



Irvington Presbyterian Church

Fremont, CA

February 2019

IPC, A Beacon of Christ Light in the Community

As I write this I am starting my second month with you. I am amazed at how quickly I began saying "us" when talking about IPC. You are an easy group to love.



Pastor Karl and Myrna

As we look forward to the next few months I want to share some possibilities. I personally think IPC is uniquely positioned to move forward into the future as a beacon of Christ light in the Irvington Community. You have developed a DNA that is rather unique. I don't know how it started but I can see that in setting up the Monday Wednesday Friday breakfast program, "The Diner", you have positioned yourselves in the community as a church that does not just talk of caring for others; rather, you step out and involve yourselves deeply and sacrificially in the work. In doing this, you not only help change the people you serve but these people change you as well. I am attending the Kids Club on Monday and I am guessing this ministry is also birthed from the same church DNA.

As for next steps in pastoral leadership, there is a possibility that your next pastor could be a Designated Pastor. With a Designated Pastor, the Committee on Ministry (COM) of the Presbytery is the group that first reviews candidates for a new pastor. Using what they know of both IPC and the candidates, they will look for good "fits". When they find someone, they recommend that pre-approved candidate to IPC. As a congregation, you will then have the last say in calling your pastor. I would plan on being part of the COM review committee selecting possible candidates. When and if you choose a Designated Pastor the contract with the pastor can be for up to 3 years and renewable. You can, at the end of the initial three year period, have this person be your called pastor.

Among the advantages of going the Designated Pastor route, you get help in choosing a pastor. This process is faster and eliminates the need for an interim pastor. It is hard to like, get-to-know, even love a pastor and then need to say goodbye again. You would also be able to evaluate the pastoral relationship in 3 years and choose if you wish to go forward together.

IPC is moving forward in getting ready for a new pastor. If in good faith and with hard work you choose the designated pastor route, I would be committed to walk with you in getting a new pastoral leadership in place.

At the town hall meeting last week I found myself being "protective" of all of you. This was a surprise for me, but it is also a real and sincere feeling. I cannot think of a better place to be than walking alongside you as you dig deep to see what God has instore for you, one step at a time.

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Karl

SESSION NEWS & NOTES

The January meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Karl Shadley, our Transitional Pastor and moderator of Session for the next several months. Pastor Karl shared a vision for the time he will spend with us and what he plans on doing during Session Meetings. In addition to attending to the business of the church, Pastor Karl plans an introduction of tools that will help equip session as they relate to others in a diverse community and have RESPECT for others. The guidelines for respect:

R = take RESPONSIBILITY for what you say and feel without blaming others.

E = use EMPHATIC listening.

S = be SENSITIVE to differences in community styles.

P = PONDER what you hear and feel before you speak.

E = EXAMINE your own assumptions and perceptions.

C = keep CONFIDENTIALITY.

T = TRUST ambiguity because we are not here to debate who is right or wrong.

Finance presented year-end financial statements and a budget for 2019. After discussions and some changes, Session approved a 2019 budget with a planned deficit of \$20,867. The Team believes this deficit is sustainable since in 2018, we ended the year with a \$34,751 surplus.

Personnel and Worship Ministry reported that Judy Lam has accepted the position of pianist. Judy, an accomplished pianist and flautist, brings many years of experience to IPC. Judy also serves as Director of the Fremont Youth Symphony.

Elder Elaine Liang reported that the Fule Church held its first baptism on December 17, 2018. Pastor Larry performed the baptism by immersion. Fule Church also welcomed three new members. With Jonathan Jiang in China through February, Elder Elaine will preach on Sundays. There is a new member class planned for February to accept two members who will join the church from the "Restaurant Outreach Program".

The Clerk reported that the City of Fremont received their Hygiene Truck Unit. There are plans for this unit to be on campus on Monday and Friday beginning March. The Hygiene unit will have facilities for the homeless residents in the surrounding area to take hot showers and have their clothes laundered. The final membership roll for 2018 was presented and will be used to prepare the annual statistical report for the PC(USA).

In the absence of functioning Deacons, Pastor Karl recommended that Session take on the responsibility of some Deacon services. Elder Kamroon Baksh was tasked with recruiting a volunteer group to make coffee and purchase refreshments for the social hour.

Buildings and Grounds have completed the cleaning of fixtures and replacing lamps in the sanctuary and narthex. The furnaces and heating ducts in the sanctuary and Social Hall were cleaned. The lights and ceiling tiles in the Social Hall will be worked on during February. The rekeying of locks throughout the campus will begin in mid February.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Pastor Karl.

FULE CHURCH

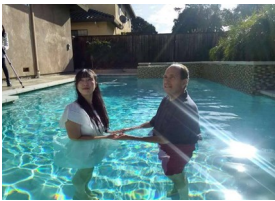
By the grace of God, we are in our second year of worshipping at Irvington Presbyterian Church.



In 2017, the 132-year-old Irvington Presbyterian Church started a new worship community – Mandarin Ministry, Silicon Valley Fule Presbyterian Church. In August 2018, we started weekly 2:30 pm Sunday worship services with an average attendance of 12. Weekly Bible study services are held on Tuesdays 7:30 - 8:30 pm and Prayer Meeting Services at 8:30 - 9:30 pm.

Both services average 15 attendees.

We are grateful that in December 2018, Miss Alice Ding received Jesus as her personal Lord and Savior - the first baptism of Fule Church. Alice Ding, with Sara Wang and Lydia Zhu were received



as IPC members at the same time. We had joint Sunday Worship with IPC on December 23 and 30. We also had joint Christmas Eve service with IPC and enjoyed the fellowship at all events. Our heartfelt gratitude to IPC for their continuing support. Even though Fule church is small in number, it is big in spirit and

in 2018 this church has received God's blessings abundantly.



What will 2019 hold for IPC Fule Presbyterian Church? This remains to be seen in what God will do in and among us as we gather to participate in Sunday worship, Bible study, prayer meetings and outreach events. How might we be challenged to stretch and grow in our faith? We do not know the answer to these questions today. What we do know is that we are:

A church reformed, and always reforming! (Ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda !) "This call from the Reformation invites us, as disciples who worship and service a living God, to be open to being "re-formed" according to the Word of God and the call of the Spirit."

Listening for the call of the Spirit is the key to discovering our future mission at Irvington Fule Presbyterian Church. Our hope is that as we listen to God through prayer and study and to each other through honest sharing and conversation, so that we will arrive at a renewed vision that will propel us into the next season of our church's life.



To this end, we prayerfully designate 2019 as "a year of discernment" for Irvington Fule Presbyterian Church. Please keep Mandarin Ministry in your prayers. May God bless and guide our every step.

Glory be to God!

Fule Church uses group chat in WeChat to announce news, events and prayer requests for the Mandarin Ministry. For more information visit our web site: www.fule.church.

ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Love Is in The Air Again

Heads up ... Valentine's Day is here and that means the opportunity to again prepare Valentines for the girls at Hope Unlimited in Brazil, a mission we support through your generous contributions.

Each February, we at IPC add a little something to our Valentine's preparations. As we make cards



for friends and family, and maybe for that special loved one, we also take time to make cards for our girls in Brazil. These cards are handed out during a party celebrating Brazil's Day of Love in early summer. The children who receive your cards are poor, neglected, and for the most part, have never before experienced familial love and

concern. For some girls, yours will be the only Valentine card they receive and are always overwhelmed by your outpouring of love for them.

We encourage you to plan ahead as the season draws near to either gather some materials for handmaking Valentines or to purchase some as they go on sale. **Join us in the Social Hall on Sunday February 17, to write cards.** We will have card-making supplies as well as Portuguese phrases available for you to personalize your cards.

Refreshments will be served at this event.

Ladies out to Lunch



Ladies fellowship was enjoyed by all at the "The Lazy Dog", Wednesday January 16.

One Hour Circle of Prayer Saturday February 23

On Saturday, February 23, our IPC congregation will begin "**A Circle of Prayer**" at **9:00am**. Many of us miss out on so much because we only pray by ourselves. Yet, when Jesus gave us an outline



for prayer, he spoke about praying together. There is power in group prayer.

Jesus says: "*whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.*" (Matthew 18:19-20 TEV).

Join us as we pray for our Church, our community, our nation and for all who are hurting as a result of the many tragic events around us.

Please contact Darlene Neesham for additional information.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the past few months several complaints were lodged by area residents and the nearby Junior High School about the growing homeless population living in and about their vehicles parked on Chapel Way and Irvington Avenue. In November and December the issue was compounded by the vehicles being covered up for the rainy season and a significant amount of bags piled on the side walk. IPC took the lead and after discussions with the City of Fremont, Police Department, it was decided that all the affected parties would get together and discuss how to improve the situation. The goal of this get together was to develop a realistic strategy with identified courses of action.

Representatives from IPC, Horner Junior High School, Fremont Police Mobile Evaluation Team as well as some of the homeless who live in their vehicles met in the McKowen Room on Tuesday January 8. This was an informal meeting, chaired by the Police Department where everyone was able to speak freely and honestly. The individuals who lived in their vehicles promised to address keeping the sidewalks free of bags. It was also pointed out that except for the city shelter that was now opened everyday and BACS, the Bay Area Community Services, there were no other facilities where the homeless with cars and campers can find opportunities to spend the night. The Mobile Evaluation Team would make frequent checks to insure the area was free of bags and debris.

As of this writing, most of the bags were removed and there is a conscious attempt to keep the area clean. Now that the bags are removed, the number of bicycles on the sidewalks are very apparent. IPC's Buildings and Grounds is working with the City Human Services Center and the homeless to identify a more understanding solution for parking the bikes.

Fremont Mobile Hygiene Unit Services

Building and Grounds is also working with the City Human Services Center to have the new Fremont Mobile Hygiene Truck be on campus on Monday and Friday mornings during the breakfast program. This unit is equipped with a laundromat and showers. The plan is that beginning March, during the breakfast program, the homeless in the area who attend the breakfast can have access to a hot shower and toilet facilities. While they are showering, their clothes will be washed and returned to them fully laundered.



Volunteers are needed who will help take the dirty clothes in a bag, wash and return to the individuals. In addition, there is a need for sweats for the homeless. The sweats will allow them to have some clean, dry clothes while theirs are being laundered.

If you would like to volunteer to be a part of this team on Monday and Friday from 7- 10 am, or donate a pair of sweats, please contact:
Kamron Baksh 510 579 3694; Mustapha Baksh 510 709 5406; kandmbaksh@gmail.com

This is an opportunity for IPC to contribute in the community as we continue to be involved deeply and sacrificially in the work God has placed in our path.

CONGREGATION NEWS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Shivani Ariathurai	Cecile Litherland
Frankie Cabral	Alishan Merjanian
Justin Chaikin	Shirley Murray
Karen Craig	Bob Reavis
Jeane Garrett	Shirley Vick



Mary Lou and Richard Craig

Welcome Pastor Karl

With the retirement of Pastor Larry on December 31, IPC welcomed Rev. Dr. Karl Shadley as its Transitional Pastor.

Pastor Karl has distinguished himself in the area of Christian Ministry for 45 years. He has served in diverse communities experiencing transition, change and conflict. His collaborative style has allowed him to help find new leaders and prepare them to serve the church in new ways. While working with Dr. Eric Law and the Kaleidoscope Institute for the past 20 years he honed the skills and tools to help build competent leadership in a diverse, changing world.

Pastor Karl resides in Oakland with his wife Myrna and will be on campus as needed.

We thank God for His guidance and for sending Pastor Karl to us. We remain grateful to the Irvington Engagement Team and the Committee on Ministry for their support in identifying an outstanding candidate for the Irvington Presbyterian Church.

Annual Congregation Meeting

The Annual Congregation Meeting will be held after worship on Sunday February 24, to conduct the annual business of the church as well as to elect Officers. This year session decided to combine both meetings in consideration of the time needed by our Transitional Pastor to become familiar with our congregation and processes. We felt that this plan would enable him to offer optimum help and guidance to the Nominating Committee. The tentative agenda for this combined meeting is:

1. Opening prayer
2. Presentation of Nominating Committee Final Report
3. Presentation of Nominees
4. Nomination from the Floor
5. Voting for Nominees (ballot or acclamation)
6. Receive the annual report.
7. Elect Corporation Officers.
8. Elect Three Nominating Committee Members.
9. Questions and answers
10. Closing prayer

Church members interested in serving on the Nominating Committee are asked to contact Mary Lee Starkel, Ron Fong or Mustapha Baksh.

We are planning a pot luck luncheon before the meeting. Sign up with Shirley Murray to bring a dish or help plan.

COOKING TOGETHER

It has been an adventure participating in this class, the last Saturday of each month. IPC Cooks is not a beginner's cooking class; rather, it is a fellowship and sharing focused on one of the most important activities in our lives. It is about diversity and economics more than technique or recipes. It is about how to creatively use leftovers to develop an exciting diet, stop throwing away foods, stop eating boring left-overs and be creative with cascades. Each class explores creative hacks to prepare delicious and easy meals. Repurposing left overs is both economical and reduces food waste. This class is weighted towards creative cooking for one (or two).



We started by learning to cascade Italian dishes using already cooked spaghetti. Six delicious dinners were made in less than 5 minutes each using simple recipes. Pastor Ken demonstrated interesting ways to use ground meat using Greek and Asian flavors to create exotic meals made simple. Leftovers from a roast and Thanksgiving turkey were each cascaded into new delicious creations. Our taste buds were busy trying different potato salads that adopted new and interesting characteristics by flavoring with complex spices. We explored how to cook simply scrumptious meals quickly while minimizing waste and maximizing variety.

Then, Pastor Ken thought it would be a good idea to invite our Mandarin speaking friends to participate in the class and at the same time, meet our new Mandarin Pastors in an informal setting. We had no idea that this would turn out to be quite a celebration. Jonathan Jiang did a professional demonstration on how to fix Russian Soup Shanghai style. Shanghai offers a unique approach to Chinese cooking that few Americans have explored. Concurrently,



we did an American interpretation of Chinese cooking by preparing sweet and sour chicken, demonstrated by Mustapha. Both congregations relished the opportunity to share the prepared meal and enjoy fellowship.



We all had an opportunity to learn, appreciate and share culture and traditions.

I have found this a great venue to enjoy an evening out with friends and also to create new friendships with fellow Christians. Thank you, Pastor Ken for sharing your expertise and knowledge with all of us. IPC Yelp reviews and comments:

"Your classes are delicious and fun."

"In your class, I have learned about foods that I didn't even know existed."

"It is such fun to watch men cook and do dishes."

"We eat, love and laugh in a relaxed atmosphere."

"I have enjoyed all of the classes and I am especially excited about the upcoming St. Patty's day corned beef and cabbage ukulele sing along. I am inviting my friend from Alameda to that one."

UPCOMING CHURCHWIDE ACTIVITIES

Chinese New Year Party will be held in the Social Hall beginning at 4:00PM on Sunday February 10. Jonathan will explain the cultural significance and tradition of the Chinese New Year. The Fule Mandarin congregation will demonstrate how to make dumplings and other Chinese delicacies.



IPC Cooks will now be held on the last Saturday of each month from 6 pm- 8:00 pm in the Social Hall. On Saturday February 23, Pastor Ken will take us on a journey with the incredible egg. One egg has only 75 calories but 7 grams of high-quality protein, 5 grams of fat, and **1.6** grams of saturated fat, along with iron, vitamins, minerals, and carotenoids. Come, enjoy the many ways to fix eggs and be part of this growing and exciting ministry at IPC.



Ladies out to Lunch will be on February 21, at the Peach Garden Restaurant in Newark. Contact Jeane Garrett (510) 706 8873 to sign up.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration instead of the regularly scheduled IPC Cooks class on Saturday March 30, we are planning a St. Patty's Day **corned beef and cabbage dinner**. Pastor Karl will bring his ukulele for a sing-along. Watch for updates in the Sunday Bulletin and this newsletter.



Church Directory

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Karl Shadley
Family Ministry Director : Stephanie Yamada
Bookkeeper: Jeanette Ollison
Office Manager: Marissa Hughes

Address: 4181 Irvington Avenue
P.O. Box 1336,
Fremont, CA 94538
Phone: (510) 657 3133
Fax: (510) 657 7040
Email: info@irvingtonpres.org



February 25 is the deadline for our March issue.

All articles are to be delivered by email to: kandmbaksh@gmail.com