



# IPC Messenger

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OFFICE—236-3346 • FAX—236-3676 • E-MAIL—INFO@IPCSAV.ORG • WEBSITE—IPCSAV.ORG

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MARCH 03, 2013

## IDENTITY & ETHNICITY

Among the problems that the American of today faces is what political scientists call Balkanization and academics call identity studies. Americans are seeing themselves less as Americans, and more as hyphen-Americans, and often as aggrieved hyphen-Americans, Americans second, and minority identity first. Voting patterns reveal groups voting at rates approaching those of Soviet Republics, predictable at 80-90% on the basis of skin color, marital status, ethnic identity, or sexual preferences. Political philosophy, character, and accomplishments mean little when identity politics take over. What a given politician will do for my group means everything. All other considerations take a back seat. America, the America of the Declaration, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, the America of shared values and the common good, disappears. Group identity takes over.

What happens when identity politics seep into the church (which the world's philosophies inevitably do)? Then theologians and clergymen begin to think increasingly in terms of race, ethnicity, and gender. No longer are we "mere catholics," as the Puritan Richard Baxter would have us know. Instead the conversation (and agitation) is about whether each group is properly represented, honored, and utilized. Objections begin to arise to the domination of "dead white males," and living ones, in the life of the church.

Let me provide an example. It has become a truism among some to identify traditional Reformed worship as "western." Its stogy order, its music, its wordy intellectualism, its emotional restraint, are all "western." This is stated as an accusation needing defense by traditionalists. Reformed worship is western, and so, because the church's membership is increasingly made up of non-westerners, the church needs to adopt non-western ways. This, it is said, is a simple matter of fairness. Non-western music, instrumentation, and emotional expressiveness need to be incorporated into the life of the church. Moreover, only those with a western bias would fail to see the necessity of this. I see three problems with this line of thought.

First, why should Christians care about the gender,

ethnicity, race, or age of the source of its thoughts and practices? Why would the church want to evaluate its practices on the basis of skin color? or gender? or class? These are worldly categories that we are meant to transcend in Christ. Is it not the case that in the church we are neither Jew nor Greek, male nor female (Gal 3:28)? Is it not our motto (borrowed by our American founding fathers), "out of the many, one?" We are "one new man" in Christ, *transcending* our worldly differences while not obliterating them (Eph 2:11ff). We no longer evaluate each other based on worldly categories (see Jas 2:1ff). We are to "know" or "regard" (ESV) no one "after the flesh" (2 Cor 5:16). If eighteenth century Germans and nineteenth century Brits were particularly gifted at musical composition, why should we hesitate to recognize this? Why fail fully to utilize their contributions though other ethnic groups may be "under-represented" according to the quota-obsessed? As to the source of the church's beliefs and practices, as long as they are godly and gifted sources, who cares?

Second, does this classifying of the church as "western" stand up to scrutiny? It certainly doesn't in terms of the church's theology and practices. Did the Scottish Presbyterians invent psalm-singing, or did the ancient monks of the Egypt desert? Was expository preaching an innovation of Calvin, or did he find it in the ancient church fathers Origen (c.185-254), considered the "father of biblical exposition," and Chrysostom, whose "plain style" expositions profoundly influenced Calvin. Did the English Puritans invent extemporaneous prayer, or did they find it in Justin Martyr's *Apology*, dating about 155 A.D.? As for church songs, our hymnal includes lyrics contributed by Clement of Alexandria (c.150-220), an Athenian but also a longtime resident of Egypt; Gregory of Nazianzus, of Cappadocia (see below); Prudentius (348-413), a Spaniard; John of Damascus (c.655-c.750), a Syrian; Andrew of Crete (c.660-740), a Syrian; and Joseph the Hymnographer (c.810-886), a Sicilian. Some contributions are very old and from unknown sources. The *Gloria Patri* dates to the second century, the *Gloria in Excelsis* to the fourth century, the *Te Deum* also the fourth century, the *Liturgy of St. James* (from which "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" was derived) from the fifth

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## IPC OFFICERS

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Ronald H. Parrish, Associate  
Bradley L. Waller, Associate  
Timothy P. Foster, Associate

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Richard B. Mullinix, Jr.

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### THE TRUSTEES

Edward E. Hale (2013)  
John T. South, III (2014)  
Ronald C. Berry (2015)  
Andrew W. Brodmann (2016)  
William J. Monroe, Jr. (2017)  
Frank Chisholm, Ex-officio

## IDENTITY AND ETHNICITY

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century, and so on. Musical contributions may be found from Hebrew, European, American, Hispanic, and African-American folk traditions. What exactly do we mean by western?

Here's the real kicker. Who were the prime movers in formulating the orthodox doctrines of the church, the theology of Nicea and Chalcedon? Who wrestled out the doctrines of the Trinity and the dual nature of Christ? Surely they were westerners, Greeks or Romans, infected with the rationalism and logic so foreign to the non-western world, right? Wrong. As Thomas C. Odom has shown in his work, *How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind*, the flow of intellectual life in the first three centuries of the church was not north to south, but south to north. It flowed from Africa and the Middle East north to Europe.

We can name two theologians to make our point: Athanasius (of *contra mundum* fame) and Augustine, the former having decisive influence in formulating the doctrine of the Trinity and the latter the most important theological mind in the history of the church. Athanasius (c.296-298-373), nicknamed the "black dwarf," was an Egyptian. So were Origen (c.185-c.254) and Cyril (c.315-87). Augustine (c.185-c.254) was a North African, as were Tertullian (c.160-c.225), known as the "Father of Latin Theology," Lactantius (c.240-c.320) and Cyprian (c.258).

The Cappadocian Fathers (Basil the Great [c.330-79], Gregory of Nyssa [c.330-c.395], and Gregory of Nazianzus [325-390]), of crucial influence in defeating Arianism, were all by birth from Caesarea in Cappadocia, that is, present day south-central Turkey.

The church was dominated by "non-western" leaders in the crucial formative years between the resurrection of Christ and the fall of Rome. I might remind us as well, Jesus

and the apostles were not westerners either. *We can only speak of the church as "western" in a highly qualified sense.*

Third, are the more obviously "western" elements of the church a product of the culture of the west or of the culture of the church? When Boniface (c.675-754), the "Apostle of Germany," and Ansgar (801-65), the "Apostle of the North" (Scandinavia), and Willibrord (658-739), the "Apostle of Frisia" (the Netherlands) evangelized their respective mission fields, they found their hosts playing Bach fugues on their harpsichords and found Rembrandt's paintings on their walls, right? The barbarian Europeans, pre-Christian, had no music to speak of and primitive art at best. Western music, with its harmony, melody, and rhythm, is, in an important sense, Christian music. It is the music that the Christian church developed, beginning with Gregorian chants and increasing in sophistication over the centuries. In my view, the church's location in the "west" is incidental. The ethnicity of its members is incidental. For most of the last 1400 years (since the Muslim conquests in the Middle East and North Africa), the church has been located primarily in Europe. The barbarian European converts took the musical heritage the Patristic church handed to it and developed it, adding little from its distinctive barbarian culture as the church shaped Europe, rather than Europe's barbarians shaping the church. It is ridiculous to think that pagan European converts demanded the inclusion of their primitive drums and dances in their church's services - so that the "style" of the service would be familiar to them. Instead the Christian church developed its own music, and Europe adopted what the church created.

It is painful to see "interest" groups vying for *their* style preferences in the church's worship: the young demanding pop music, ethnic groups *their* music, cowboys and hip-hoppers *their* music at *their* churches. Because I am a Christian,

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IDENTITY AND ETHNICITY

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not a hyphenated Christian, I gratefully receive the "Tradition," consisting of the Creeds, classic writings, music, devotional lyrics, and so on. I embrace the "catholic" hymnal, words and tunes. I refuse to join the Balkanizers and classify contributions to the Tradition according to their racial, ethnic, gender, and generational identities. I care only about excellence. Because we are "in Christ," we appreciate the contributions of the brethren according to their edifying capacities, whatever their worldly "identity," and judge them not "according to the flesh."

—Terry Johnson

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# WOMEN OF THE CHURCH —

## WOC RETREAT WITH BARBARA BARKER

As Mrs. Barbara Barker began her talks at the WOC retreat, she reminded us that she is a "sharer," not a "speaker." Her personable tone and often humorous light through which she told her stories drew in the women who were gathered there. We listened intently, identified with many of her past situations, and gleaned wisdom from her testimonials of what God has done in her life. "Sharer" is such perfect word to describe Mrs. Barbara Barker's style. She shared her beautiful poetry written in the midst of various circumstances. She shared and confessed her own hardships and struggles. And most impressively, she shared her knowledge of the Scriptures. Hearing Mrs. Barker quote passages upon passages of Scripture from memory was an inspiration. Emphasizing how thankful she is for this Book, she said, "Knowing the Bible is the knowledge of God's will." She urged us all to read our Bibles and memorize passages so we can be equipped with God's Word in any situation.

Throughout her talks, one common theme emerged: Trust in God and see what He will accomplish, even in a seemingly impossible situation. She told of *many* situations in her past that left her feeling helpless and frustrated, such as having nothing but cream of wheat to feed her children because her husband "gave everything away," as she noted somewhat amusingly. Instead of wallowing in feelings of self-pity, martyrdom, or jealousy of what others had, she surrendered her attitude to Christ. When she did, the blessings of gratitude for what she did

have were overwhelming. God's provision, she taught us, often comes after true repentance. In one instance, she was told to host a gathering with meals for over 90 college students with no money to buy food. Another time, she needed enough money to buy music books for a children's performance. She was also unexpectedly left without dozens of costumes for an upcoming ballet. In each situation, the anxiety welled up, and she found herself asking, "How am I going to do this?" The amazing stories of how God provided in each of these situations *and many more* all revolved around the fact that her true repentance came first. God revealed to her specific situations in which she harbored bitterness, focused on her old sins, or lacked humility. How wonderfully convicting for all of us to hear!

*In weakness find His mighty power  
— In helplessness, His grace each hour.  
His ways are not my way, I own  
— I'd choose the paths that I have known.  
His ways are hard — but for my best,  
If I will trust His love and rest  
Within the confines of His will,  
and tell my anxious heart — "Be still!"*

— from *REPENT!!* by Barbara Barker

*And then I hear my Savior say,  
Withdraw thy gaze and look away.  
You're not to focus on your sin,  
But on the One Who lives within.  
That sin is just the remnant of  
The "self" I have redeemed in love.  
Your flesh was crucified with me —  
So you, My child, could be set free —*

—from *THE ANSWER TO SIN IN THE HEART*  
by Barbara Barker

With such love and care for the women in the room, she shared the story of her own salvation. She had been a good, decent, church-going girl and a renowned ballet dancer, engaged to a navy pilot. God brought her to a most desperate point when the man she had waited eight years to marry said he could not marry her. She tried to take her own life with pills, but she was spared. In her agony, she cried out, "I can't live, but I can't die!" God met her then, even in the depths of despair. Her sister sat by her bedside and spoke the truth of Jesus to her, reading the Scriptures to her. She repented, accepted Christ as her Savior, and entered a relationship with Him. (As a side note, that navy pilot did become her husband!) Mrs. Barbara was thorough in explaining what true salvation is and what it means to be a fruitful vine on the branch.

She encouraged us all to memorize the prayer of Colossians 1:9-12 (KJV).

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## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH,

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*<sup>9</sup> For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; <sup>10</sup> That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; <sup>12</sup> Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.*

What a wonderful prayer it is for the body of Christ!

Poem excerpts from: *Is Perfection Possible?* A collection by Barbara Barker. Copyright 2009 Briarwood Presbyterian Church

—Sarah Crowe

[Sarah and her husband, Kenneth, joined our church in 2013. They are members of the Berean Sunday School Class and Sarah attends the Tuesday morning Women Mentoring Women Bible Study. Sarah and Kenneth's children, Ethan and Matthew, are part of our nursery program.]

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# MUSIC MINISTRY

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Spring is a very busy time in the Music Ministry of the church. The choirs are preparing for our annual Mission Conference weekend and Palm Sunday and Easter.

Here is the upcoming schedule for the Mission Conference:

Thursday, March 7 —The Youth Choir will sing.

Friday, March 8 —The Chapel Choir will sing.

Sunday morning, March 10—The Bryan College Chorale will sing.

If you are willing to host students of the Bryan College Chorale on Saturday night, March 9, please contact Tevis Garnett-354-7172

## PARENTS OF CHILDREN

(2<sup>ND</sup>–6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)

There will NOT be Chapel Choir Easter Sunday night, March 31.

Please remember that attendance at choir is essential in order for your child to attend the annual spring pool day. The Summer Waves pool adventure will soon be here (May 18.) Your child's attendance at choir is the ticket into this fun event. The pool adventure is always a great day together, and I am hoping everyone can attend. In April the children will be given permission slips for parents to sign.

## YOUTH CHOIR

The **Youth Choir** is anticipating a choir trip on April 6 and 7. Rehearsal attendance is necessary for participation in this trip. Two absences are allowed from January–March 31. If more rehearsals are missed, the student needs to sing the music to me, to ensure knowledge of the music. On Saturday, April 6, the choir will have a fun day in the Atlanta area. On Sunday morning, we will sing at the Old Peachtree Presbyterian Church, returning on Sunday afternoon. We are looking forward to a great time together.

## SANCTUARY CHOIR

The **Sanctuary Choir** is working on several difficult anthems for Maundy Thursday, Easter, and the Kirkin'. The anthems include pieces by Bach and Handel. New members are always welcome. Choir meets on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please notify me or any choir member if you plan on attending so you are able to get in the building.

Also, on Saturday, March 2, the Sanctuary Choir has a rehearsal, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

I hope you all can attend.

Please continue to pray for the Music Ministry of our church.

"I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being." Psalm 104:33

In Christ's Service,  
Kathryn Van Eck

## ON FAMILY WORSHIP

"That the families of Christians should be little churches:" . . . "That wherever we have a house, God should have a church in it."

—Matthew Henry (1662–1714)

["A Church in the House: A Sermon Concerning Family Religion," in *Works*, Vol. 1, (249)]

# FAMILY CORNER

MARCH 2013

YEARS 11 – 15

## HYMN OF THE MONTH “ALL PRAISE TO GOD”

Johann J. Schütz,  
tr. by Frances E. Cox, 1864

All praise to God, who reigns above,  
The God of all creation,  
The God of wonders, pow’r, and love,  
The God of our salvation!  
With healing balm my soul he fills,  
The God who every sorrow stills,  
To God all praise and glory!

What God’s almighty pow’r hath made  
His gracious mercy keepeth;  
By morning dawn or evening shade  
His watchful eye ne’er sleepeth;  
Within the kingdom of his might,  
Lo, all is just and all is right,  
To God all praise and glory!

I cried to him in time of need:  
Lord God, O, hear my calling!  
For death he gave me life indeed  
And kept my feet from falling.  
For this my thanks shall endless be;  
O thank him, thank our God, with me,  
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord forsaketh not his flock,  
His chosen generation;  
He is their refuge and their rock,  
Their peace and their salvation.  
As with a mother’s tender hand  
He leads his own, his chosen band,  
To God all praise and glory!

Ye who confess Christ’s holy name,  
To God give praise and glory!  
Ye who the Father’s power proclaim,  
To God give praise and glory!  
All idols under foot be trod,  
The Lord is God! the Lord is God!  
To God all praise and glory!

Then come before his presence now  
And banish fear and sadness;  
To your Redeemer pay your vow  
And sing with joy and gladness:  
Though great distress my soul befell,  
The Lord, my God, did all things well,  
To God all praise and glory!

TUNE: MIT FREUDEN ZART  
Bohemian Brethren’s *Gesangbuch*, 1566

YEARS 1 – 10

## PSALM OF THE MONTH PSALM 23

Based on *Scottish Psalter*, 1650

Spurgeon calls the 23<sup>rd</sup> David’s “Heavenly Pastoral,” “the pearl of Psalms,” a “surpassing ode” whose “piety and poetry are equal,” whose “sweetness and spirituality are unsurpassed.” It is the most beloved of all the Psalms, pointing us to our Lord Jesus, the “Good Shepherd,” who lays down His life for the sheep (John 10:14,15). For several generations it has been associated with the tune “Crimond.”

The attractiveness of the 23<sup>rd</sup> is also related to its setting. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Psalm is the “psalm of the *cross*,” describing the suffering of Christ. Psalm 24 is the “psalm of the *crown*,” recognizing that all the earth is the Lord’s. Psalm 23 is the “psalm of the shepherd’s *crook*,” describing our passage through life as being like that of sheep under the care of the Shepherd who bore the *cross* and wears the *crown*.

- 1 The LORD’s my Shepherd, I’ll not want;
- 2 He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.
- 3 My soul He doth restore again;  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
Ev’n for His own name’s sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For thou art with me, and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.
- 5 A table Thou has furnished me  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.
- 6 Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in GOD’s house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.

TUNE: CRIMOND CM  
Jessie Seymour Irvine, 1871

### THE CHURCH BUDGET AND GIVING

In order to inform the congregation of the financial status and needs of the church the following snapshot of our current financial condition is provided. To fund the 2013 church budget \$156,462 is needed per month. Thank you for your faithful support.

	Total received	Over/Short
January	\$ 117,235	(\$39, 227)
February	\$ 134,429	( 22,033)
Total	\$ 251,664	( 61,260)

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## ANNUAL EGG HUNT

Make plans now to attend our annual IPC Egg Hunt and Pancake Breakfast on March 30, at Point Pleasant. We will have our pancakes, bacon, and fruit starting at 9:00 a.m. with the egg hunt to follow. Each year we add a little more to our attendance, last year we had over 200 join the fun! This is a great time to invite neighbors, friends, and family that will be visiting during the Easter holiday.

Please RSVP for your group by completing a pew card and placing it in the collection plate, email [amartin@ipcsav.org](mailto:amartin@ipcsav.org), or call the church office at 236-3346. The more the merrier! For each child participating in the egg hunt, please donate a dozen candy filled plastic eggs in the collection boxes located around the church. We need the egg donations by Thursday, March 28. Our IPC youth will be preparing for our fun (hiding over 1,500 eggs) on Friday the 29.

### ATTENTION IPC YOUTH GROUP

We will be setting up for the Egg Hunt and Breakfast on Friday, March 29. Be at Point Pleasant at 10:00 a.m. to help set up and decorate the tables and hide the plastic eggs. Are you ready to dye and decorate fifteen dozen eggs? We will conclude with pizza and coke at 12:00 and you are free! This is always a fun time for our youth as so many make plans to go to Tybee Beach and continue the fellowship.

If you have any questions, give me a call at 897-2214 or if you need community service hours for this project, let me know.

—AmyMartin

### MEMORIZATION ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to *John Timothy Copeland, Jr.* who completed Level 1 of our memorization program. He recited word perfect the Apostle's Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer. He will receive an award of achievement as well as a gift card and candy for this achievement.

Please take a moment to congratulate John.

# THE BRYAN COLLEGE CHORALE

The Bryan College Chorale, under the direction of Dr. David Luther, will be participating in the morning worship service at IPC on Sunday March 10.

In addition to singing during the service, the choir will be singing several pieces during an extended prelude prior to the service. The 46-voice choir is stopping at IPC as part of their Spring Break Tour and will be visiting churches in Tennessee, Georgia, Florida and Alabama. CD's of past choir performances of hymns and sacred songs will be on display and available for sale in the Fellowship Hall prior to and after the worship service.

Bryan College is located in Dayton, Tennessee, approximately 35 minutes north of Chattanooga, and is a non-denominational evangelical Christian college named after William Jennings Bryan, the statesman, orator and prosecuting attorney in the famous Scopes Evolution Trial. The school's motto is, "Christ Above All," and the school's mission statement is, "educating students to become servants of Christ to make a difference in today's world." If you are interested in hosting two or more of the students on Saturday March 9, please contact Tevis Garnett at 354-7172.

### A HOLY HUSH

"Be still and know that I am God." In the time before service begins we attempt to maintain a prayerful, meditative stillness in the church—a "holy hush" in which the congregation prepares itself for the work of worship. Please keep conversation to a minimum at this time, and save your fuller greetings for the time after the service. Instead, in that rare silence before the opening hymn, think of something to give thanks for, something to repent of, something to ask for, someone to pray for; recite the Lord's Prayer. If you have more time on your hands, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the collect and lessons—the mental and spiritual "warm-up" will make the service all the more meaningful.

—Fr. Gavin G. Dunbar  
*The Parish Paper* Vol. 44 No. 14  
St. John's Church

# APPRECIATION

Dear IPC Family,

My church family has been wonderfully supportive of me throughout these past years—your prayers, phone calls, written messages of comfort, food offerings, and visits to me and Marlene have meant more to me than I can possibly express. Marlene's passing brings an end to her suffering, and to a relationship that was so special. There are many wonderful memories of that journey of friendship. Thank you, to each of you. I am so grateful to be part of the IPC family.

In His Name,  
Carol Goodwin



Dear Friends,

I want to thank the church for the beautiful plant you sent to me when I was in the hospital.

Thanks, also, for all the cards, notes, food, and prayers for me.

It is **wonderful** to belong to a church where **everyone loves each other**.

Love,  
Ruthie Mullinix



Independent Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for the kind letters and package full of goodies. It made my week and I am very appreciative of it. In addition, thanks to all those who put it together and paid to have it sent to me. The sermon CDs have also been a huge blessing since a church/worship here is very poor. Sermon audio and the CDs are my form of worship. I pray for the church all the time and feel blessed to have a great church that cares about me and my wife. Please continue to watch over her, I worry about her a lot.

Afghanistan is a desert world full of people who seem to be from Bible times. I fly almost every day looking for IED emplacers who are trying to destroy friendly vehicles. We protect the ground force like angels and bring death and destruction on the enemy like the devil. It feels good protecting the ground force. Other than that it is a lot of gym time and studying.

Thank you again for the kind words and food. Please continue to pray for me and my spiritual life here and my little wife as I worry about her a lot. I look forward to coming back to church and Savannah again and being able to worship with you. If you would like anything from Afghanistan, please let me know. If you want an American flag flown over the mountains of Afghanistan please let me know. It can be for the church or an individual, no problem. Best regards to all and my best wishes to you.

Respectfully,  
Jared Klajnbart

# SIGNIFICANT SESSIONAL ACTIONS

## FOR FEBRUARY

1. Approval was given for the Renovation Committee to hire Sottile & Sottile to review the current lay out of the Fellowship Hall and kitchen. After review they will provide improvement recommendations for these two areas.
2. Approval was given to move the annual Stewardship Season from November to October.
3. Approval was given to add Elder Rick Mullinix and Deacon Wallace Milling to the membership of the Renovation Committee.
4. Approval was given to remove Mr. and Mrs. Forbes Buck (Sarah) from the membership of Independent Presbyterian Church.
5. Approval was given to remove Mrs. Angela Straight from the membership of Independent Presbyterian Church.
6. Approval was given to support the First (Scots) Independent Presbyterian Church plant in Beaufort, SC.
7. Approval was given for the Bryan College Chorale to sell CDs during their visit to IPC on March 10, 2013.

# CHANGES IN ADDRESS

THE FOLLOWING ARE CHANGES in members' address and/or telephone information. Please note them in your directory.

Mr. Joe Bauer  
517 E. 53rd Street  
Savannah, GA 31405

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Williams  
19 Emanuel Drive  
Brunswick, ME 04011

Mr. Benjamin Gibson  
807 Valemount Terrace N.E.  
Leesburg, VA 20176

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Williams (temporary address)  
9302 Moss Haven Drive  
Dallas, TX 75231

Rev. and Mrs. Michael Gordon  
c/o Redemeer Presbyterian Church  
745 "D" Street  
Lincoln, NE 58508

### New Phone Numbers:

Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Bauer - no landline #  
Brandon's cell: 912-660-5600  
Natalie's cell: 912-659-5346

### New email Address:

Stephen Jackson — [sej@mjlawpc.com](mailto:sej@mjlawpc.com)

# A NEW CHURCH IN AN OLD CITY

## CHRIST CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN, CHARLESTON, SC

by Rev. Dr. Jon D. Payne

February 11, 2013

Dearest brothers and sisters in Christ at IPC, it is a delight to share with you about a new PCA church plant in Charleston, South Carolina. Your dear pastor, Terry Johnson, the elders, and your congregation have been a significant source of encouragement to me over the years. Thus, we are grateful and excited to partner with you in this new Reformed church plant for the glory of God and the extension of Christ's kingdom.

Let me begin with some information about my background as it relates to the South Carolina Lowcountry. More than just a beautiful city, Charleston has been a profound point of interest for my wife Marla and me. Marla, a Hartsville, S.C. native, lived in the historic district of Charleston for over eight years! She graduated from the College of Charleston in 1993 (B.A. English) and the Medical University of South Carolina in 1997 (B.A., M.A. Health Sciences and Physical Therapy). Moreover, two of Marla's brothers graduated from the Citadel, one also graduating from MUSC. As a graduate of Clemson University (B.A. 1993), I played for the Charleston Battery in 1997, a popular professional soccer team in Charleston. It was during my stint with the Battery that I met my wife Marla (on the second row) at church in Mount Pleasant, S.C. We continue to have some wonderful friends, acquaintances, and contacts in Charleston, and are looking forward to planting a new Reformed church in an area we know and dearly love.

Perhaps like some of you, for many years I have had a growing sense of the need in Charleston for a new Reformed church that is warm, vibrant, missions-minded, and conscientiously Reformed and confessional; a church that is serious about the means of grace (expository preaching, sacraments and prayer), children's catechesis, family worship, evangelism, disciple-making, world missions, and church planting—a church like IPC! In Charleston County alone, the largest county in SC, there are over 350,000 people, with only about 500 attending PCA churches. There is clearly much work to do. The harvest is plentiful! Like her sister cities of Columbia and Greenville, Charleston is a large and rapidly growing area that is ripe for a new distinctively Reformed and confessional work. Both Columbia and Greenville, I believe, each have more than twice the number of PCA churches than Charleston does. There are thousands of unchurched (and under-churched) people that need to be reached with the gospel in this strategic location.

For the past ten years I have been privileged to serve a wonderful and growing church in Douglasville, Georgia (West Atlanta). We are so thankful for what God has done at Grace Presbyterian. Nevertheless, Marla and I have strongly sensed God preparing us (and GPC) for the next chapter of our lives. Through much prayer and counsel with friends in ministry, we have received large amounts of confirmation, support, and encouragement to move forward with this work. The final confirmation came when the Palmetto Presbytery unanimously approved the church plant (subject to my transfer exam) on January 24th, 2013.

Where do we go from here? Our transition from Grace Presbyterian Church will begin on May 15th. We plan on moving to Charleston towards the end of May, and launching the ministry in the beginning of June. In the meantime we will have an informational meeting in Charleston on Monday, March 25th at 7:00 p.m. at the South Carolina Society Hall (72 Meeting Street).

How can you help? 1) Please pray. Remember our work during your prayer meetings, public worship, family prayer, and private prayers. Apart from Christ, we can do nothing. Unless the Lord builds the house, we labor in vain. Pray for the preaching of the Word. Pray for the lost and under-churched. Pray for a gifted musician to assist us in worship. Pray for further financial support as we are still in need of 3-5 year pledges. Pray for Ross and Joanna Hodges, a very gifted couple who are graduating from Westminster Seminary California in May and joining our work in Charleston in June. They are also currently raising support. 2) Spread the word! Perhaps you know of friends, family members, or acquaintances in the Charleston area who might be interested in a church plant with the same ministry philosophy as IPC. If so, please let them know of our plans. Also, please take a moment to share the details of our work on your Facebook, Twitter, and blog pages. We want to get the word out — especially about the Monday, March 25th informational/introductory meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the South Carolina Society Hall (72 Meeting St.).

Friends at Independent Presbyterian Church, I thank God for your church's generous support and gospel partnership in this large kingdom undertaking. Thank you for your prayers as the Payne family (Jon, Marla, Mary Hannah (9) and Hans (7)) make this big transition in life and ministry. We are excited to see our Lord create something from nothing through the proclamation of His powerful, life-giving, efficacious Word. Please feel free to give my contact information to any who might be interested in the work. My email is [jdppracepca@mac.com](mailto:jdppracepca@mac.com).

For Christ and His Kingdom,  
Jon

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

## THE LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE

We will celebrate The Lord's Supper in our evening service on Sunday, March 3, 2013. The congregation is encouraged to use all appointed means, public and private, to come to the Lord's Table, depending upon God for the gracious preparation of the heart, according to His promise (Psalm 10:1).

## MEN'S READING CLUB

The Men's reading club will meet on Thursday, March 28. Bring your brown-bag lunch and join Reverends Parrish and Johnson in the Administration. Bldg., in the upstairs corner classroom, at noon. The assignment to read is: *Institutes*, I. xiii. 1-I. xiv. 22, pages 120-183.

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Reminder! Don't forget to change your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night, March 9. Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Our annual Maundy Thursday Service of Lessons and Psalms will be held at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a dinner at 5:45 p.m. The Lord's Supper will be observed during the service. Because of the exceptional blessing we have in this sacrament and the danger of eating and drinking unworthily, it is necessary that we come to it with knowledge, faith, repentance, love and with hungering and thirsting souls after Christ and His benefits. The congregation is encouraged to use all appointed means, public and private to come to the Lord's Table, depending upon God for the gracious preparation of the heart, according to His promise (Psalm 10:17).

## WEDNESDAY NOON SERVICE – MARCH 27

Our regular Wednesday Noon Service and luncheon will not meet on March 27, due to our Maundy Thursday service. It will resume on April 3.

## SPRING INQUIRERS' CLASS

The Spring Inquirers' Class will begin on Sunday, March 17 through April 28 during the Sunday School hour (9:30 a.m.), in the Mary Telfair Chapel. New members will join on Sunday, April 28. The objective of this class is to introduce interested persons to the history, doctrine, practices, and people of our church. All are welcome to attend.

## SESSION/DIACONATE MEETING

The regular scheduled Session meeting will be held on Monday, March 18, at 5:30 p.m., in the Administrative Building, and the Diaconate at 6:00 p.m. in the Whitaker Bldg. They will have a joint meeting at 6:30 p.m.

## CHAPEL CHOIR

The Chapel Choir will sing for the PM service on March 3. Children, please meet in the balcony at 5:00 p.m. Music will be in the balcony.

## WOC

### WOMEN MENTORING WOMEN

Women Mentoring Women Bible Study will meet on Tuesdays, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Whitaker Street Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor. We just began a new 12-week study on *Proverbs: the Way of Wisdom* by Kathleen Nielson. Please come and join us. A nursery is provided for those needing childcare. For information call Dottie Mitchell, 232-1323.

### LADIES' TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies' Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet on Tuesdays, from 10:00 to 11:30 AM on the third floor of the Whitaker Street Building. A nursery is provided and all ladies of the church are invited to attend. Contact Peggy Marting at 598-8970 or [peggymarting@bellsouth.net](mailto:peggymarting@bellsouth.net) for information.

### TUESDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Tuesday Morning Circle will meet on March 12, 2013, at the The Marshes, 95 Skidaway Island Park Road. Our hostess is Mrs. Annette Hartley, 598-8018.

### THURSDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Thursday Morning Circle will meet on March 14 2013, 10:30 a.m., at the home of Mrs. Gail Baxley, 15 Barnett Drive, 352-2362.

### FRIDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Friday Morning circle will not meet on March 8. It will resume in April at the home of Fef Nolen, 102 Paxton Dr., Savannah, GA from 9:30 to 11:00 am. A babysitter will be provided. Please call Fef at 856-4813 to let her know if you are coming and if you will need the sitter.

### GARMER BIBLE STUDY

The Garmer Bible Study will not meet during the month of March or on April 2. It will resume on Tuesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Brown, Sr., 205 Wheeler Street (354-9215).

### IPC DAY CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This summer we will bring 20 underprivileged children from the Urban Hope Ministries to Day Camp. This scholarship program will be at a cost of \$135 per child for a total of \$2,700. If you'd like to sponsor a child or contribute in any way to this scholarship fund, please contact Frankie Daniell (236-3346).

### EASTER LILIES

We will begin to take orders for Easter Lilies to be placed in the church on Easter Sunday, March 31. They may be given in honor/memory of individuals. Please fill out the form available in the bulletin and return it with your check to the church office. Cost: \$15 each. The deadline for ordering is March 25.

# MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Stephen Helmly  
Ella Murns  
Gracy Stacy
- 2 Gloria Horstman  
Nathan Bristol  
Noah Bauer  
Jackson Biemiller
- 3 George Lindsay  
Judy French  
David Wade  
Hampton Rushing
- 4 Kathryn Brodmann  
Stephanie Micke  
Donna Parrish  
Brad Waller
- 5 Regan Bowers
- 6 Nichole Ambos
- 7 Jaime Sullivan



- 8 Todd Fruit  
Karen Hansill  
Janet Johnson  
Helen Shine
- 9 Tim Boatright  
Posey Helton  
Wesley Garnett  
Priya Goeser
- 10 Evelyn Singleton  
Cole Bristol
- 11 Patty Demere  
Bullock Demere
- 12 Margaret Helmly  
Helen Steward  
Frank Tilton
- 13 Jody Laing
- 14 Harriette Adams



- Melba Gibson  
Maria Mayo  
Susan Mullinix  
Mac Thompson
- 15 Deborah Hosey  
Greg Maier
- 17 Carol Cook
- 18 Elizabeth Kelly  
Creed Taylor  
Betsy Kelly
- 19 Charles Moody  
Kay McCleskey  
Jim Scott
- 20 Nancy Sullivan  
Phillip Dusek
- 21 Megan Mullinix
- 23 Ernest Mitchell



- Dick Stewart
- 24 Amy Martin  
Michael Rustine  
Matthew Henderson
- 25 Clifton Wilson  
Mary Brodmann
- 26 Amy Milling
- 28 Shirley Parker
- 29 Emily Johnson  
Will Black  
Mae Nolen
- 30 Art Broadwick  
Leah Wade  
Stella Helton
- 31 Peggy Campbell  
Katherine Chisholm  
Anglea Childress  
Linda DePue  
Jonathan Shine



## 2013 WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE

### Thursday, March 7

- 5:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner, Point Pleasant  
6:50 p.m. Devotion by **Al Baker**  
Presentation by **Peter and Diane Bakelaar**

### Friday, March 8

- 11:00 a.m. WOC Missions Luncheon,  
Olmstead Hall  
Featuring—**Wini Baker, Diane Bakelaar,**  
and **Donna Armes**
- 5:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner, Point Pleasant  
6:50 p.m. Devotional by **Al Baker**  
Presentation by **Mike Berttucci**

### Saturday, March 9

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast,  
Olmstead Hall  
**Al Baker, Peter Bakelaar, Stan Armes**  
and **Mike Berttucci**

### Sunday, March 10

- 9:30 a.m. Combined Children's Sunday School  
Whitaker Bldg., Youth Room, 2nd Floor  
**Peter and Diane Bakelaar**
- Combined Junior and Senior High Sunday  
School, Whitaker Bldg., Youth Room,  
3rd Floor with **Mike Berttucci**
- Combined Adult Sunday School (college  
and up), Telfair Chapel  
**Stan and Donna Armes**
- 11:00 a.m. **Rev. Al Baker**
- 5:30 p.m. **Rev. Al Baker**
- 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner, Olmstead Hall

\* A nursery, for ages four and under is provided

## YOUTH UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- March 1-3** Winter Retreat at Little  
Ocmulgee State Park
- March 7-10** IPC Missions Conference
- March 29** Hide Easter eggs at Point  
Pleasant (10 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
- March 30** Egg Hunt and Breakfast  
Point Pleasant (9-11 a.m.)
- April 6-7** Youth Choir Trip
- April 27** Canoe Trip to Ebenezer Creek
- May 16** Senior Roast at Point Pleasant  
(6:30-8:30 p.m.)
- March 6 & 27, April 3** NO Youth Group
- March 3, 10, 31, April 7** NO Small Group



## VERITAS ACADEMY AND RHETORIC SCHOOL 2013 GRYPHON GALA APRIL 12, 2013

On Friday, April 12, 2013, Veritas Academy and Rhetoric School will be hosting the 8th Annual Gryphon Gala in the Harborside Ballroom at the Hyatt Regency Savannah. The Gala includes a silent auction, seated dinner and live auction. The guest speaker this year is, Dr. Mark Ross of Erskine Theological Seminary. Individual tickets are \$65.00 per person. Table and event sponsorships are also available. Please contact the school office at (912) 238-1222, if you would like to purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorships. Veritas would like to thank you in advance for your prayers and support!

[Veritas is a local ministry supported by IPC.]

# The IPC Messenger

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
P. O. BOX 9266  
SAVANNAH, GA 31412



**PERIODICALS  
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## For Prayer & Participation

- |               |            |  |
|---------------|------------|--|
| Mon, Mar. 4   | 7:00 p.m.  | Boy Scout Troop #876, Pt. Pleasant                               |
| Tues, Mar. 5  | 6:30 a.m.  | Men's Prayer Breakfast, Olmstead Hall                            |
|               | 9:00 a.m.  | Church Staff Meeting, Admin. Bldg., upstairs                     |
|               | 10:00 a.m. | Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Whitaker Bldg., 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fl. |
|               | 10:00 a.m. | Women Mentoring Women, Whitaker Bldg., 4 <sup>th</sup> Fl.       |
|               | 11:30 a.m. | Pastoral Staff Meeting, Admin. Bldg.                             |
|               | 7:30 p.m.  | Garmer Bible Study will not meet during March, resumes April 9   |
| Wed, Mar. 6   | 11:00 a.m. | Women's Intercessor Group, Axson Room                            |
|               | 12:00 p.m. | Wednesday Noon Service and Luncheon                              |
|               | 5:30 p.m.  | Handbell Choir Rehearsal   |
|               | 6:30 p.m.  | No Youth Dinner, Whitaker Street Bldg., 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fl.      |
|               | 7:00 p.m.  | No Youth Group, Whitaker Street Bldg., 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fl.       |
|               | 6:30 p.m.  | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room                            |
|               | 9:00 p.m.  | RUF, Fellowship Hall   |
| Thurs, Mar. 7 | 5:45 p.m.  | Fellowship Dinner and Missions Program at Point Pleasant         |
| Fri, Mar. 8   | 11:00 a.m. | WOC Women's Luncheon, Fellowship Hall                            |
|               | 5:45 p.m.  | Fellowship Dinner and Missions Program at Point Pleasant         |
| Sat, Mar. 9   | 8:00 a.m.  | Men's Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall                          |

**TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR BEFORE  
YOU GO TO BED, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!**

## Assisting Us in Worship • March 3

**GREETERS**  
FRONT DOOR ..... Elder & Mrs. D. Marting  
NORTH SIDE ..... B. Brodmann  
CENTER AISLE .... D. Boatright  
SOUTH SIDE ..... T. Barrett  
WOC Greeter ..... J. Johansen

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
GREETER**  
ELDER ..... R. Mullinix

**USHERS**  
CHAIRMAN ..... W. Van Puffelen  
FRONT DOOR ..... J. Childress  
INNER DOOR ..... R. Woernle  
CENTER AISLE .... M. Parrish & C. Moore  
LEFT AISLE ..... D. Williams  
RIGHT AISLE ..... C. Sutlive  
BALCONY1 ..... W. Oliver  
SECURITY/BAL2 .. W. Black & W. Milling  
AM AUDIO ..... R. Hinely  
PM AUDIO ..... K. Heritage  
EVENINGS ..... F. Orellana & R. Rambo

**SUNDAY SUPPER SET-UP &  
CLEAN-UP**  
B. Brodmann's Care Group #5

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH  
WORKER:** P. Helton

**SUNDAY READ-A-LOUD:**  
7:00 p.m. Rose & David Wade

### WALK FOR LIFE

The Savannah Care Center "Walk for Life" will be held on Saturday, March 23, at Daffin Park on Victory Drive. This is an opportunity for all of us to support life. Proceeds support the Care Center.

Please consider being a walker or a sponsor. If you have any questions, contact Candace or Ashleigh Sutlive at [sutlivefour@comcast.net](mailto:sutlivefour@comcast.net). Sign-up sheets are on the board outside the Fellowship Hall.

### MORNING SERVICE

"THE CONDITIONS OF OUR DISCIPLESHIP"

Luke 9:57-62

Rev. Terry Johnson

### EVENING SERVICE

THE LORD'S SUPPER  
"THE BLESSED MAN"

Psalm 1

Rev. Terry Johnson

### MEAL MENU

Sunday, March 03, 2013

Pork Loin w/Tangy Glaze  
Sweet Potato Casserole  
Lemon Collard Greens  
Yeast Rolls  
Garden Salad  
Strawberry Shortcake

Wednesday, March 06, 2013

Fried Pork Tenderloin  
Blackened Tilapia  
Side Salad  
Molasses Crinkle Cookie

\*\*Menu subject to change\*\*