we mark the greatest valley of despair and again on Easter Sunday as we make that wonderful transition!

Grateful to journey through the highs and lows of this season with you,

# Holy Week Schedule



shouting & silence
Palm Sunday
April 13<sup>th</sup>
10:00 am
Worship Service
and New Members

# everything [in] between

power & humility

Maundy Thursday

April 17<sup>th</sup>
7:00 pm
Service with

Communion and
Stripping of the
Chancel

# everything [in] between

grief & hope

Easter Sunday

April 20<sup>th</sup>

9:00 & 11:00 am

Service with

Flowering of the

Cross and

Communion

10:00 am Fellowship Hour

Living
In
Fellowship
Together

# CONVERSATION AND FOOD WITH FRIENDS MONDAY, APRIL 21st at 6:30pm

It is time to meet with friends at Manley's Irish Mutt, 7041 E. 10th St. Women of all ages (21 and over at the Mutt) are always welcome. Why not bring a friend? We'll be enjoying dinner from their expansive menu. We will be collecting feminine hygiene products for Westminster.

It is always good to meet with friends, enjoy a meal you do not cook, and just 'visit.' Please let me know

by April 18th, if you will be able to join us, so the Mutt will know how to prepare. Shirley Sheeks (317-459-7929) (shirleysheeks@gmail.com).





Monday, March 17th Creating Diamond Art with TJ

#### SAVE THE DATES!

- May 4th: Join us for a fun Community Pickleball Tournament & Picnic benefiting Westminster Neighborhood Services. More details to come!
- June 8th: Don't miss our Camp Scholarship Fundraiser, a great way to support kids in our community.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information!

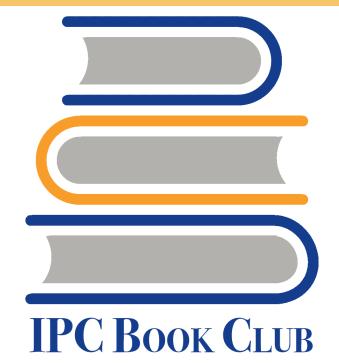
# IN MEMORIAM Larry Sipe (September 12, 1940 - February 14, 2025)

IN MEMORIAM
Sarah Calder
(January 25, 1923 - February 22, 2025)

IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Hays
(February 27, 1934 - March 4, 2025)

IN MEMORIAM Lois Dillon (March 23, 1927 - March 20, 2025)



### A New Book Club What a 'novel' idea!

Have you thought of joining a book club but you're not sure where to start? There have been conversations about starting a club and it is finally getting off the ground. All are Welcome! If you are interested in learning more, please contact Ondrea McAulay at mcaulayondrea2@gmail.com or Kathy Moorhead at kmxfour@aol.com.

# PER CAPITA

Per Capita contributions should be made soon.
We will send reminder messages to those who haven't yet around Easter.

### **HORIZON HOUSE**

IPC will be collecting clothing and hygiene items for HORIZON HOUSE DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025. We will be collecting any rain gear. Many of our IPC friends at Horizon House need rain gear in order to weather a SPRING STORM! Horizon House is also needs spring jackets too! Thank you to all who have contributed in the past! Any of these items can be put in the bin next to the parlor labled Horizon House! Jackie Cox/ Coxjackie3@gmail.com and or 317-726-9142.



HEY IPC! Thank you so much for your generous support as a table sponsor at the Westminster Food Fight. We had a wonderful time sampling the "chopped-style" culinary creations, and it was inspiring to learn more about how Westminster is caring for our near eastside neighbors in need. Your partnership makes a real difference, and we are grateful for your ongoing commitment to this vital mission.



#### Welcome to ICAN's New Director, Kari Burns!

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Kari Burns, the new Director of the Irvington Community Advocacy Network (ICAN). Kari brings a passion for service and a wealth of communitycentered experience, and we look forward to partnering with her as ICAN continues to support and strengthen our neighborhood.

We also want to express our heartfelt gratitude to Brianna Owens for her dedicated leadership and tireless work during her time as



IRVINGTON COMMUNITY ADVOCACY NETWORK

ICAN's Director. Her commitment to our community has been an inspiration, and we wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

To meet Kari in person and learn more about ICAN's important work, we invite you to attend our Lenten Soup Supper

services. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect, ask questions, and discover new ways to support neighbors in need. We hope to see you there!





#### The Justice Advocacy Team needs YOU!

The IPC Justice Advocacy Team needs YOU! The JAT will be meeting to plan events and share ideas/opportunities to learn more about social justice issues facing our community for 2025. 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, April 27th after worship in Room 24. For more information, please contact Kathy Moorhead at 317-430-3402.

In April, your Justice Advocacy Team will kick off the month with a road trip. The IPC bus has been reserved to travel to Butler University/Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall on April 2nd to attend "A New View Film Series: Brother Outsider". This film chronicles the life of Bayard Rustin an important yet "unknown hero" of the civil rights movement. You may learn more about this event below. Registration is required for this FREE event. You must register using this link:

https://www.butlerartscenter.org/performances/a-new-view-film-series-brother-outsider/

Brother Outsider chronicles the life and work of Bayard Rustin—a visionary strategist and activist who has been called "the unknown hero" of the civil rights movement. A disciple of Gandhi, a mentor to Martin Luther King Jr., and the architect of the 1963 March on Washington, Rustin dared to live as an out gay man during the fiercely homophobic 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. Brother Outsider chronicles Rustin's activism for racial and economic justice, peace, and equality for LGBTQ Americans while illuminating why he has been erased from history.

A New View Film Series will journey outside everyday life to explore new worldviews through the screening of four films. The Series seeks to promote appreciation and foster respect for differences through the lenses of interfaith understanding, diversity, social justice, and belonging.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, NO TICKET IS REQUIRED.

Continuing in April, your Justice Advocacy Team was pleased to be asked to partner with the Irvington Branch Library. We will be providing refreshments for the following lectures and panel discussions. We hope you will participate in these exciting events.

#### Rooted in Resilience: Black Life in Indiana Thriving During the Klan Era

Saturday, April o5: 3:00pm - 4:00pm Irvington Library

AGE GROUP: ADULTS

EVENT TYPE: LECTURE/PANEL DISCUSSION

Kisha Tandy, Curator of Social History at the Indiana State Museum, will shed light on the many ways in which Black families flourished in Indiana despite the influence of the Ku Klux Klan in the early 1900s.

#### Madge: The Life and Times of Madge Oberholtzer: Meet Author Charlotte Ottinger

Tuesday, April 22: 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Irvington Branch

AGE GROUP: ADULTS

EVENT TYPE: BOOK DISCUSSION AUTHOR VISIT Meet Charlotte Ottinger, author of "Madge: The Life and Times of Madge Oberholtzer, the Young Irvington Woman Who Brought Down D.C. Stephenson and the Ku Klux Klan." Learn about the life and murder of this historic Indianapolis figure from her foremost biographer.

#### 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.

#### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Please join us the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor for the Women's Bible Study. This Bible study is led by Rev. Wilson. 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

### **YOUTH NEWS**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our Youth Fundraiser Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner! Your generosity helps make our youth activities possible, and we're so grateful for your continued encouragement and involvement.

#### **APRIL YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:**

April 6th: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

April 13th: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

April 20th: No Youth Group — **Enjoy Easter with your loved ones!** 

April 27th: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

We're looking forward to another month of fellowship, fun, and growing in faith together. See you there!

If you are in 6th-12th grade, we can't wait to see you at our upcoming activities!

#### FAITH FORMATION IN MARCH FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SUMMARY

Throughout March, our Sunday School classes embarked on a meaningful journey through Scripture, discovering how God's presence guides us in every aspect of life. Early in the month, the children paused to think about the Holy Spirit as the breath of God, reflecting on how air is always around us yet often unseen. They blew bubbles and talked about how God's Spirit helps us shine kindness and courage wherever we go. Next, they traveled down the road with the Good Samaritan, witnessing how one simple act of compassion can bridge the gap between strangers. By imagining moments when someone needs help, perhaps a new student at school or a friend in trouble, the children realized that we can make neighbors out of anyone if we show genuine care and love. Then they stepped into the home of Mary and Martha to learn about balancing faith and service. While busy hands are a blessing, the children heard Jesus' gentle reminder to keep hearts open to His teaching. Through crafts and conversations, they discovered that drawing near to God first equips us to help others better.

From breathing bubbles to bandaging pretend wounds to reflecting on life's busyness, each lesson reminded our young learners that God's love and presence surround them. By making time for God, sharing kindness with strangers, and serving one another wholeheartedly, they have begun to see how faith and works come together in everyday life.

## SEAL

#### Irvington Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
55 Johnson Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46219-6498

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Indianapolis, IN PERMIT No. 2953

#### LABEL HERE

## JACK'S FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS: THIRD EDITION

What does it mean when it says that 'He will ascend

into heaven and sit on the right hand of God,

the Father Almighty...'—when we believe in the Trinity?

There are several answers to this in the Heidelberg Catechism—one of the Confessions of the PC(USA). Search for it online and look at Questions 46-51; it's good stuff!

In short, Jesus ascended to heaven to show he is truly divine and holy and in-charge, and sits at God's right hand to indicate his authority and relationship to/with God the Father. Where is the Holy Spirit in all of this? She is everywhere, always, all-atonce, in a sense; no "seat" required.



How many brothers and sisters did Jesus have? What did they do during the time?

It's hard to say for certain, but according to Mark 6:34 and Matthew 13:54-56, we believe that Jesus had at least four brothers—James, Joses (Joe Jr.), Judas, and Simon—plus two sisters. Given the traditions of the day, it is likely safe to guess that the sons of Joseph were carpenters and the two sisters were married to men from Galilee and took care of their respective homes.