



Irvington Presbyterian Church

Fremont, CA

May 2013

Sundays

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:15 a.m.

(Nursery and Children
Sunday School During
Service)

Irvington Chinese
Presbyterian Service:
10:15 a.m.

WEDDING SEASON

May and June are the peak of the wedding season. I have performed several weddings recently both here at IPC and in other lovely buildings. I share the joy and excitement of the wedding party and delight in the love that is expressed.

The bride and groom pledge to love each other, to care for each other, and to be faithful in marriage. The vows they make are the most important part of the ceremony. Yet it seems that many of the secular weddings I have been invited to recently omit these solemn promises. When I splice a couple together I tell them that love is more than a feeling; it is a policy, a decision they make every day to love each other, no matter what. That's what they promise.

Another reason I love weddings is that God takes marriage as a picture of His relationship with His people.

As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.
(Isaiah 62:5)

Husbands, love your wives just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her. (Ephesians 5:25)

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come and his bride has made herself ready. (Revelation 19:7)

The foundation of marriage, of course, is love. We see the beauty of Jesus, we are awed by the majesty and tenderness of the Father, the sweet presence of the Holy Spirit warms our hearts. He loves each of us, and we respond with fondness and even passion for the loveliness of our God. God is attractive.

Each partner in a marriage adapts to please the other. Out of love for Jesus he gives us the power to make changes in our lives, in our attitudes, in our ways of speaking, to be pleasing to the one we love. It is so good to, as it were, get a hug from Jesus at the beginning of each day.

At the start of the wedding the groom and groomsmen are lined up beside me. The music starts. The doors open. Everybody stands. As the bride enters on the arm of her father, spectacularly gorgeous, the groom is amazed, overjoyed and proud.

Scripture tells us that we are the bride and he is the bridegroom. The way the groom feels is how Jesus feels about you and me! *O that we can grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge!* (Ephesians 3:18, 19)

Yours in the love of Christ,
Pastor Michael

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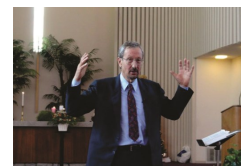
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Missions - The Heart of the Church



An update from Caroline Kurtz:

Mark and I have been in a season of not-knowing. According to monks and contemplatives, God can be particularly present, guiding us, when we are aware that we really don't know the future. This has certainly been true for us -- peace in the middle of uncertainty has been an unexpected blessing.

When Mark was laid off in late August he began job-searching. We were shocked, but not terribly surprised when the unemployment agency in Oregon informed him that statistics show he was unlikely to find another job before retirement in three years. They invited him to start his own business instead -- also a daunting prospect at his age.

Enter a thought we hadn't planned on having: might God have sprung us loose so He could call us into a finisher job overseas?

We've been in a careful process of discernment since that thought occurred to us in October. In March Mark and I flew to Louisville to interview with PCUSA, and now World Mission has called us to serve in the world's newest nation, in the world's newest capital city, Juba, South Sudan!

My position will be Regional Liaison, linking to the partner churches in South Sudan, linking to PCUSA presbyteries and congregations who partner there, and supporting the PCUSA staff in far-flung villages.

Mark will be handling the earth-based needs: logistical support, building supervision (some of these gutsy missionaries are living in tents!), security back-up and trip planning for short-term mission groups.

Support for Caroline now goes through PCUSA World Mission, no longer through the Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship.

Do you HAVE A COMPUTER?



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, starting in June check your in-box for your electronic copy of the Cornerstone.

During May we will be emailing you to confirm we have your correct email address. If you would prefer to continue receiving your copy of Cornerstone in the mail, just respond to the email to let us know or contact Frankie in the church office at 657-6133 or ipchurch@pacbell.net.

10th Anniversary Ice Cream Social!

May 18th at 2:00 PM



You are invited to come and celebrate Pastor Michael's 10 years of Service to Irvington Presbyterian Church.

Bring a Sundae Topping to share with everyone!

Please invite those far and wide who knew Pastor Michael during his ten years with us.

Please send cards to the church to be given to Pastor Michael at the party.



Congregation Happenings



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

May 1 Ankh Truong
May 8 Mustapha Baksh
May 18 Christina Trias
May 18 Jean Landrum
May 19 Don Carson
May 21 Jeanette Ollison
May 27 Murray Hughes
May 29 Natalie Ariathurai
May 29 Betty Burke

THANK YOU FROM JEANETTE BELAND

Jeanette would like to thank IPC for the lovely appreciation reception on her last day at IPC, and for the generosity of members for their lovely gift.

Jeanette would enjoy keeping in touch. Her contact info is:

kidnetter@gmail.com
5514 C River Run Trail
Fort Wayne IN 46825

Highlights for May

Mondays: Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays: Band Practice
Children's Choir, Adult Choir
Pastor's Study Group

Fridays: Men's Bible Study - Bay St Coffee
Band Practice

Sundays: Journey Into Faith

2nd - Worship Team Meeting

9th - SIS

9th - Mission Team Meeting

10th - Church Alive Meeting

18th - 10 Year Celebration

19th - C.E. Meeting

21st - Deacon's Meeting

23rd - Session Meeting

Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study - This class meets with Pastor Michael at Bay Street Coffee Roasting Friday mornings from 8 am to 9 am.

Women's Bible Study - Women meet weekly in the McKowen Room. The theme is 102 fascinating Bible studies. Contact Betty Blizel for details.

Home Bible Study - Regularly scheduled bi-weekly Bible Classes at Mary Ellen's house. Contact Mary Ellen McKowen for additional details.



Children's Ministry News

Ministry Highlights

Wednesday **SURF** for 4th through 6th graders will be getting together weekly starting May 1st through June 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. We will be having dinner together, talking about our highs and lows, and discussing the Gospel of Mark. Come and join us for fun and fellowship!



Tuesday Night BLAST ended on April 30th with a family dinner and awards celebration. Look for

BLAST to start a new school year on October 1st with Kindergarten through 8th graders.

Please contact Lynette Ariathurai at lawaria@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in being part of the **BLAST** team.



Keep Saving Water Bottles!

Help us build new wells for families of Massai village in Africa. We are collecting PLASTIC water bottles, clear PLASTIC soda bottles, and aluminum cans for our VBS mission project. Throughout the months leading up to and including VBS Week (July 15th-19th) we're asking you to save your PLASTIC water bottles, as well as clear PLASTIC soda bottles and aluminum cans. These bottles and cans should be rinsed, and the cans crushed.

We'll begin accepting the bottles and cans starting Sunday, July 15th through Friday, July 19th. Keep saving your recyclables.

YOUTH MINISTRIES NEWS:

Church members are continuing to meet twice a month to develop a sustainable youth ministry. If you would like to be a part of this dynamic group and work with teens, our next meeting is Monday, May 14th at 7pm in Room 2 (Youth Room). For more information, e-mail Alishan Merjanian at alishan.merjanian@gmail.com.

VBS YARD SALE

Thank you to everyone who supported our VBS Yard Sale. We would like to add a special thank you to our Deacons for raising \$217.00 from the bake sale and final items from the yard sale. A total of \$947 was raised for VBS. Thanks to your generosity we anticipate a wonderful VBS Celebration this July!



LOOKING FOR FUN THIS SUMMER?

SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE AND THAT MEANS ONE THING—VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TIME AT IRVINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. COME HANG WITH US FOR 5 DAYS OF FUN, FOOD AND FRIENDS. SPACE IS LIMITED SO MAKE SURE YOUR PARENTS SIGN YOU UP RIGHT AWAY.

JULY 15TH-19TH 9 A.M.-NOON
\$10.00 PER CHILD*

*(NO CHILD IS EVER TURNED AWAY FOR LACK OF FUNDS.
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE
INFORMATION)*

IRVINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4181 IRVINGTON AVENUE
510-657-3133

REGISTER ONLINE AT:
[WWW.GROUPVBSPRO.COM/VBS/EZ/
IPC_NEWHOPEVBS201](http://WWW.GROUPVBSPRO.COM/VBS/EZ/IPC_NEWHOPEVBS201)



JULY 18TH FINALE 6PM-8PM

FAMILY NIGHT!
HOT DOGS & ICE CREAM SOCIAL
AND

**FEATURING A MAGIC SHOW
WITH BARNEY KINARD**

F.U.N. SINGLES

IPC F.U.N. Singles meet the first Sunday of the month at 5.P.M. in the McKowen room. We invite all singles to join us. A good time is had by all! However, we will not be meeting in May. Our next meeting will be on June 1st.

We enjoyed a nite at the movies with silent movie shorts at the Niles Museum theater. On June 1st we are planning a trip to the Sunset Magazine open house in Menlo Park.

UPCOMING: Keep July 23rd open for a Docent Lead Tour of the Oakland Zoo. August has a planned tour of a local museum and a Rancho Higuero Docent Lead Tour.

LADIES — "OUT TO LUNCH"

This month the Ladies—"Out to Lunch" will be at the **Peach Garden** on **Wednesday, May 15th**.

The Peach Garden (Chinese Food) is located at 5862 Mowry School Road in Newark. It is one block from Cedar Blvd. close to Food Maxx in Newark.

We went to the Peach Garden a number of months ago and it was enjoyed by all! Come and join us!

Contact Jeane Garrett at (510) 796-8873 to reserve your spot.

NEWS FROM SESSION

Church Alive: Finishing touches are being added to the new IPC Directory. They would like to thank everyone who helped make this Directory possible.

Mission Study Report was conditionally approved by the Presbytery Committee on Ministry on 11 April. This report will be used by PNC as part of the call for candidates. It can be read online at http://issuu.com/ronfong/docs/mission_study_ipc_2013_v10. Session dismissed the Mission Study Team with appreciation for their work (Deloris Anderson, Lynette Ariathurai, Marion Bade, Nick McClure and Ron Fong).

Session approved sending elder commissioners to Presbytery on May 11.

The church picnic will be July 14


Pastor 10-Year Celebration will be May 18

Congregational Meeting Sunday April 28 elected a Pastor Nominating Committee of Brook Mantia, Heather Ostdiek, Mary Lee Starkel, Ron Fong, Alishan Merjanian, Lynnette Ariarthurai and Peter Bade. The meeting was moderated by Rev. Randy Young. He shared:

1) Rev. Young explained the process and expectations of calling a pastor,. He also shared some factoids to help us understand the issues.

- There are 10,600 churches in PCUSA and 21,000 ordained ministers. Only 800 or so of the 10,600 churches have multi staff. Roughly 4000 churches have no staff due to finances.
- There is a surplus of available pastors. PNC should expect to review at least 150 candidates. The plan calls for weekly meetings until the new pastor is found. People who serve should feel called by God, have the commitment to time and energy to serve, and be representative of the congregation
- Approximately 400-500 churches have a PNC looking for candidates at any one time. An unknown additional number of churches are in transition between pastors without a PNC.
- The Church Information Form is being renamed a Ministry Information Form. The PNC will complete the form for matching to the candidates. It will require approval of Session and the COM before it can be posted to Louisville. This process will take several months. People can talk to the PNC during this period of time as the MIF is finalized. Once the MIF is completed and approved and the PNC is in the active search phase, then a "cone of silence" falls upon the PNC. They cannot discuss particulars of the search process until they recommend extending a call.
- When the PNC recommends extending a call, the PNC will most likely provide an opportunity for people to meet the candidate prior to the congregational vote to calling the pastor.
- If the PNC recommends extending a call to a candidate, and the congregation does not agree, then the PNC is dismissed and a new PNC formed. The Congregation does not get to pick between candidates. They are reliant upon the PNC to be their representative in finding the right person for the call.
- God already knows who will be the next pastor. The PNC's job is discovering and discerning what God has already planned for IPC.

May 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 4:00 PM CHILDRENS CHOIR 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:30 PM CHOIR 7:30 PM PASTOR'S STUDY GROUP	2 7:00 PM WORSHIP TEAM MEETING	3 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MENS BIBLE STUDY 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	4
5 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:15 AM COMMUNION SUNDAY 12:00 PM JOURNEY INTO FAITH	6 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMENS BIBLE CLASS 7:00 PM MCKOWEN HOME BIBLE STUDY	7	8 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 4:00 PM CHILDRENS CHOIR 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:30 PM CHOIR 7:30 PM PASTOR'S STUDY GROUP	9 4:00 PM SIS (SHE IS SAFE) 5:00 PM MISSIONS TEAM MEETING	10 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MENS BIBLE STUDY 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:00 PM CHURCH ALIVE	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY - 12 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH 12:00 PM JOURNEY INTO FAITH	13 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMENS BIBLE CLASS	14	15 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 4:00 PM CHILDRENS CHOIR 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:30 PM CHOIR 7:30 PM PASTOR'S STUDY GROUP	16	17 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MENS BIBLE STUDY 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	18 CELEBRATION OF 10 YEARS OF SERVICE
19 PENTECOST SUNDAY - 19 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH 12:00 PM JOURNEY INTO FAITH 12:00 PM CE MEETING	20 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMENS BIBLE CLASS 7:00 PM MCKOWEN HOME BIBLE STUDY	21 7:00 PM DEACONS MTG	22 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 4:00 PM CHILDRENS CHOIR 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:30 PM CHOIR 7:30 PM PASTOR'S STUDY GROUP	23 7:00 PM SESSION MTG	24 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MENS BIBLE STUDY 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	25
26 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH 12:00 PM JOURNEY INTO FAITH	27  MEMORIAL DAY	28	29 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 4:00 PM CHILDRENS CHOIR 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:30 PM CHOIR 7:30 PM PASTOR'S STUDY GROUP	30	31 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MENS BIBLE STUDY 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	

IRVINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4181 IRVINGTON AVENUE
P O BOX 1366
FREMONT CA 94538-0133

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please note: May 25 is the deadline for the June 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!