Sundays
Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:15 a.m.
(Nursery and Children
Sunday School During
Service)
Irvington Chinese Presby-
terian Service: 10:15 a.m.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
Missions 2
30 Days of Prayer 2
Birthdays 3
Anniversaries 3
Congregation Happenings 3
Bible Studies 3
Trunk or Treat 4
Support Hope 4
Church Picnic 5
Memorial 6
TCFBP News 6
Kid’s Message 6
Shop Amazon for Hope 6
Calendar 7
“Techie” Talk 8

Dear Friends,

Let’s count our blessings. A new paint job on the outside of our church campus is looking great. The removal of a dying tree and the old kiosk opens things up a bit. A new monitor in the sanctuary opens up a world of worship possibilities for us. Over 750 doors of our neighbors were knocked on by our members and over 200 people came out to celebrate summer and to meet their neighbors on August 9. It was a great event. Thank you to all who put it on. Our next big event to invite the neighborhood is October 19. We’re taking sign ups for help every Sunday now.

On a sad note Alishan Merjanian resigned as staff worship leader last month. He is a truly on fire follower of Jesus Christ. He basically grew up in this church listening to his mother play the organ in our worship service. He also served as our youth director to a small but very faithful group of teenagers who attend worship here every Sunday. We will miss Alishan on staff but hope that he will continue to be a part of our fellowship. Daniel Khuc will continue to give us good worship leadership although choir will have to take a longer than expected break until someone arrives to lead it.

On another sad note we have to say good bye to Katherine Khuc who begins her studies at U C Davis this fall. We very much have appreciated her many hours of volunteer work making sure our media looks excellent each Sunday, subbing on the drums, the piano, or even singing solos. Please pray for her and her family as she settles in to her new life at Davis.

This fall Dr. Martha (my wife) and I will be doing a sermon series called “Emotionally Healthy Spirituality.” Her experience as both a marriage and family therapist as well as a Presbyterian pastor will give us some keen insights into to how religion can both help and hinder our emotional growth. Jesus wants to help us mature into healthy witnesses for him. Using examples from the Bible such as King Saul of unhealthy spirituality we’ll see how Jesus sets us free even from binding emotions that may have been with us for a long time.

Count those blessings. We are blessed.

Pastor Larry
Understanding Faith Promise Giving
(Part 3 of a Series)

Faith Promise Giving is more than just a method of raising money for Missions. It is a Faith Commitment and Faith is central to the Christian life.

Over the last couple of months, the Missions Team has explained the various aspects of Faith Promise Giving from the Scriptural basis to God’s enablement to fulfill your commitment.

In this final segment we will cover, step by step, how you can make a Faith Promise for Missions.

How to Make a Faith Promise for Missions

- Pray for God’s direction – to discern the amount of the commitment. Pray also for God’s enabling help to fulfill that commitment.
- Make a realistic assessment of your situation. This is not a contradiction. E.g. If you have just entered the workforce and have thousands of dollars of student loans, it isn’t realistic to make a Faith Promise of $10,000. Though a Faith Promise can be fulfilled in unexpected and miraculous ways, that isn’t the norm.
- If God is strongly directing you to make a Faith Promise that seems unrealistic, make it and trust that God will enable you to fulfill it.
- Obey God’s voice.
- Trust God completely that he will enable you to give more than you think you can give and at the same time meet all your personal needs.
- Be faithful to give as God enables you.
- When Stewardship asks for your General Giving Pledge, also provide your Faith Promise amount for Missions.
- Each week mark your Giving Envelope with the amount you are giving for “Missions”.

Remember, a Faith Promise is between an individual and God. The commitment is "As God enables me I will be faithful to give". You will not be called on the amount if you cannot meet it.

For further information, the Mission team has prepared a brochure with Frequently Asked Questions. This can be found in the Narthex or feel free to ask any Mission Team member:

Mary Ellen McKowen – Chair
Teresa Oliver

Peggy Handono
Sonal Patelia

Bonnie Nichols
Jenni Pellot

30 DAYS OF PRAYER FOR HOPE

Hope Unlimited for Children is once again inviting us to join them in “30 Days of Prayer for Hope”. This event takes place in October leading up to Orphan’s Day on November 2nd. If you would like to participate, please contact Mary Ellen McKowen or any member of the Mission Team.

Have you checked out the IPC FACEBOOK page? If not, please check us out today. There are some great pictures and videos of the various Sunday services and fellowship gatherings. In addition, it is a great way to keep up with the upcoming events at IPC. LIKE us on our FACEBOOK page: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Irvington-Presbyterian-Church/116256295065982
Share events, make comments, keep in touch with friends
Women’s Bible Study - Women meet weekly in the McKowen Room. In September they will continue their study in “Jesus in The Psalms”. If you would like to join, please check with Carol Lynn to see about a study book.

Home Bible Study - 2nd & 4th Monday Bible Classes at Mary Ellen’s house. Contact Mary Ellen McKowen for additional details. Classes start again on 8 September.

Bible Studies
Irvington Fall Fun Festival

Sunday, October 19, 2014    11a - 2 p

GOAL: Attract families with grade schoolers to attend Sunday school.

Jesus said "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few" Matthew 9:37.

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________ Email: ________________________________

The concept is simple: we roll up our sleeves, and together, we make the difference for kids who have been abandoned to the streets of Brazil. At our City of Youth, at Hope Mountain, and at Nave Mae preschool, kids thrive. Every month, we depend on you: to pray, spread the word, and faithfully give.

Thrive Team members help provide our kids with everything they need to thrive—spiritual care, role models, education and vocational training, recreation, and a place to call home. The Thrive Team gives to each child every day, all day, and changes the course of their lives.

Together, we are giving a whole generation of kids a chance.

As a member of our Thrive Team, you’ll receive exclusive benefits:

- A personal letter from a child thriving at Hope Unlimited each month
- A Thrive Team T-shirt
- A Thrive Team prayer bracelet with a child’s name on it to help you pray

A commitment of $35 per month allows you to play a greater role in their bright futures!

Join today. Don’t delay. They’re waiting for you!

Go to www.HopeUnlimited.org for more information
Let’s Not Forget the IPC Picnic…….(thoughts and thanks from Russ Pennelly)

…. a wonderful August event which attracted 210-230 attendees. There were twice as many guests from the community as there were from IPC – the successful result of hard work by approx 35 folks from the IPC congregation.

This year’s Church Picnic started with the idea that it should be more open to our neighbors. As with most events teamwork prevails. Walking routes to contact 750-1200 of our close geographical neighbors definitely required a team effort. This started with the assistance of Jerry Reynolds from Newark Presbyterian Church who helped us obtain a map of the local area. Then it was out and about in the neighborhood for 15 dedicated IPC members, for 2-4 hours or more, knocking on doors, speaking with local residents and inviting them to come. To complete our outreach we displayed a sign on the Church grounds and got word out through social media.

Planning for the event included obtaining and setting up a shade canopy, registering guests and, of course, the food! But there was more….games and a jump house for the kids, bingo and a band. The men were in charge of the BBQ entrees and many folk donated food dishes and helped with setting up and dismantling the seating arrangements.

Everyone enjoyed themselves. A big THANK YOU to each of you who helped –there’s too many to name here but be assured you are appreciated.

This was a great way to start getting to know our neighbors. Let’s do it again – soon! See you all at the Trunk or Treat!
You can now support the children of Hope Unlimited by shopping on Amazon! Each time you shop on AmazonSmile, a special section of Amazon.com, 0.5% of the price of your purchase goes to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile has all of the same products, prices, and service as Amazon.com plus the opportunity to help our kids! Start today by choosing “Hope Unlimited for Children” as your charity of choice at smile.amazon.com.

Tri-City Free Breakfast Program is looking for eager men and women to help the community by volunteering to serve hot meals to low-income individuals and families. We are in IPC Social Hall, every Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Choose 1, 2, or 3 days. Your choice from 5 am to 9 am; choose your time. If for setting up, come early @ 5 am., or just for serving and cleaning up, come in @ 6:45. We’re desperately in need of volunteers. Contact Rich Dobertstein @ 510-688-8823 or Mary Lou Craig @ 510-396-3053. See you there!!!
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**Additional Events:**
- **September 1:** LABOR DAY - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- **September 28:** HOMEWORK CLUB START (TO BE CONFIRMED)
- **September 29:** KIDS CLUB START (TO BE CONFIRMED)
- **September 30:** HOMEWORK CLUB START (TO BE CONFIRMED)
- **October 4th:** TRUNK OR TREAT NEIGHBOR CANVAS (TO BE CONFIRMED)
Please note: September 26 is the deadline for the October issue.

All articles are to be emailed to nicholsb@earthlink.net

or mailed to:
Bonnie and Teresa at P. O. Box 48, Shingletown, CA 96088
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via email or phone at (530) 355-8685 or (510) 821-1072 (leave message and we will call you back).

The Cornerstone keeps current and past congregation members informed of all activities at IPC.

Pictures are always welcome.

Your timely submissions are appreciated!

If you answered yes, IPC has three exciting news items for you!

1. LIKE us on our FACEBOOK page:
   https://www.facebook.com/pages/Irvington-Presbyterian-Church/116256295065982
   Share events, make comments, keep in touch with friends.

2. Visit our website at www.irvingtonpres.com. It is updated with all events and news. We will also be posting the Cornerstone to the website so you can read it there also.

3. If you have provided us with your email address, check your in-box for your electronic copy of the Cornerstone.