



**Irvington Presbyterian Church**

**Fremont, CA**

**March 2016**

## Sundays

Bible Study 8:45 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

(Nursery and Children Sunday School During Service)

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

Dear Friends,

Can you recite the Jesus Creed, the words that shaped everything Jesus did? "Hear O Israel, the Lord God, the Lord is one, love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and love your neighbor as yourself."

Remember that your heart is your passion. What do you want more than anything? Your soul is who and what you worship. We worship what we think about the most. Your mind is where you make decisions but your decisions are normally based upon what you think about. And your strength is what you use to carry out your mission in life. Your strength is gained or lost based upon where your passion is. The Jesus Creed ties it all together.

Then remember that our neighbor is anyone we have contact with including those on Facebook, sales people making a follow up call to you and the clerk at the fast food restaurant. Recently I was super busy when a car salesman I had given my (church!) business card to called. I was rude and hung up on him and then was reminded that I wouldn't want to be treated like that myself. If I really love God then I won't treat people rudely, any people. I emailed the car salesman an apology.

If you haven't visited a Jesus Creed group yet I highly urge you to do so. (Tues at 1:00, Wed at 1:00 and 7:00, Thur at 7:00) All the groups (and anyone else) will be joined together in the McKowen Room for **Good Friday** at 7:00 (March 25) to observe the ultimate fulfillment of the Jesus Creed.



Pastor Larry

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# Missions – The Heart of the Church

## MISSIONARIES OF THE MONTH

### George and Esther Manoukian

George and Esther Manoukian are of Armenian heritage and originally from Lebanon. They minister to children and teachers in Armenia. They are affiliated with the Child Evangelism Fellowship organization and hold dear to their hearts the introduction of children to the message of Christ.

The Manoukians are the grandparents of our former Worship Director, Alishan Merjanian and are the parents of Christine Merjanian who was an organist here at IPC. In the springtime April 1960, the Manoukians encountered a life changing experience. As Esther recalled “The Armenian Evangelical Central High School students boarded seven buses to reach a lake two hours away, a lake sitting on a clear water source on the mountains of Lebanon. They left the capital, Beirut, early in the morning, in seven buses. They had a happy school picnic all day, close to the lake, amidst orchards of luscious fruits.



Coming down to the city, one bus was speeding--they were the graduating class students. The driver, when the brakes broke, threw himself out of the bus. And the bus rolled down the mountain road and crashed against a stone balcony. The road was soaked in blood. They died: 21 white roses were buried in white coffins and the city of Beirut wept. Where was my 17-year old brother? Did he make it to heaven? We were a newly married couple and that night amidst tears of grief, we dedicated our lives to follow God's footsteps wherever He led us, to plead with the youth to know Christ as their personal Savior before graduation day. *‘Even so it is not the will of your father who is in heaven, that one of these little ones should not perish.’ (Matthew 18:14).*”

Since making this commitment George and Esther have continued their ministry helping Armenian youth create a path to Christ. Much of their earlier missionary work was done in Lebanon ministering to youth and training Sunday school teachers and children’s ministry workers. They now work from San Jose, CA, sharing the work God is doing in Armenia with churches and believers in the US. At the same time, they counsel and encourage 14 credentialed full-time ministry workers who minister to youth in Armenia.

Your continued financial support for the Manoukians is sent to Armenia to:

1. help supplement the salaries of the 14 workers
2. support summer camps for youth
3. assist refugees from Syria who have found shelter in Armenia
4. help provide office supplies

The Manoukians write newsletters to churches and believers in the US sharing the CEF work being done in Armenia and requesting prayer and financial support. They also regularly meet with a group of 10 prayer partners to present and pray for the requests that come from the children and workers in Armenia.



1st - Church Wide GOTS  
3rd - 5th - Bass Conference  
8th - Tri-City Free Breakfast Steering Committee  
8th - Regional Presbytery Meeting (Lafayette-Orinda)  
10th - SIS Prayer Group  
10th - Mission Meeting  
13th - Daylight Savings Time Starts  
14th - Special Session Meeting  
15th - Regular Session Meeting  
17th - Ladies Out to Lunch - Sala Thai Restaurant

20th - Palm Sunday Service  
25th - Good Friday Service  
27th - Easter Sunday Service

#### **April 2016**

5th - GOTS Meeting  
14th - SIS Prayer Group  
14th - Mission Meeting  
19th - Regular Session Meeting

**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  
Choir Practice

## **Bible Studies**

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

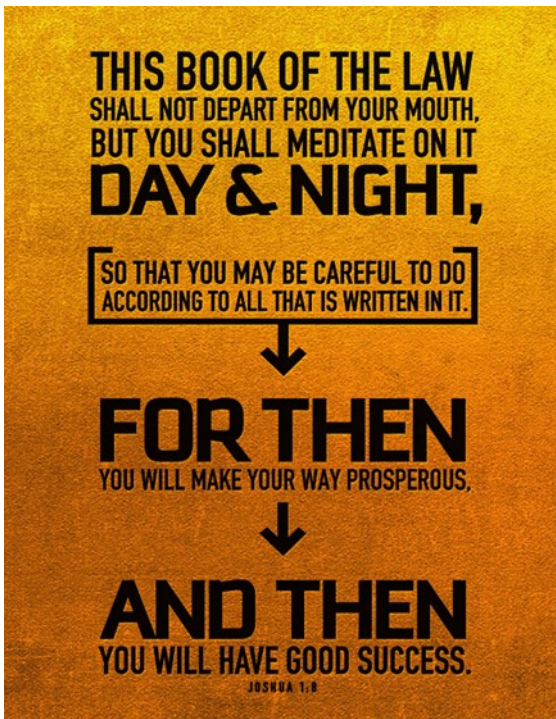
**Women's Bible Study** - Women meet weekly in the McKowen Room. If you would like to join, please check with Carol Lynn to see about a study book.

**Home Bible Study** - 2nd & 4th Monday Bible Classes at Mary Ellen's house. Contact Mary Ellen McKowen for additional details.

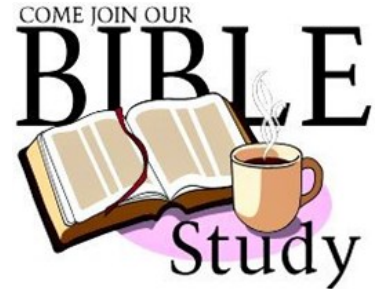


# Bible Studies and Small Groups

Studying and investing in the Word will cause you to prosper in life says Joshua 1:8.



IPC wants you  
in a small group  
in the Word:



- The **Monday Evening Bible Study** is led by Elder Mary Ellen McKowen twice a month at 7:00 p.m. in her home.
  - The **Ladies Bible Study** is on Monday mornings starting at 9:30 AM. Around a dozen women attend and coordinated by Elder Carol Lynn
  - The **Monthly SIS Prayer Group** is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday afternoon at 4:00 PM., and is led by Patti Boyland.
  - **Chinese Bible Study** is held twice a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. at Sequoia Manor, led by Elder Amy Wu
- 
- **Joy Bible Study** on Sunday morning before Worship Service, and online throughout the week on the internet, is led by Elder Richard Craig.
  - **Lent Small Groups** *Jesus Creed Small Group Meetings @McKowen Room of IPC:*
    - **Tuesday 1 pm** 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22
    - **Wednesdays 1 pm** 2/17, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9, 3/22, 3/29
    - **Wednesday 7pm** 2/17, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9, 3/22, 3/29
    - **Thursday 7pm** 2/18, 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/23, 3/30



**Mark your calendars to grow more in Christ for 2016!**

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your mind and with all your strength.

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

## - LIVING THE JESUS CREED -

More Info: Pastor Larry 510.657.3133 [pastor@irvingtonpres.org](mailto:pastor@irvingtonpres.org)  
Web: [www.irvingtonpres.org](http://www.irvingtonpres.org) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/irvingtonpres/>

# Missions - The Heart of the Church

## Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

Mission Team extends heartfelt thanks to all who contributed gifts and to all who helped make a very successful Birthday Party for Jesus. Fifty-five bags with at least 150 individual gifts were delivered to Tri-City Volunteers, and, indeed, there was a very happy, grateful response from the volunteers in charge. The gifts were distributed at a planned party held at the center. Thank you, Mary Ellen for collecting, packing and driving the packages to the Tri-City Volunteer Center in Fremont.



**Thank you IPC for making so many people so very happy during the Christmas season. *"For if you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give -- large or small -- will be used to measure what is given back to you."* (TLB, Luke 6:38)**

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## DO YOU KNOW? - SHE IS SAFE (SIS)

On the second Thursday of every month at 4 PM, a group of IPCers meets in the McKowen Room to pray for those suffering in South Sudan. We are part of a national organization called She is Safe (SIS) which focuses on praying for and helping women and children in desperate conditions around the world. SIS serves in the name of Jesus and for the glory of God.

Our group began meeting in 2009, and from the beginning we have focused on the women and children in Sudan. South Sudan is a new country, having been formed in 2011, when it became independent from the northern Muslim country of Sudan. Our focus shifted to this new country because almost all of our contacts were driven from the north to the south. But since independence, South Sudan has been wracked with tribal warfare. Although the country is rich in agricultural land and oil, because of the strife, people live in constant danger and the economy is in very bad shape. Tens of thousands have been driven from their villages and live in refugee camps. The illiteracy rate is one of the highest in the world because the educational system is practically non-existent.

Our group at IPC prays for peace in South Sudan, and we keep in touch with what is happening to many women in the country through the SIS director for South Sudan. We pray for these women (by name) regularly, who struggle with earning enough to feed their children. They belong to Christian support groups and are eager to grow in their faith and to share Jesus with others.

Please come join us! You will learn a lot, and God wants and will use your prayers.

For more information, you can contact Mary Ellen McKowen.

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## TRI-CITY FREE BREAKFAST PROGRAM

In January 2016, we served 1,658 guests, 2,343 meals, an unknown number of provisions and contributed over 582 volunteer hours. Enough food was donated that no eggs or milk had to be purchased.

Despeaux Good Works Matching Dollar for Dollar Challenge continues through March 31, 2016.

## IPC Ladies Out to Lunch

Our February fellowship lunch gathering was held at the Olive Garden restaurant with 15 ladies in attendance. All enjoyed a delicious meal and a great hour of camaraderie, renewing old friendships and building new ones. There were some informal discussions with positive comments about the new series on Jesus Creed, structuring small groups and the planned memorial service for Ted Gardner, one of our long time members.



Our next lunch gathering will be at 11:30 on Thursday March 17 at Sala Thai Restaurant, 39170 State Street, Fremont. This is a Thai restaurant located in the Fremont Plaza Shopping Center. Contact Jill Carson at 510 657 4069 to reserve your place.

**We look forward to seeing you there.** ( มุ่งหวังที่จะ เห็นคุณ มี Mùng hwạng thĩ ca hẻn khu mĩ )

## Fremont's **You Are Not Alone** Program

The Fremont Police Department has a program **You Are Not Alone (YANA)**. This is a free program designed to assist the elderly and disabled who live alone and are independent, yet want the assurance that someone will call and check in on them daily.



The program works like this:

- Each morning, Monday—Friday mornings well trained Police Volunteers call to make sure that the enrollee answers.
- If there is no answer, another call is made within a short period of time.
- If still no answer, then two uniform volunteers driving a marked police volunteer vehicle respond to the enrollee's house to check on them.
- If the volunteers believe the enrollees may be inside, they notify Fremont Police.
- Fremont Police officers then respond to gain entry into the residence.

The idea is that if someone is sick or injured, the YANA program can aid them as quickly as possible. And in the worse case scenario, if someone had passed away, the program can notify the next of kin.

If you are interested or know of someone who needs this service, please call Community Services Officer Diana Allen at 510 - 790 - 6800 ext. 2775.

Information and enrollment forms are available on the Fremont Police Department's website at [www.FremontPolice.org/YANA](http://www.FremontPolice.org/YANA).

**If you need help enrolling, please contact one of your IPC Mission Team Members.**



# 12 HOURS OF PRAYER

## What do YOU want to do in the future?



12 HOURS OF PRAYER--We prayed from 7am to 4pm because we did not have enough signups to do the full twelve hours. Twenty two people participated and I feel it was a success even though we did not go the full twelve hours and I do thank all who participated. I would appreciate some feedback from those who participated as to what they thought about the day.

What do YOU want to do in the future? Perhaps a shorter time, or maybe just have a prayer time for one hour every Saturday prior to communion. We do need feedback to plan for the future. Please call Darlene Neesham at 510-656-3832 with your ideas and suggestions.

## PER CAPITA

Each member of the church is requested to donate \$35.15 for our annual per capita apportionment. This money goes to help pay for the operations of the Presbyterian Church (USA), at our national level (General Assembly), the regional level (Synod of the Pacific) and the area level (Presbytery of San Francisco). Mark your check or giving envelope PER CAPITA if you can help out pay for your membership.

## Easter Celebration Sunday, 27 March Fun starts at 10:00 am



Invite all of your family, friends and neighbors to join us on Easter Sunday.

The morning begins with our Easter Service. This will be followed by fellowship for everyone, including an Easter Egg Hunt and fun games for the children of all ages.

# CHURCH WIDE "GOTS"

What is the "First Church Wide GOTS? GOTS stands for "Gathering of The Servants". This is open to all church members and non-members. It is a time for worship, for prayer, for event planning and for service. All IPC Committees are joining into a common monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. The new Churchwide plan is for all Teams/committees to meet on the same night, from 7-9, the first 45 minutes or so to share plans for whatever each team has in the making, and the remainder of the time will be the individual teams meeting. This will allow everyone to get involved in each project and give those who have a particular interest or talent to help make the event successful.

If you have not joined us at our previous meetings, please mark your calendars for the next meeting, which will be on 5th of April.

During Lent, join us for...

Love God...  
love neighbor

The  
**Jesus  
Creed**

Groups and studies begin soon...

The small group meetings started in February, but it is not too late to join in this study. There are a variety of days to fit everyone's schedule.

Check page 4 of this newsletter for the dates and times for all meetings.

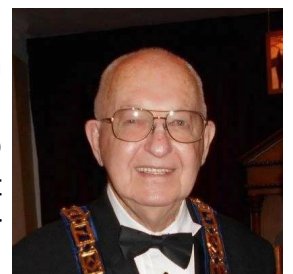
## **The Jesus Creed**

*"Hear, O Israel:  
The Lord our God,  
the Lord is one.  
Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart  
and with all your soul  
and with all your mind  
and with all your strength.  
The second is this:  
'Love your neighbor as yourself.'  
There is no commandment  
greater than these."*

## TED GARDNER



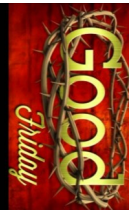
Ted Gardner, a long time member of Irvington Presbyterian Church, died on January 31, 2016. Ted and Jean were members for 30 years prior to moving to Grass Valley in 2002. A memorial service was held at IPC on Saturday, 27 February. Please keep Jean, their children and grandchildren in your prayers.





MARCH 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 6:00 PM CHURCH WIDE GOTS MEETING	2 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM PRAISE GROUP PRACTICE 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	3 BASS CONFERENCE	4 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST BASS CONFERENCE	5 BASS CONFERENCE
6 8:45 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM WORSHIP, COMMUNION & CHILDREN'S CHURCH	7 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	8 TBD REGIONAL PRESBYTERY MTG LAFAYETTE—ORINDA 7:00 PM FREE BREAKFAST STEERING COMMITTEE	9 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM PRAISE GROUP PRACTICE 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	10 4:00 PM SIS MEETING 5:00 PM MISSION TEAM MEETING	11 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST	12 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS AT 2:00 AM TOMORROW - TURN BACK YOUR CLOCKS TONIGHT!
13 8:45 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH	14 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM MCKOWEN HOME BIBLE STUDY	15 7:00 PM REGULAR SESSION MEETING	16 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM PRAISE GROUP PRACTICE	17 11:30 AM LADIES OUT TO LUNCH AT SALA THAI	18 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST	19
20 8:45 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH	21 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	22	23 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 8:00 AM MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM PRAISE GROUP PRACTICE 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	24	25 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	26
27 8:45 AM BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE & EASTER EGG HUNT	28 7:00 AM FREE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM MCKOWEN HOME BIBLE STUDY	29	30	31		B



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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Please note: March 25th is the deadline for the April issue.*

All articles are to be emailed to [nicholsb@earthlink.net](mailto: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.