



Irvington Presbyterian Church

Fremont, CA

April 2015

## 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.

## We are a global enterprise...

Submitted by Ron Fong

I recently watched a short clip featuring the British evangelist J. John about an airport encounter he had when someone asked him "What do you do?" Here's the video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6TGxKvSqH8&feature=youtu.be>), and the transcript is below.

Quote (light editing):

I like to be a little bit creative in telling people what I do. I sat next this lady on an airplane at Heathrow Airport and I said "Hello, where are you going?" *and she says "I'm going to Singapore, where are you going?"* I said "I'm going to Australia...what do you do?" And she told me *then she said "what do you do?"*

I said "Well...I work for a global enterprise."

*She said "Do you?"*

I said "Yes I do, we've got outlets in nearly every country of the world."

*She said "Have you?"*

"Yes, we've got hospitals and hospices and homeless shelters, we do marriage work, we've got orphanages, we've got feeding programs, educational programs, all sorts of justice and reconciliation things. Basically, we look after people from birth to death and deal in the area of behavioral alteration."

*She said "Wow...what's it called?"*

I said "It's called the Church."

"Followers of Jesus are part of a global enterprise, and not only is it global but it's intergalactic, because it includes everyone who's gone before us."

The What or the why...

I have mixed feelings about such an approach.

On the one hand, being coy about being an evangelist where the objective with every interaction is to help the other person know Christ is a bit irritating. People assume that because you are an evangelist that your ultimate goal with that particular interaction is to change them. So hiding one's objective behind humor or cute wordsmithing doesn't change that your goal with the interaction is to—in J. John's words—modify them

On the other hand, it is refreshing to focus on **the what of Christianity** rather than just the why. That Christians are spurred to start hospitals and have collectively cared for the sick since the trade routes from the Middle East to China were begun. Educational organizations, advocacy organizations, or just a homeless shelter for one person one night a week—that's the **WHAT** of what Christians do (not exclusively, but descriptively).

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# Missions - The Heart of the Church

## Meet Richard and Wendy

Richard & Wendy and their three children; Natthaniel, Rachel and Anastasia are serving in a West African nation among an unreached people group over 10 million strong. IPC added the work of



Richard and Wendy to its portfolio of Mission Workers in 2012. The family recently returned to the US for a 10 month furlough. They plan to use this time traveling to several states visiting friends, family and supporters sharing how God has been at work in this West African Country. They are scheduled to be at IPC on Sunday May 3, when Richard will give a presentation in the Social Hall followed by a "Regional Themed" lunch.

Richard and Wendy went to West Africa in 2003. Wendy home-schools their team's children and is passionate about prayer-walking in their neighborhood: "praying on site with insight." Richard finds joy in introducing the Bible to new friends, loves music and gardening.



During their stay in the country, Richard and Wendy encountered an enthusiastic seeker, a religious leader who became a good family friend. He was influential among



his people and receptive to the good news about Jesus. This is an example of a person of peace. In Matthew 10:11-12, when Jesus sent out the 12, He said to them: "Whatever town or village you enter, search for some worthy person and stay at that house until you leave. As you enter the home, give it your greeting. If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it, if it is not, let your peace return to you." Jesus told his followers to find a person who is both influential and receptive to the good news and then spend time with that person of peace". Please pray that this

leader continues to be both receptive to the good news and influential among his people and for God's Kingdom to come in that country.

## SAVE THE DATE

Your IPC Mission Team is excited to be able to host another one of our missionaries that are spreading the gospel to the unreached people in West Africa. This is a wonderful experience to learn about their work. As always we will be serving lunch following the Church service. Please mark your calendar for **Sunday, 3rd of May**. You will not want to miss out on this opportunity!

## HEAR YE! HEAR YE!



Did you know that IPC has a brand new website? Have you checked it out yet? If not, you need to visit it right now! It is full of information about IPC, upcoming events, plus Sunday sermon videos. It also has a direct link to our Facebook page which has more interesting information and pictures. Visit both often. Our new website is:

<http://irvingtonpres.org> Check it out and offer any suggestions for content or improvements to Daxesh Patelia [webmaster@irvingtonpres.org](mailto:webmaster@irvingtonpres.org)



# Congregation Happenings

## Highlights for April

2nd - Maundy Thursday  
 3rd - Good Friday - Play 7pm  
 4th - 6th - Chinese Qingming Tomb Festival  
 5th - Easter Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt  
 7th - Session Small Group Meeting  
 9th - Worship Committee Meeting  
 9th - Missions Team Meeting  
 10th - E-Team Meeting  
 12th - CE Committee Meeting  
 14th - Presbytery Mtg - 1st Pres Burlingame

21st - Deacons Meeting  
 23rd - Session Meeting

### May

1st - E-Team Meeting  
 3rd - Mission Team Luncheon  
 5th - Session Small Group Meeting  
 7th - National Day of Prayer  
 7th - Worship Committee Meeting  
 10th - Mother's Day

**Mondays: Women's Bible Study** - Women's Bible Study at IPC in McKowen Room  
**Home Bible Study** - 2nd & 4th Monday at Mary Ellen McKowen's Home

**Wednesdays:** Band Practice

**Fridays:** Band Practice

**Sundays:** Journey Into Faith

## Bible Studies

**Women's Bible Study** - Women meet weekly in the McKowen Room. 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.

# We are a global enterprise...

Submitted by Ron Fong

(Continued from Page 1)

Too often, evangelical conversations **begin with the “Why”**: Why you should believe in Jesus Christ. Why your life will be better. Why you will get eternal life. In its worst forms, why God hates the gays and you should turn or burn. Even proof texting begins with the why: “these words have authority. Why? Because they are in the Bible.” By beginning with the why, it often shuts people out to hear the what.

So the *what* is more powerful than the *why*, and opens the conversation by allowing people to connect with what your life’s work is actively doing. Eternal life is pretty important, sure, but it often becomes important to the individual *later* in the conversation, in my experience.

...or the How?

But ultimately, while people care about the what, **the key question is the how**. Tom’s shoes is uninteresting until you know about the Buy One Get One model. In the same way, we must ask “how” the Church achieve the “whats.”

Too often in this day and age, we venerate the churches who do the whats. If their numbers of worshippers are up, we lift them up. If their donations pour in, we lift them up. If they have spontaneous baptisms by the hundreds, we lift them up. By every account, Mark Driscoll’s Mars Hill church in Seattle was a success by the “whats.” BUT the ends are more important than the means.

But since most of those soap bubbles break, the how is more important. People care about the how, about the means justifying the whats, so **we must be forthright in the Church about the how**.

At IPC, our mission statement reads “Irvington Presbyterian Church (IPC) is where friends and families from all ages and nations find meaning, purpose and belonging in Jesus Christ on life’s journey.”

HOW are we doing in finding that meaning and purpose and belonging? By MAKING disciples. By strengthening discipleship through personal disciplines and accountability to one another in small life groups, by connecting passion for finding with the why “because of Jesus Christ,” that’s ultimately how things are best done. By being intentional about community and thoughtful about engagement, the whats are achieved in the best “how” possible.

In a world where the whats no longer sustain Christendom, it’s the **process** that matters, not the product. It’s the **means** that matter, not the ends. It’s the **how** that really matters, not the what or the why. If we aren’t solid on that, in the 24-7 youtubed and archived world we live in, then the whats ultimately don’t matter.

HOW many of us think of the church as **specializing in ‘behavioral alteration’**? As Lent draws to a close, how are we doing in changing our behaviors to be more Christ like?

**One of the things we do in “the church” is read and meditate upon the Scriptures.** The story from Genesis speaks of God’s covenant with humanity and every living creature. God ‘gives up’ destruction of the earth and all that is in it by hanging God’s bow upside down in the sky. God’s bow will no longer be used for bloodshed; it will be used as a beautiful reminder of God’s rescue and restoration of life from the flood. I wonder what might happen if every time you or I had a destructive thought we also had a visual reminder, like a rainbow, to remind us of our call to be like Jesus.

MAKE it a GREAT day! It’s a choice how you respond to life!

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**PER CAPITA:** The **per capita** for the year 2015 is \$35.15. This is the contribution that our church makes on behalf of each member to help with the costs of the Presbytery of San Francisco, Synod of the Pacific and the General Assembly, the national church body. If you want to add this to your offering, please write “per capita” on the envelope.

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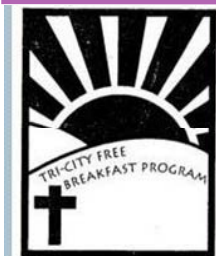
# Comed Beef Dinner with Karaoke!



Good Friday saw the presentation of The Last Words, a drama by Ronald Vaughn.

Left to Right:

Art Bowen, Bruce Schlobohm, Russ Pennelly, Betty Blizel, Pat Jeffries, Brook Mantia, Joe DiMaggio, Mary Ellen McKowen and Wayne Neesham.



## TCFBP

In February 2015, an average of 152 guests were served per day. Highest day in February was 195 guests and 265 meals. Average meals were 210.

Total February 2015 : 1822 guests and 2,516 meals (first and seconds) served, 685 bags of provisions distributed and 4 children served. In January 2014, 2,841 meals 682 bags of provisions were served.

Kudos to the 541 volunteer hours performed.



# PRAYERS

Prayers! The bible says to pray unceasingly, or continually. IPC has a number of ways to pray with you for either sharing joy or sharing prayer requests.

1. Send your prayer request to [prayer@irvingtonpres.org](mailto:prayer@irvingtonpres.org) and the deacon in charge of online prayer will get it out to the prayer chain. Want to join the Prayer Chain? Send an email.
2. Leave a message on the phone machine at 510.657.3133
3. Visit the prayer team at the front of the sanctuary after service on Sunday
4. Leave a prayer card in the offering plate on Sunday, and the Pastor will share your praises and requests in worship. Every week, the cards are then typed up and shared with the prayer chain and are available next week for you to take home and pray.



The Book of Acts will be highlighted on a 12 episode TV mini-series starting Easter Sunday at 9 p.m. on NBC. Pastor Larry will be preaching lessons as we follow week by week this TV miniseries. There will be a study guide available. Don't watch TV? You will be able to watch video clips online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/ADTheSeries>



IPC has hired two amazing energetic spirit filled people to head up our Music Worship Arts and our small group Family Ministries. Rev. Monica Moore will be the new Music Worship Arts Director filling the position vacated when Alishan left us last summer. Danuel Khuc will continue to be with us as music accompanist extraordinaire. Genevieve Abille will be the new Family Ministries Director helping us to focus on small groups so we can all have opportunities to be better connected and accountable and supportive of one another; as well as deepen our spiritual walk with God; and

provide places for us to invite people to church.

The officers of the church prayed for our Monica, Genevieve, Daniel and Larry that they would be blessed and be a blessing as we see what God has in store for us in 2015. Our church office manager, Frankie Cabral, has announced her retirement after 12-years with IPC. She will be departing in May to spend time with her newly retired hubby.





# VISIT FROM YWAMers



IPC was blessed to have YWAMers (Youth with a Mission) come visit. Allan Yocum, Mariah McGlothlin and Rupesh Jaiswal blessed us with their boldness in sharing the gospel and praying with the people they encountered in the streets and shops in Fremont. They also helped with the



Kids Club, fed those less fortunate at the Tri City Free Breakfast Program, and did a lot of praying. It was not easy. They had to learn to cross the “chicken” line each time in making a decision to witness. Monica Moore and Pastor Larry prayed for them before they departed.

## ABOUT OUR STAFF

Genevieve Abille has 2 Master Degrees. One in Marriage, Family Therapy from Western Seminary and another in Family Life Education from Fuller, and a Bachelor's Degree from Bethany College. She has experience promoting, training and organizing the small groups at First United Methodist Church San Leandro as their Director of Spiritual Formation.

She has also been a Youth Director for a school year, as well as volunteered for 4 years. Additionally, she was a Chaplain Intern. She has also volunteered for a Crisis Line at Tri-Valley Haven, Young Adult Coordinator for Filipino American Christian Fellowship; and is a Team Leader at Macys. She wants to help people strengthen their faith.

Rev. Monica Moore has four years experience as a minister of Music, Arts & Worship at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Vallejo, California. She oversaw music worship (choir, praise groups), drama, worship technology, etc. During her 4 years she assisted in growing the church from 150 members to over 700 members. She has started and overseen choirs. Monica also has 4 years experience as a Minister of Music and Worship at the New Liberation Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, Ca. Plus other experience. She is a candidate for Doctor of Ministry with San Francisco Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity (with honors) from Interdenominational Theological Center, and Bachelor of Science Degree, Major Marketing, Minor Communications from University of Missouri, in St. Louis.

Larry Thorson has been at IPC one year now. Recently he started taking the bus to his home in San Jose and riding his bicycle to and from the bus. He shared it has given him more time to encounter people than he would riding inside the bubble using a car gives him. Happy Earth Day!



# EASTER SUNDAY



Our Praise Group on Easter Sunday 2015  
He is ALIVE!

Monica Moore, director of music worship arts,  
leads our intrepid group of musicians.  
L-R Daniel Khuc on keyboard, Justin Chaikin on  
guitar., Brooke E, Mantia and Peggy Van Leun  
vocal, Bill Aquino on harmonica and David  
Luthor Att on drums.



Our Praise Group on Easter Sunday 2015  
He is ALIVE!

Up close and personal:  
Daniel, Justin, Brooke, Monica, Peggy,  
Bill and missing David on the drums.



Easter Sunday 2015  
He is risen indeed?  
With Larry Thorson  
at Irvington Presbyterian Church



Easter Sunday 2015  
He is risen indeed?  
With Larry Thorson  
at Irvington Presbyterian Church



Easter Sunday 2015  
Sharing the Peace!  
He is risen indeed!  
With Wayne & Darlene Neesham.





Easter Sunday 2015  
Wonderful Deacons and  
Sisters in Christ  
Gill Carson and Shirley Murray



Easter Sunday 2015  
He is risen indeed!  
Sisters in Christ!  
Jeanne Garret, Mary Ellen  
McKowen and daughter,  
Michelle



Easter Sunday 2015  
With the Patelia Family:  
Daxesh & Sonal and sons  
at Irvington Presbyterian Church



Easter Sunday 2015  
The Chaiken Family  
With Betty Blizel and Dianne Evans

Easter Sunday 2015  
The Bade Family  
With Marion and Peter Bade  
at Irvington Presbyterian Church



Easter Lilies on Easter Sunday 2015  
With Emily Khuc and  
Daniel Khuc at  
Irvington Presbyterian Church





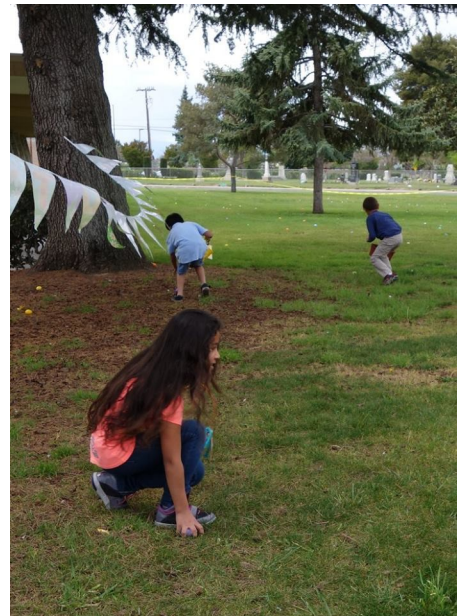
Easter Egg Hunt 2015  
Baskets ready!  
With Genevieve Abille at  
Irvington Presbyterian Church



Easter Egg Hunt 2015  
At IPC with  
Lynette Ariathurai



Easter Egg Hunt 2015  
Can we eat some candy?????



Easter Egg Hunt 2015  
I know there must be eggs here somewhere.



Easter Egg Hunt 2015  
Where are the eggs?????



Easter Egg Hunt 2015  
Oh, hit the jackpot here!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	A
				1 MAUNDY THURSDAY	2 GOOD FRIDAY	3 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY PLAY	4
5 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH EASTER SUNDAY & EASTER EGG HUNT	6 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	7 SESSION SMALL GROUP MEETING	8 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	9 4:00 PM SIS (SHE IS SAFE 5:00 PM MISSION TEAM 7:00 PM WORSHIP COMMITTEE	10 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE 7:00 PM EVANGELISM COMMITTEE	11	
12 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH MISSION SUNDAY 12:00 PM CE MEETING	13 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY AT MCKOWENS	14 PRESBYTERY MEETING AT 1ST PRES BURLINGAME	15 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	16	17 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	18	
19 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH	20 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	21 7:00 PM DEACON'S MEETING	22 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	23 7:00 PM SESSION MEETING	24 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 2:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	25	
26 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:15 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH	27 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY AT MCKOWENS	28	29 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 6:30 PM BAND PRACTICE	30			

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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Please note: April 24th is the deadline for the May 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!**

## **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.org](http://www.irvingtonpres.org). 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.