Dear Friends,

November is when we typically hear the word “stewardship” thrown around a bit. Pledge cards asking for your commitment to our Lord and his church here in Fremont will be or already have arrived in your mailbox. This is when we talk the most about money in church. But I look at our church and I think we’re pretty good givers. There’s always better giving churches but there’s always better everything somewhere. I want to thank you for being so faithful and helping us pay the bills. God has also been very faithful to us as well.

It may not look like it but we’ve added 13 new regular worshippers on Sunday mornings since late summer! That’s something like 12% growth in a short amount of time. How? Was it our new worship leader and her dynamic voice? Partially. Was it our colorful signs that Russ rotates out front of the church? Partially. Was it our summer church picnic? Yes, partially. Was it friends bringing friends. Not so much yet, but I expect that will lead to future growth. To me it seems God is just bringing people to us and that feels good. As you’ve heard me say many times, I believe there are 500 people within a short bus ride of our campus who need what we offer on Sunday mornings and they just don’t know it yet. Our job is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. When those God draws to us arrive they will see a group of people in love with their God and with each other. What better witness is there?

So this month ask yourself “do I love the Lord my God with all my heart, mind, soul and strength?” And does my financial commitment to this church reflect that? Write a number down of what you believe you can give next year and each day for a week this month present it to God in your quiet time. Listen for God’s response as you are quiet before Him. Then rejoice and present your pledge card to the church on Stewardship Sunday November 15 and rejoice that you get to participate in the work of our great God! Thanks so much for giving.

Larry
Faith Promise for Missions – Fulfilling Our Role in the Great Commission

Last month we explained how faith promise works. (In simple terms this means that Missions is not allocated a percentage of the overall Church Budget, but raises finances separately). We also covered why faith promise is important and show it again below because this represents the heart of missions:

Why Faith Promise is important

Missions giving is one way in which each of us, at IPC, fulfills our role in the Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20). Christ’s command is to “make disciples of all nations”. Some of us are called to be Missionaries, witnessing for Christ around the world (some to unreached peoples in difficult places). Those of us not called into the Missions field witness for Christ here at home and provide a support role to those in the field through prayer and finances.

The IPC Missions Team encourages each of us to:

- pray for both the Missionaries in the field and the local mission outreaches we support and
- support IPC Missions financially through Faith Promise Giving to the Missions General Fund.

How Can I Participate in 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.
- 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        Kamroon Baksh
Mustapha Baksh                   Peggy Handano
Bonnie Nichols                  Teresa Oliver
Jenni Pellot

Tri-City Volunteer Food Barrel

Tri-City Volunteers (TCV) was founded in 1970 by a group of community members who saw a need for better food security in the tri-cities of Fremont, Newark, and Union City. They are a non-denominational, non-profit organization that provides food assistance and low cost clothing and household items to the residents of Alameda County. TCV provide emergency grocery assistance to almost 6,000 low-income local families every month. Many of the clients are under-employed, or are facing unemployment due to disability, a lack of relevant work skills, or other barriers. Clients can expect to receive healthy, nutritious food twice a month. Item availability is based on donations and the season. Surplus food items from the US Government and Alameda County are donated to TCV. Fresh produce comes from local farmers and businesses.

This year your Missions Team is partnering with TCV to fill a barrel with non-perishable food items that will be added to the food bank. A barrel will be located in the narthex from November 3 through November 17. The last day for donations will be Monday November 16. When making a donation, please use the TCV recommended food list that can be found on the table in the narthex.
Bible Studies

**Sunday's Bible Study** - 8:45 am in the McKowen Room. Please come in and join us!

**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.

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**Highlights for November**

1st - Mission Muslim Awareness Seminar & Luncheon
1st - Singles Fellowship
5th - Worship Committee
6th - E-Team Meeting
8th - Hope Unlimited Orphan Sunday
10th - Presbytery Meeting - Oakland First
10th - TCFBP Steering Committee Meeting
12th - SIS Meeting
12th - Missions Team Meeting
14th - Church Day of Prayer
15th - CE Committee Meeting
17th - Deacon’s Meeting
18th - Ladies Out to Lunch (BJ’s Brewery)
19th - Session Meeting
25th - Set up Christmas Tree
26th - Thanksgiving
27th - Decorate Tree
29th - Advent Begins

**December**

5th - Worship Committee Meeting
6th - E-Team Meeting
12th - Christmas Holiday Program
13th - Birthday Party for Jesus
17th - Session Meeting
25th - Christmas

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**Congregation Happenings**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

Joan Fong
Brook Mantia
Dick Hwang
Alex Fong
Emmy Yourish
Heather Ostdiek
Leah Wiseman

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**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

**Tuesdays:** Men’s Breakfast Fellowship

**Wednesdays:** Band Practice
Choir Practice

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**Tuesdays:**

Band Practice
Choir Practice
On Sunday November 1st we will be joined by Pastor Allen who will share his knowledge of Islam and how to reach out to our Muslim neighbors.

Please join us for worship and afterwards for a potluck luncheon and presentation by Pastor Allen. Following the presentation there will be time for Pastor Allen to answer any questions you may have.

So please bring your favorite dish and join us on November 1st!
Kids Club started in September at Hirsch Elementary School. Last month we informed you that Harbor Light is no longer assisting in the important ministry. We are thankful for all the materials that were provided by Harbor Light are being given to us as we continue. (i.e. sports equip., bibles, bins with markers, pencils, crayons etc.)

The members from IPC that are involved are: Carol Lynn, Jeanette Ollison, Mary Lee Starkel, Darlene Neesham and Pastor Larry. They ask for your prayers that we receive the requested financial support from the other churches, Fremont Community & Bridges. They, however, are not in the immediate area as we are.

Stay tuned as we move forward and continue to pray for this ministry of bringing the knowledge of Jesus to K through 6th graders at Hirsch.

LADIES OUT TO LUNCH

Come and join us for some wonderful fellowship and a fun luncheon:

Wednesday, November 18th

BJ's Brewery
5699 Mowry Avenue, Newark
510-456-3750

GATHERING FOR PRAYER

NOVEMBER 14th

The IPC E-team is sponsoring a circle of prayer on Saturday, November 14th, 2015 in the McKowen room at Irvington Presbyterian Church. It is open to all in the community who wish to bring their joys and concerns to the Lord. We will begin at 10 am and continue for one hour. The Prayer Leaders will have suggestions for prayer if needed. If you are unable to attend in person but have prayers to share please let the Prayer Team know and they will bring them to the group.

On 25 October a Congregation Meeting was held and the following members were voted in as Deacons and Elders. The Installation and Ordination is scheduled for 22 November.

1) Deacon Class of 2016 Colleen Ridley*, Russ Pennelly, Peggy Handano
2) Deacon Class of 2017 Mary Lou Craig*
3) Elder Class of 2016 Kathy Jeffries *
4) Elder Class of 2018 Dave Wegener, Ron Fong*
   * Extension of existing term ** New Officer to be ordained
Matthew and Caitlin were married in Dallas on 5/30. Their uncle, Jeff is a Presbyterian minister and performed the ceremony (that’s Jeff in the picture). Their dad Wayne, passed away in December 2008.

All our children were born while we were at Irvington and even though we have moved away, you share a special place in our heart.

Some of you even gave blood that Matthew used when he had serious surgery as an infant.

I thought you might enjoy this picture to see how things have turned out for home. He’s a civil engineer and met his darling Caitlin in church!!

I pray for you often and treasure the 14 years we spent as members there.

Gale Bridgeman

Tri-City Free Breakfast Program does make a difference at the Annual Fremont Make A Difference Day! A total of 390 pounds of peanut butter was dropped off in the IPC parking lot by many of our neighbors. For more information and pictures, please visit the Tri-City Free Breakfast Program Facebook page.

Left picture is the Kids of Islamic Center of Fremont who came to donate.

Right picture is Mr. Naseer Irfan and family - they wanted to MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
## Upcoming December Dates to Remember:

- **5th**: Worship Committee Meeting
- **6th**: E-Team Meeting
- **12th**: Oakland First Free Breakfast Program Steering Committee Meeting
- **13th**: Birthday Party for Jesus

### Regular Events

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**Events**

- **8:45 AM**: Bible Study
- **10:00 AM**: Worship & Children's Church
- **9:30 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **6:00 PM**: Praise Group Practice
- **7:00 PM**: Choir Practice
- **7:00 PM**: Worship Committee Meeting
- **6:00 PM**: Mission Team Meeting
- **7:00 PM**: Deacons Mtg
- **7:00 AM**: Free Breakfast
- **10:00 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **6:00 PM**: Praise Group Practice
- **7:00 PM**: Choir Practice
- **7:00 PM**: Session Mtg
- **7:00 AM**: Free Breakfast
- **10:00 AM**: Worship & Children's Church
- **9:30 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **10:00 AM**: Worship & Children's Church
- **9:30 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **7:00 AM**: Free Breakfast
- **7:00 PM**: Worship Committee Meeting
- **5:00 PM**: Missions Team Meeting
- **7:00 PM**: Session Mtg
- **7:00 AM**: Free Breakfast
- **7:00 PM**: Worship Committee Meeting
- **5:00 PM**: Missions Team Meeting
- **7:00 PM**: Session Mtg
- **7:00 AM**: Free Breakfast
- **10:00 AM**: Church Day of Prayer
- **10:00 AM**: Worship & Children's Church
- **9:30 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **10:00 AM**: Worship & Children's Church
- **9:30 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **10:00 AM**: Worship & Children's Church
- **9:30 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **10:00 AM**: Worship & Children's Church
- **9:30 AM**: Women's Bible Study
- **12:00 PM**: CME Meeting

** Holidays **

- **Thanksgiving Day**

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**UPCOMING DECEMBER EVENTS**

- **12th**: Christmas Program
- **13th**: Birthday Party for Jesus
- **5th**: Worship Committee Meeting
- **6th**: E-Team Meeting
- **12th**: Oakland First Free Breakfast Program Steering Committee Meeting
- **13th**: Birthday Party for Jesus

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**December 2015 Calendar**

- **SUN**: Sun
- **MON**: Mon
- **TUE**: Tue
- **WED**: Wed
- **THU**: Thu
- **FRI**: Fri
- **SAT**: Sat
Please note:  **November 25th is the deadline for the December 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. 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.