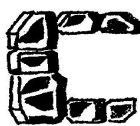




Wearing a mask is another way
to love your neighbor.



CORNERSTONE

Jesus Christ, the living cornerstone
and you are also living stones,
built into a dwelling place of God
in the Spirit.
- Eph. 2:20-22 1 Peter 2:4,5



Irvington Presbyterian Church

Fremont, CA

September, 2020

Drive Thru Tamale

With over 54 members, families and guests in attendance, IPC celebrated our August 22 Tamale Drive Thru and communion with amazing success. All in attendance wore masks, practiced social



Vehicles Lining up in the Parking Lot

distancing and observed all the protocols to ensure a successful event. There were 24 vehicles lined up and many of you proceeded to the lawn for tamales and fellowship while observing social distancing. There was also Communion and prayer with Pastor Ed. The tamales for our "drive-thru" tamale festival were made by folks at Primera Iglesia Presbyteriana Hispana of



Communion and Prayer

at Primera Iglesia Presbyteriana Hispana of Oakland (PIPH). PIPH serves the Spanish speaking community of the East Bay as our Presbyterian presence in the community. The Tamales for Oakland Project is helping folks in many ways. For the families making the tamales it is a way to make ends meet as they have for generations, selling tamales to their friends. This is a small cottage industry that we pray will last past the pandemic. A



Initial Preparations

small amount of the tamale money goes to support the delivery team and the tamale project coordinator, Cynthia, who lives in Palin Guatemala. All tips received went to help people in East Oakland and Guatemala whose lives have been significantly impacted by the pandemic". Thank you IPC for your generous \$525 in tip donations.

A total of 120 tamales were served. An event like this, especially with shelter in place, requires careful planning and execution. Thanks to all our volunteers, Marissa, David, Carrol, Jonathan, Tom Elaine, Daxesh, Prem, Lina, Pastor Ed and Pastor Karl. Thanks to Jeane Garrett for taking tamales to some who were unable to come to the drive thru.



Last Minute Instructions

Sincere thanks to you for observing the protocols including registering ahead of time so that we can celebrate another safe and successful church wide activity on the campus.

You may watch the Tamale Drive Thru video here: <https://youtu.be/mzqWhCJhXG4>

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Worship Ministry met on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, via Zoom. We thanked the Lord for opportunities to worship together each Sunday and to enjoy two fellowship events in August, the Tamale Drive-thru Festival and a Drive-by Birthday celebration for Pastor Ed. The success of these events was marked by joy and excitement to see each other in person again, since our church drive thru picnic in July. On September 13, the great, great grand; great grand and grandparents, were honored during worship. Generational family pictures were added to the rendition of "A Child's Dream" to create a beautiful video. Thanks to Tom Shadley, Pastor Karl's brother who wrote this song at the beginning of the quarantine. He said he was getting down about the lock down and spent some time with one of his two granddaughters. He wrote this poem that his friend put to music and sang. Thank you, Elder Elaine for donating your video-making skills that brought much joy to the seniors in our congregation. You may watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/8KrbxYChppw>

We continue to worship and fellowship on line, via Zoom and the IPC website. Worship Ministry is working with Buildings and Grounds Ministry to execute a plan approved by Session, for a gradual return to in person worship in the sanctuary. The plan is to follow God's guidance in discerning information from governing and health agencies for a safe return. Taking small steps at a time, a trial run parking lot worship is being planned for this Sunday, September 27 at 10:00 am. This will take the form of Pastor's sermon transmitted via radio to worshipers who will remain in their cars during an abbreviated worship program with a complete sermon. As we prepare to worship in the sanctuary we also want to ensure that anyone who does not want to return at that time will have every opportunity to worship. Therefore, we will also have on line worship so that members may continue to worship from the safety and comfort of their homes.

We have accepted an invitation from the Presbytery of San Francisco to participate in the first ever, Presbytery wide Sunday Worship Service on October 4, 2020, to celebrate World Communion Sunday. This too will be a Zoom presentation at our regular 10:00 am Sunday worship time. The

Rev. Roland Gordon from Ingleside Presbyterian Church will preach the sermon. Irvington Presbyterian Church will present The Lord's Prayer in five different languages; and there will be offerings from other talents in the congregations. This is an amazing opportunity for congregations to join together in worship and unity and commit to the life giving work of being part of a Matthew 25 Presbytery.



There are two easy ways to join us for worship

On Line Services 10:00 am on Sunday

<https://zoom.us/j/9970411553>

<https://irvingtonpres.org/sermons/>

<https://www.facebook.com/irvingtonpres>

Service on Demand

Watch anytime:

<https://irvingtonpres.org/sermons/>

SESSION NEWS & NOTES

Pastor Ed opened the August meeting at 7:19 pm with Pastor Ed praying for IPC church leaders and imploring God's wisdom and foresight. In his report, Pastor indicated that since the beginning of the pandemic and the closing of the campus, the spiritual ministry of the church is for the most part done digitally. Our worship is prerecorded and shown on Sundays beginning at 10:00 am. Worshipers have been very consistent in attending ZOOM virtual worship or watching via YouTube. Kudos to our Tech Team and Worship Ministry.

We have added a daily lectionary reading on the IPC Friends page. This would be helpful for those who want to read the Scriptures for themselves but do not know where to start. Aside from existing services for the community like the Free Breakfast Program for the unhoused and seniors, we have added a drive thru pantry every Saturday morning where we are able to help many who need groceries to feed their families.

With the Tri City Breakfast Program serving a take out breakfast, many of the guests eat their meals on the quad or any space they can find on campus. This generates overfilled garbage containers and Session authorized \$50 per week for campus cleanup, in coordination with the TCFBP to cover this expense. Session also approved Finance renew the workers compensation insurance through Heffernan Insurance Brokers. The IPC Check signing policy exempts the Board of Pensions contribution check payment from the policy limit required on check requests. With help from Presbytery of San Francisco, we secured a Church Insurance Policy from the Insurance Board that provided much better coverage and about 35% less than what we currently pay. Session approved this change.

Now that more companies are beginning to return to work, Buildings and Grounds is soliciting quotes for the sanctuary roof repair. The expectation is that the leaks would be repaired before the rainy season starts later this year. Because of the build up of cobwebs and dirt, we have resumed regular cleaning of all rooms and bathrooms. The lawn, however, will be serviced every two weeks.

Finance Reported that expenses exceeded income by \$13.5K for the month of July and recommended that all ministries carefully examine spending for the remainder of the year.

Fule was granted \$2K by the Presbytery of San Francisco for Benevolence. This grant was then designated to help its members with food and rent expenses. Most of the members of the Fule Church primarily work in the construction and service industries that are most affected by the current pandemic. Fule is unable to hold in person worship and contributions have decreased because many in the congregation are unemployed. They have applied for a Presbytery of San Francisco COVID –19 grant to help with unplanned purchasing of equipment and services for online worship.

Mission giving continues to be lower than anticipated. The Ministry plans to meet and decide which Ministries to fund and how much.

Communications Ministry plays a significant role in preparing the scripture reading, announcements and special videos for Sunday worship.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33pm with Pastor Ed and Session praying for good health for many in the congregation and for God's guidance through this difficult period when we are unable to meet and have to shelter in place.

Outreach Activities During COVID-19

Farmington

We are now into the Fall and despite a late start, the community garden, produced over 100 lb of tomatoes, 110 lb of zucchini, 36 lb of bell peppers and over 300 ears of corn. These were distributed to guests who came to the weekly drive thru pantry and the Breakfast Program where the vegetables were used to enhance egg dishes. Two guests who regularly attend the breakfast, requested and have planted 4X4 boxes. We started the Fall planting of broccoli, cauliflower, brussels sprouts and beans.



Produce for the Drive Thru Pantry



If you feel safe, come and join other Farmingtonians in planting for the Fall season.

Drive Thru Food Pantry

The drive thru pantry now distributes 36 bags of groceries each week. Each bag contains eggs, pasta, sauce, bread, rice, canned beans, canned meat, fruit and vegetables. For six weeks fresh produce from Farmington, our community garden, were a big hit! The Presbytery of San Francisco gave an initial \$2K grant for purchasing protein. Additional contributions from church members and community friends, help support the pantry.



Packing bags with groceries for the Pantry

**Contact Outreach Ministries to volunteer.
(510) 579 3694**

Kids Against Hunger

Outreach Ministry has teamed up with the local chapter of KIDS AGAINST HUNGER (KAH) to bring food packets of fortified grain to seniors and the unhoused in the local community. This fortified grain is also added to the grocery bags of guests who come to the drive thru pantry. In addition, we shipped 3 boxes each with 36 packets of grain to an orphanage and church in the Philippines.



Bill & Kaye Lawrence receiving 4 boxes of grain

We also delivered four boxes to Rancho Santa Marta, at their local US office in El Cajon, CA. Rancho Santa Marta is a non-denominational Evangelical

Christian Ministry for at risk, abandoned, and special needs Mexican children. This is a ministry that IPC has been helping to support for over 15 years.



Delivering boxes of grain

ACTIVITIES UPDATE

CleanStart - Mobile Hygiene Unit Celebrates one Year

It is now one year that The City of Fremont Mobile Hygiene Unit (CleanStart) has been coming to the campus every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. CleanStart offers hot showers, toilet and laundry services to our unhoused neighbors in the community from 7:30 am to 10:00 am. At each visit about 12 showers and 10 laundry loads are completed. Most of the guests come from the Breakfast Program and the surrounding community. In addition, every Wednesday, Abode Services **Hope Van** delivers healthcare services to the medically underserved populations of our community, including the unhoused.



Thank you Clover Leaf

Most of you are aware that the landmark Clover Leaf Family Bowl that opened in Fremont in 1959, 61 years ago, recently decided to cease operations. The Tri City Free Breakfast Program was the recipient of several hundred dollars worth of condiments, gloves, non perishable foods and cleaning supplies that Clover Leaf restaurant was no longer able to use.



A Full Pantry

Thank you to the Chambers and Hillman Families for your kind donation and generosity!



Loading up a Cart

Caring and Sharing

Recently, the combination stove and oven that had served the Breakfast Program for over 15 years failed. The ovens were no longer working to its fullest capacity. There were no parts to repair and the staff struggled with the ovens for several years. Much to the delight of the kitchen staff, the unit has now been replaced.

Thanks to quick work by Kimmie in the Breakfast Program, a new home at a local church that did not need both ovens, was found for the old unit. So rather than going into the landfill, this unit has now been set up to faithfully serve another church congregation in the Fremont area.



Serving in a New Location

CONGREGATION NEWS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Pastor Ed Choa

Russ Pennelly

Jeff Conley

Thea Pex

Robert Frey

Martha Thorson

Christina Geevarghese

Kathy Torrence

Tom Hayes

David Wegner

Sandra Hennesey

Amy Wu



Lynnette and Ken Ariathurai

Darlene and Wayne Neesham

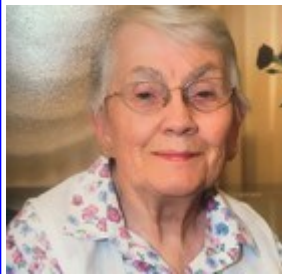
Peggy and Johnny Handono

In Memoriam

Cecile Bernice (McAllister) Litherland

Feb. 21, 1927 Oakland CA – Aug. 21, 2020 Fremont CA

Graduated from College of the Pacific (now University of the Pacific) in 1949. Worked as a social worker in Sonoma, Marin, and San Joaquin Counties. Married the late Richard Hughes Litherland in 1951, before his ordination as a Presbyterian minister. Lived and raised 2 children in the locations of his pastorates: Roslyn, WA; Okanogan, WA; Stockton, CA; Portland, OR; and Oakland, CA. After her husband's death in 2001, she remained in Oakland, CA until moving to Fremont, CA in 2008. Cecile leaves her daughter, Irene of Union City CA; son, Joseph of Crockett CA; grandson, Nishant Joshi; son-in-law Dhruvkumar Joshi; and son's partner, Nola Peters. Memorial service via zoom on Sat. Sept. 26, 1:30 PM.



Email revdrsarah70@gmail.com for service details.

Harry Berkheimer (1925 - 2020)



We say goodbye to our dear friend Harry who went to be with the Lord on August 19, 2020. A full military service is being planned for Harry, a WW 2 veteran. Memorial details will be announced later.

You may read a copy of Harry's biography in the church library.

CONGREGATION NEWS

Fule Church

The Lord has been faithfully using Fule, a New Worshiping Community under care of Irvington Presbyterian Church, to serve the Mandarin Community. NWC-Fule also still has joint virtual gatherings with the First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame, Mandarin - Taiwanese congregation.

The weekly schedule includes: Sunday prayer meeting at 10:00 am; Sunday online Worship service at 11:00 am and Friday Bible Study and Fellowship at 7:00 pm. The joint services are through zoom and still faithfully attended by members from both congregations. Saturday mornings, the Drive Thru Food Pantry has provided Fule with an unexpected and creative way to worship. We worship God



by sharing the Good News with community friends. We share our faith and pray with them. This is also a good opportunity for us to provide emotional



healing during the pandemic. This amazing gathering which started on July 18th with 5 attendees, presently has more than 20 attendees. We are grateful that God has blessed us with four ministers who provide pastoral services to this group. Thank you Pastor Jonathan, Elder Elaine, David Chow and Pastor Ed. We also appreciate the support of IPC's Outreach Ministry Drive Thru Food Pantry. Thank you Elders Mustapha and Kamroon for inviting the Mandarin community to the pantry.

The regular in-person weekly worship has stopped, but God continues to lift us higher as we minister to the Mandarin-speaking community.

All Presbytery Worship Sunday October 4th

IPC will join other churches to participate in the first-ever Presbytery-wide Sunday Worship Service on October 4th, 2020. The Rev. Roland Gordon, from Ingleside Presbyterian Church, will preach a special sermon for World Communion Sunday. There will be a virtual choir, a virtual brass band, and many other offerings from the talents of the congregations. The service will include worship participants from 25 churches speaking ten languages. This an opportunity for us to join together in worship and unity, and commit to the life-giving work of being a Matthew 25 Presbytery.

The service will be available on zoom and the website as we currently have on Sunday. However, it will be an opportunity for Pastor and some in the audio/visual team to take a day off. We know you would agree that Pastor and the team needs a day of rest. More information will be available in your eNews and weekly announcements. Join in and encourage some friends to participate.

CONGREGATION NEWS

Parking Lot Worship Service

This Sunday, September 27, we have scheduled a parking lot service with coffee and donuts. When you enter the lot, you will be given a one page bulletin with copies of the songs being sung at worship and then directed to a parking spot. We request that you remain in your parked vehicle and participate by listening to the service on your FM radio. You will be able to see Pastor Ed and wave to your fellow congregants. Yes, do pick up your coffee and doughnuts before you park.

This is the first of our planned parking lot worship services and is part of the planning for a gradual return to in person worship in the sanctuary. If you feel unsafe, and do not wish to participate in this parking lot service, you still have the option of viewing from your living room since the service will be available online. If for any reason you have to exit your vehicle, please wear your mask and observe social distancing. We look forward to welcoming you on Sunday Morning.

Celebrating Grandparents Day

As we celebrated Grandparent's Day on September 13, Jean Landrum had very special reason to celebrate her honored status of becoming a Great, Great Grandmother to Avery Ann Walden born on June 2, 2020. One picture shows five generations of Jean's family, deeply



rooted in love for each other and love for their Father in Heaven. Seven years ago, Jean's grandmother, Sarah Johansen started a tradition of making a quilt or afghan for each new baby. The other picture shows Averi enjoying the warmth of the latest afghan hand knitted by Jean. Our hearty congratulations to Jean and her beautiful family!



You may watch the Grandparents Day video here: <https://youtu.be/8KrbxYChppw>



Please Note: September 30 is the deadline for our October issue.

All articles are to be delivered by email to: kandmbaksh@gmail.com. Cornerstone is the medium to keep your current and past congregation members informed of all the activities and events at IPC. Your timely submissions are important to everyone.