



IPC Messenger

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

VOLUME 13 • No 13

MARCH 31, 2013

SIBLINGS

Sons – Sinners – Saints – Servants. These are the poles around which Christian identity revolves. Is this all? No, there is at least one more. Siblings. This is not a biblical word. “Brethren” is the term the Bible uses. The problem with it for me is that it doesn’t start with an “S.” Completing this series of articles requires for sake of mnemonic harmony another “S” word. I could entitle the category “sisters.” After all, in service of my “S”es I entitled another segment “sons” rather than “children.” I’m afraid I’m too patriarchal and too committed to *not* rewriting the English language to call fellow believers “sisters.” So it’s “siblings.” Now to get on with it.

The fifth component in Christian identity is membership in the body of Christ. Who am I? I am a part of the body of Christ. I am a citizen of God’s kingdom. I am a member of the church of Christ. This identity trumps all other associations.

People often wrap up their identity in their associations. Who are they? They are members of a given club, a given team, a given profession, a given nationality or locality. Associations define many people. Gauging from the decals, flags, and stickers I see on pick-up trucks all over Savannah, some people are proud of their connection to the University of Georgia. They are Georgia fans. Above all else, *they are Dawgs*. Without necessarily ceasing to be any of those things that we are through our associations, the Christian’s primary association is that of membership in the church of Christ. I am that before I am anything else with which I am associated.

The church then, because it is the church of Christ, is my first commitment and my first loyalty. Its health, its well-being, its effectiveness, its fruitfulness, are my first priority. We can speak, in a carefully nuanced way, of the church coming before the family (see Lk 14:26). Certainly I am never to let the work of the church become an excuse to neglect my familial duties. However, neither am I to allow the family to preempt my commitment to the body of Christ. Why? Because the church is my new family. Jesus is the first-born among many brethren (Rom 8:29). We are siblings. We are children of God by faith,

and as such “fellow-heirs with Christ” (Rom 8:14-17). Because we are sons of God and heirs, our worldly identities recede into the background. Our identities as Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female, are all superseded by identity as a member of God’s family and heirs (Gal 3:26-4:7). We are now “of God’s household” (Eph 2:19), calling upon one Father (Eph 4:6). This family identity has important implications.

Responsible

The first is that we are responsible for each other. I’ve heard it said, “The family is that place where when you can come home they have to take you.” There is considerable truth in this. So also in the family of God. We are responsible for each other. We look out for each other. We are to be “devoted to one another in brotherly love,” along with a whole list of things (Rom 12:10-21; see also 1 Cor 12). By my count there are 25 one anothers in the New Testament, detailing all that we are to do for each other, including pray for each other (Jas 5:16). Really there is only one: love one another, repeated 13 times (e.g. Jn 13:34; 15:12,17; Rom 13:8, etc.). I am my brother’s keeper.

Accountable

We are also accountable to each another. Why else would we be commanded to *confess our sins* to one another (Jas 5:16)? or *admonish* one another (Col 3:16)? or *submit* to one another (Eph 5:21)? or *exhort* one another (Heb 3:13)? Who would dare to exhort another of us? Those who *would* dare might be labeled busy-bodies and invite a punch-in-the-nose. Yet there it is. We are accountable to one another. Listen to this:

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. (Gal 6:1)

“Brothers,” he says, i.e. brothers, sisters, *siblings*, you are accountable to each other. We can fall out of the family through sin, and be restored through the actions of those who are spiritual. Note: no longer may we live in whatever way that we may wish to live. We are accountable.

(continued Page 2)

IPC OFFICERS

THE SESSION

Terry L. Johnson, Moderator
Arthur C. Broadwick, Associate
Ronald H. Parrish, Associate
Bradley L. Waller, Associate
Timothy P. Foster, Associate

Class of 2013

William M. Austin
Dale. H. Gibson
Richard B. Mullinix, Jr.

Class of 2014

William D. Brodmann, Sr.
Richard E. Marting
Eric W. Robyn

Class of 2015

J. Dennis Boatright
David D. Gobel

Class of 2016

Marion T. (Jody) Lanier, III

Class of 2017

Francis V. Daniell
John W. Garnett

Class of 2018

Timothy A. Barrett
David B. Gross

ELDER EMERITI

William Elbert Best
Alton Brown, Sr.
John Gilbert Donaldson
Silas Dobbs McCaslin
COL Richards O. Steward

THE DIACONATE

Class of 2013

William J. Black
Michael D. Hazeltine

Class of 2014

William L. Breazeale, Jr.
David A. Goeser
Patrick B. McLean
J. William P. Oliver, Jr.
Francisco Orellana
Stephen E. Jackson, Jr.

Class of 2015

Andrew W. Brodmann, Sr.
Andrew G. Gibson
Garry W. McKee, II
W. Ryon Rambo
John W. Rigby
Brian P. Williams

Class of 2016

W. Gregory Brunson
William D. Brodmann, Jr.
Eddie W. DeLoach
Mark W. Dusek
Kevin J. Heritage
Thomas D. MacMillan
Wallace T. Milling, Sr.
William B. Van Puffelen
David M. Wade

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

SIBLINGS

from page 1

Try again,

But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one . . . God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.” (1 Cor 5:11,13)

The Apostle Paul is dealing specifically with one who is a “brother.” Our behavior is the business of us all. We are accountable to each other. Bad behavior is identified and shunned. Don’t even “eat with such a one.” Would Jesus go along with this? Indeed He would. Listen to Him:

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. (Mt 18:15)

My sin is the business of my Christian “brother” (sibling!). If I am indulging some sin my Christian sibling is to “reprove” me. If the erring sibling doesn’t listen, we take witnesses. If he still doesn’t listen, we . . .

tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. (Mt 18:17)

Reliable

We are both *responsible* and *accountable* because we are meant to be able to rely on each other. You are meant to look out for me and I am meant to look out for you. We are meant to *be there* for each other, bearing one another’s burdens (Gal 6:2). This is why we take vows. The church is a family by covenant. The church, going back to Abraham, has always been a family by covenant, entered into by covenant signs (circumcision and baptism) and regularly reaffirmed by covenant meals (Passover and the Lord’s Supper).

Membership, like marriage vows, make the commitment to God and each other explicit, and permanent.

Ownership

We can use another extra-biblical term to summarize what we mean by responsible and accountable family membership. We are all to take *ownership* of the church. The church is *my* family. It is *my* church, in the best sense of that pronoun. Its members are my brothers and sisters. This means that I can be both an *advocate* and an *apologist* for the church. Both outside the church and within it I am to positively affirm and explain what we do and why we do it, and why it is good that we do things as we do them. When attacked, I am an apologist, *defending* the church’s life and ministry. I eagerly labor to advance the health, the well-being, and the fruitfulness of the church and its mission.

When my church family is criticized or attacked, I listen carefully and sensitively. Yet I also defend, answer, and affirm the ministry of the church. Why? Because the church is *my* church. It is *my* family. I take ownership of its life, program, and ministry. Let’s simplify once more. I am to *love* the church. I am not just to love Christ. I am to love His church as well. Jesus loves His bride. He nourishes and cherishes it. He shed His blood on its behalf (Eph 5:22ff). He is building His church (Mt 16:18). I too then am to love my Christian siblings individually and in their collective identity as the church, the family of God.

—Terry Johnson

MUSIC MINISTRY

On April 6, our Youth Choir will head for Atlanta for our annual choir trip. We will leave at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, arrive at church to practice, enjoy dinner at Medieval Times, and attend a Gwinnett Braves game.

On Sunday morning, April 7, our choir will sing for the morning worship services at Old Peach Tree Presbyterian Church where Rev. Alan Johnson is the pastor. The choir will sing the prelude, call to worship, and the collection anthem at both of their morning services. The choir will eat lunch with the church before returning home. The choir trip is a great opportunity for our young people to work together, to worship together, and it is a privilege for us to serve as a choir in another church.

Many other interesting activities are going on in the church's music department. The **Chapel and Chime Choirs** will have the opportunity to attend Summer Waves Water Park on Saturday, May 18. More details will follow in the May Messenger. Parents will need to fill out a permission/insurance form which will be available in May. This is always a fun event for our children, but they must be regularly attending one of these choirs to participate.

The **Sanctuary Choir** is preparing anthems for April through June, including the Kirkin' Service on May 12. This choir will continue singing through June, taking the month of July off. If you are interested in singing with the choir, anytime is a good time to join us—Wednesday nights, 6:30-8:30 p.m. You are always welcome.

I will be out of the office for several weeks at the end of April—beginning of May—since we are welcoming our first granddaughter around April 25. I am told this is an experience like none other, and I am so grateful to God for this new adventure in my life.

Please continue to support the music ministry of this church with your prayers.

In Christ's Service,
Kathryn Van Eck

GUEST PREACHER

On Sunday, April 14, our guest preacher will be Dr. Mark E. Ross, "First Presbyterian Church"—John R. de Witt Professor of Systematic Theology at the Erskine Theological Seminary, Columbia Campus, where he is also the Director of the Institute for Reformed Worship. He is a visiting professor for Reformed Theological Seminary and Ligonier Academy. Prior to his appointment at Erskine he was for 20 years Associate Pastor for Teaching at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC, where he still attends.

Born and raised in Uniontown, PA, he is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh (B.A.), the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (M.Div.), and the university of Keele in England (Ph.D.).

He is the author of *Let's Study Matthew* (Banner of Truth Trust, 2009), "Improving the Means of Grace: The Larger Catechism on Spiritual Growth" (*The Westminster Confession Into the 21st Century*, Volume III, Ligon Duncan, ed., Christian Focus Publications, 2009), "Baptism and Circumcision as Signs and Seals" (*The Case for Covenantal Infant Baptism*, Gregg Strawbridge, ed., P&R Publishing, 2003), co-author with Philip Rollinson of *The Children's Catechism: A New Modern Version* (Summertown Texts, 1988), and a contributor to Ligonier Ministry's *Tabletalk* magazine.

He and his wife, Connie, have two married children and seven grandchildren.



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

On Friday, April 12, 2013, 6:00 p.m., 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.]

FAMILY CORNER

APRIL 2013
YEARS 11 – 15

PSALM OF THE MONTH PSALM 20

Based on the *Book of Psalms*, 1871

The 20th Psalm may have functioned in the liturgy of the Temple as an assurance of pardon and blessing pronounced following the prayers of confession and intercession. The worshiper has presented his “meal offerings” and “burnt offerings” (verse 3). The priest now prays for the Lord’s blessing—“May the Lord answer you . . . May He send . . . May He grant . . . May the Lord fulfill” (verses 1-5). This Psalm reminds us of the confidence that we may have that when we confess our sins in Jesus’ name, we are guaranteed the pardon of our sin and the blessing of God.

Sir James Simpson (1811-70), the discoverer of chloroform, referred to it as his “Mother’s Psalm,” frequently sung in times of anxiety and trial by his pious widowed mother. The ninth verse of Psalm 20 supplies the text for the British National Anthem: God Save the King.

- 1 The LORD in your distress attend;
Let Jacob’s God exalt you still;
- 2 Help from the holy temple send
And strengthen you from Zion’s hill.
- 3 May He your sacrifice regard,
And all your off’rings bear in mind;
- 4 May He your heart’s desire reward,
Fulfilling all you have designed.
- 5 In your salvation we’ll rejoice,
In our God’s name our banners raise.
O may Jehovah hear your voice,
Grant all you ask through all your days.
- 6 I know now that the LORD defends
And saves His own anointed king.
From holy heav’n He answer sends;
His right hand saving power will bring.
- 7 In char-iots some boast confidence,
And on their horses some rely;
But we boast only one defense,
The name of God, the LORD Most High.
- 8 While we are raised and upright stand,
Our foes are made to bow and fall.
- 9 O save the king, LORD, by Your hand,
And answer us the day we call.

TUNE: RETREAT LM (119R)
 (“From Every Stormy Wind”)

YEARS 1 – 10 HYMN OF THE MONTH “WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”

Isaac Watts, 1707, 1709

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small:
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

TUNE: HAMBURG L.M.
Gregorian chant;
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1824

MEMORIZATION ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to *Garry Wesley McKee, III* 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 Wesley.

MAKING MINISTRY DIFFICULT

My admiration is unbounded for clergy who persist in proclaiming the gospel in the face of the resistance that the world throws at them. But I found too many clergy who allowed congregational caregiving and maintenance to trump more important acts of ministry, like truth telling and mission leadership. These tired pastors dash about offering parishioners undisciplined compassion rather than sharp biblical truth. One pastor led a self-study of (his) congregation and found that 80 percent of them thought the minister's primary job was to "care for me and my family." Debilitation is predictable for a clergy with no higher purpose for ministry than servitude to the voracious personal needs of the laity.

Most people in mainline churches meet biblically legitimate needs (food, clothing, housing) with their checkbooks. In the free time they have for religion, they seek a purpose-driven life, deeper spirituality, reason to get out of bed in the morning or inner well-being – matters of unconcern to Jesus. In this environment, the gospel is presented as a technique, a vaguely spiritual response to free-floating, ill-defined omnivorous human desire

Excerpt from
"Making Ministry Diffiult"
by William H. Willimon
Christian Century Magazine
February 20, 2013



DID YOU KNOW . . .

. . . That 40% of American adult women (ages 18 & over) and 28% of adult men (18 & over) did not drink even a single alcoholic beverage in the last year? Contrary to appearances, 35% of all American adults (18 & over) totally abstain?

. . . That *Coast Guard LT Paul (P.J.) Johansen* and his flight crew (helicopter) performed what was called a "remarkable" air-sea rescue in seas established to be 8-15 feet and winds in excess of 30kts, and was commended for "outstanding performance of duty?"

. . . *Kevin Heritage, Jr.* and *Josiah Van Puffelen* were selected as finalists for GA Governor's Honors Program (GHP)? They will study at Valdosta State University for four weeks during the summer in their selected majors.

CAUTIONS ABOUT THE INTERNET

Computer scientist David Gelernter answering the 2013 annual question of Edge.org, "What should we be worried about?"

If we have a million photos, we tend to value each one less than if we only had ten. The internet forces a general devaluation of the written word: a global deflation in the average word's value on many axes. As each word tends to get less reading-time and attention and to be worth less money at the consumer end, it naturally tends to absorb less writing-time and editorial attention on the production side. Gradually, as the time invested by the average writer and the average reader in the average sentence falls, society's ability to communicate in writing decays. And this threat to our capacity to read and write is a slow-motion body-blow to science, scholarship, the arts—to nearly everything, in fact, that is distinctively human, that muskrats and dolphins can't do just as well or better.

The internet's insatiable demand for words creates global deflation in the value of words. The internet's capacity to distribute words near-instantly means that, with no lag-time between writing and publication, publication and worldwide availability, pressure builds on the writer to produce more. Global deflation in the value of words creates pressure, in turn, to downplay to eliminate editing and self-editing. When I tell my student not to turn in first-drafts, I sometimes have to explain, nowadays, what a first draft is.

Wall Street Journal
February 25, 2013

**"CHEAP GRACE IS THE GRACE WE BESTOW
ON OURSELVES. CHEAP GRACE IS THE
PREACHING OF FORGIVENESS WITHOUT
REQUIRING REPENTANCE, BAPTISM WITHOUT
CHURCH DISCIPLINE, COMMUNION
WITHOUT CONFESSION . . . CHEAP GRACE IS
GRACE WITHOUT DISCIPLESHIP, GRACE
WITHOUT THE CROSS, GRACE WITHOUT
JESUS CHRIST, LIVING AND INCARNATE."**

—DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

STUDENT MINISTRIES

CONNECT NEWSLETTER

The 2013 Winter/Spring Connect Newsletter has all the information you need to know about youth events from now until summer. If you don't have one, please let us know by calling 912.236.3346 so you can stay connected.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday School: 9:30 – 10:30 AM in the Whitaker Bldg.

7th – 8th Grade – 2nd Floor Whitaker Bldg.

Teacher: Jody Robinson

9th – 10th Grade – 2nd Floor Administration Bldg.

Teacher: Tim Barrett

11th – 12th Grade – 3rd Floor Whitaker Bldg.

Teacher: Brad Waller

Our Sunday Schools are studying *The Person and Work of Jesus*.

Sunday Night:

Evening Worship – 5:30 – 6:40 PM

Dinner – 6:40 – 7:00, 3rd Floor, Whitaker Street Bldg.

Small Groups : 7–8 pm

Wednesday Night: UN-Apologetic

Youth Dinner – 6:30 PM – 3rd Floor,
Whitaker Street Building

Youth Group – 7 – 8:30 PM – 3rd and 4th Floors,
Whitaker Street Building

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

April 6–7 Youth Choir Trip, Atlanta, GA

April 27 Canoe Trip to Ebenezer Creek
(9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

May 16 Senior Roast at Point Pleasant
(6:30-8:30 p.m.)

April 3 NO Youth Group

April 7 NO Small Group

COLLEGE INFORMATION

COLLEGE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Welcome back from spring break! All college students are invited to attend our IPC College Sunday School Class taught by Garry McKee. Our college ministry works in close cooperation with RUF (Reformed University Fellowship—the Presbyterian Church in America's Campus Ministry). The College Sunday School Class meets at 9:30 a.m. on the 4th floor of the Whitaker

Building!

COLLEGE RUF

SCAD RUF meets Wednesdays at 9:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of IPC. There are community groups during the week and social events throughout the semester. For more information, call the church office at 912.236.3346.



CHANGES IN ADDRESS

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

Rev. & Mrs. Timothy Foster (after April 5)
22 E. 61st Street
Savannah, GA 31405

Mr. Hampton Watts
23 W. 51st Street
Savannah, GA 31405

Mr. and Mrs. John Demere
2120 Turner's Rock Road
Savannah, GA 31410

Mrs. Susan Harvey
P. O. Box 3
Eden, GA 31307-0003

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Williams (after April 5)
3309 Bonnie Road
Austin, TX 78703

Mrs. Peggy Carswell
Laurel Crest
100 Joseph Walker Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169
(803) 667-9353 cell: (912) 655-2717

CHURCH IN BEREAVEMENT

The congregation of Independent Presbyterian Church extends sincere sympathy to:

... *Dr. and Mrs. Harrison Key* and family on the death of Lauren's grandmother, *Billie Saunders Remington*, who passed away on Tuesday, February 26, 2013, in Yazoo City, MS.

... *Mr. and Mrs. David Wade* and family on the death of Rose's sister, *Tearry Ruth Peoples*, who passed away on February 26, 2013, in Canton, OH.

... *Mr. and Mrs. Robert Oliver* and family on the death of Brenda's aunt, *Elizabeth Anne Curry Hooten*, who passed away on Wednesday, February 27, 2013, in Macon, GA.

... *Mr. and Mrs. Pat Adams* and family on the death of Harriette's great-nephew, *Tucker Slaughter*, who passed away on Wednesday, February 27, 2013, in Dublin, GA.

... *Mr. and Mrs. Robert Breer* and family on the death of Bob's sister, *Phyllis M. Allard*, who passed away on Sunday, March 3, 2013, in Amarillo, TX.

... *Mr. and Mrs. Chris Warren* and family on the death of Marnie's grandmother, *Merle Frances Floyd MacMillan*, who passed away on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, in Savannah, GA.

... *Miss Caroline Streiff* and family on the death of her father, *Frank Arthur Streiff, III*, who passed away on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 in Savannah, GA.

... *Mr. and Mrs. David Goeser* and family on the death of David's uncle, *Robert H. Stanage*, who passed away on Monday, March 11, 2013, in Omaha, NE.

APPRECIATION

Elders,

I worshipped with your congregation February 24. My family and another from Charlotte were traveling home from Ligonier Ministry's annual conference. We stopped to worship with your part of the body of Christ. I wanted to let you know that your saints are the most genuinely welcoming of any church I've ever worshipped with, including my own. We were not just greeted, but warmly extended a sincere hand of fellowship. I'm grateful to have experienced such an artful execution of hospitality among the pews. Thank you and thank God for your example. What a wonderful contrast to the kindness of the Samaritan.

Christ is mine and I am His
by Covenant,
Jane E. Baynard



To my Independent Church Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, visits, and cards relating to my recent surgery. There have been no complications and as expected the recovery is slow, but I should be fully recovered soon.

Darvin Nease



Dear IPC Family,

My heart is so full of joy and thankfulness at how you have blessed me and my family this past year. The delicious meals, beautiful flowers, encouraging cards, and phone calls have been so very kind. All of these things, especially the prayers lifted up on our behalf, have carried us through difficult days. Thank you for being the hands and feet of our Lord Jesus, and may God richly bless you for your faithfulness to Him. May the kindness return to you in the same beautiful way it was offered. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,
Kathy Moore (and Chuck)



Dear IPC,

My favorite verse has long been James 1:2, "Count it all blessings, brethren, when you fall into diverse circumstances, for the testing of your faith worketh patience"—I now know why. The Lord put me flat on my back with viral encephalitis to teach me patience, not to mention reliance on others, one minute at a time! I have been told I will make a full recovery, a miracle in itself, but it will be very slow, maybe months. But I have felt God's healing touch and His arms around me throughout this ordeal, as I have felt all the prayers that have been offered up for me. Thank you for all the cards, visits, calls, flowers, and most of all delicious meals. My wonderful church family has shown such Christian compassion and love, for which I am so thankful, and I love you all. Most of all I am grateful for all your prayers, please keep them coming!

In Jesus' precious name,
Suzanne McCaslin

MORAL CONCERNS

"My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth."

—Psalm 139:15

COVENANT CARE ADOPTION SERVICES

The Covenant Care Adoption Services is a Christian Adoption and counseling ministry centered around the love of Jesus Christ. This is a nonprofit, nondenominational ministry providing adoption placement services into two-parent Christian homes through-out the state of Georgia. Part of this ministry is the follow-up counseling for the birth mothers, their children and families. All of this began in the Macon area in 1989 and since then, over 550 children have been placed into two parent Christian homes. Today, Covenant Care has their Administrative Office in Macon where it all began. The headquarters in Macon has a full time staff and there are case workers strategically scattered throughout the state to meet the needs of the birth mothers and their families. Lives are not only being saved through adoption as the alternative to abortion, but also lives are being changed by the gospel of Christ. Before any staff person or case worker begin their work for Covenant Care Services, they are required to subscribe to saving faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and also to the following pro-life position:

"Believing that unborn children are created in the image of God, we affirm that elective abortion is in violation of the sixth commandment (Exodus 20:13). In extreme cases where the physical life of the mother or child is in imminent danger everything possible should be done to save the lives of both the mother and the child."

Covenant Care Services works in tandem with all the crisis pregnancy centers in the state including the Savannah Care Center. As a pro-life church, we support this ministry as well as Savannah Care Center. Both ministries encourage young pregnant women to give birth and help them decide to mother the child or place the child up for adoption. The choice is up to her to decide what will fit her particular situation. How wonderful to have the option of placing their child for adoption into a Christian environment by Covenant Care Services.

Tuesday, April 23, Covenant Care will have their 11th annual banquet at the Desoto Hilton Hotel, 15 East Liberty Street. This will be one of two events held each year to bring awareness of this ministry and to provide financial support for the work in the Savannah and coastal Georgia area. There is no charge to attend and dinner will be served starting at 6:30 p.m. The keynote speaker this year will be Dr. Voddie Baucham, Jr., the pastor of Grace Family Baptist Church in Spring, Texas. Dr. Baucham, Jr. is a well-known speaker and author (*Family Shepherds: Calling and Equipping Men to Lead Their Homes*) and has served as an adjunct professor at the College of biblical Studies in Houston and Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. He has also lectured at the Southern Baptist Theological seminary in Louisville, Kentucky where Dr. Al Mohler, Jr. is President. Voddie is reformed in his theology and one of his articles, "Pilgrims in a Post-Christian Culture" can be read in the 2012 August issue of Ligonier's *Tabletalk*. He and his wife, Bridget, have 8 children, 3 adopted from Covenant Care Services. Voddie will have a very inspiring message and will relate the human adoption with our spiritual adoption in Christ. He is a wonderful family man and committed to serving Christ.

Please plan to set aside Tuesday, April 23 to attend this very special banquet. You can reserve your reservation for the banquet by going to www.adoptsavannah.com or by calling 1-800-226-5683. Also, you can contact IPC member and Advisory Board Chairman, Jeff Sutton at 912-224-8845. May God continue to bless this ministry as lives are being saved and molded by Christian families.

—Murle Breer
for the Right to Life Committee

MARCH FOR LIFE 2013 TRIP

On January 24 of this year, a busload of Christians embarked from the Southside Baptist Church parking lot, heading north. Art Broadwick, Pastor Emeritus, sent us off with words of encouragement from God's Word. The reason for this journey, on this date, was the same as it was for the last twenty years. We were going to Washington, DC to remember the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision that legalized abortion on demand in our nation. As we travelled, we knew that we were once again, going to our nation's capitol to lament the murder of babies in the womb-at present-55,000,000.

The trip, although somber, was also a time of being encouraged as we fellowshiped with each other. Dinners

(continued page 9)

that were lovingly prepared by Kay Heritage and her wonderful staff were gratefully consumed as we drove through North Carolina. All along the route, we all enjoyed cookies and everyone's favorite—clementines. Thank you Donna, Barbara, and Judy.

Our hotel in Chester, Virginia, was a welcome sight. We quickly unloaded and headed to our rooms for a good night's rest. Sunrise found us reloading and heading into DC for the 40th March for Life. Prior to the march, we met with the staffs of our congressional representatives to respectfully share what the Bible has to say about abortion. Many spoke from hearts that grieve over this "murder of the innocents." Then, lunch and then, the march.

The numbers were estimated around 500,000. High in spite of the frigid temperatures and snowfall. Following a meeting by some of our group with Representative Paul Braun, we began our long trek home.

For forty years in our nation, a woman finding herself in a crisis pregnancy has had the legal right to seek termination of her baby's life. Women of all races, teenage and early middle age, rich and poor, have made this choice—this very sad and permanent choice.

As stated earlier, this is the 20th year that IPC has participated in marching. Our prayer is that Roe vs. Wade will be overturned—that abortion will be relegated to the pages of past history. We know that only as hearts are changed through the power of our Sovereign God, will we turn from our sins. May God have mercy and extend His grace to us all.

—Cindy Sutlive
for the Right to Life Committee

ON FAMILY WORSHIP

"You must read the Scriptures to your families, in a solemn manner, requiring their attendance on your reading, and their attention to it."

—Matthew Henry

["A Church in the House: A Sermon Concerning Family Religion," in *Works*, Vol. 1, (251)]

SIGNIFICANT SESSIONAL

ACTIONS

FOR MARCH _____

1. Approval was given to accept the request for transfer of letter of Mr. and Mrs. James Shadforth (Nancy) to Kirk O' the Isles, Savannah, GA (PCA).
2. Approval was given for follow up with families who send children to Independent Presbyterian Church's Point Pleasant Day Camp.
3. Approval was given to provide financial support for the First (Scots) Independent Presbyterian Church plant in Beaufort, SC.
4. Approval was given to replace the ceiling tiles in the kitchen and to place a door in the area of the stove hood which will provide better access for cleaning.

WEEKLY MESSENGERS

We have received word that many in the congregation are not receiving their weekly *Messenger* prior to the current Sunday for which they are issued. And that delivery is sometimes Monday or Tuesday after the dated issue.

Many of you may or may not be aware that in February, 2013 changes were made by the United States Postal service regarding the delivery of first class and bulk-rate mail. The mail facility in Pooler, which sorted mail for the Savannah area, was closed. All mail from Savannah is trucked to Jacksonville, FL (zip: 313 & 314); Macon, GA (zip: 304); or Charleston, SC (zip: 299) depending on the particular zip code where you live. This allows for the 1-3 day service standard for first class mail. Bulk-rate mail is often laid aside until first class mail is handled.

In an effort to keep people informed prior to Sunday, we will begin posting the *Messenger* on IPC's website (ipcsav.org) by Friday each week. This will allow you to see any current IPC events. If you do not have access to a computer, printed copies will be available in the hallway behind the sanctuary by Wednesday.

Thank you for your patience in this matter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

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)
March	\$ 138,461*	(18,001)
Total	\$ 390,125	(79,261)

(* 4 Sundays only)

MEN'S READING CLUB

The Men's reading club will meet on Thursday, April 25. 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. xv. 1-I. xviii. 4*, pages 183-237 (54 pages).

CARE GROUPS

David Gobel's Care Group #1 is invited to a potluck dinner on Friday, April 5, 2013, at the home of Andrew Gibson (6 Longwood Circle, located in Southbridge) from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dessert, vegetable, or starch. R.S.V.P. to Fun and David Gobel at 912-238-8279 or email dgobel@scad.edu by April 2.

Eric Robyn's Care Group #6 (deacons: Heritage/McKee) will meet for a Picnic Lunch on Sunday, April 7, 2013, immediately following the morning worship service at Forsyth Park. Drinks, chicken, potato salad, and baked beans will be provided. Bring a side or dessert to share. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets for your family. In case of bad weather, we will meet in the Whitaker Building, 3rd Floor. Please call Sally (912-655-1320), Kay (912-480-1656/912-965-4073), or Jamie (912-224-9411) if you have any questions.

IPC DAY CAMP EMPLOYMENT

Applications for employment at IPC Day Camp are now available in the Church Office or from Frankie Daniell. Deadline for applying is April 14.

SESSION/DIACONATE MEETING

The regular scheduled Session meeting will be held on Monday, April 22, 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.

WOC

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

The Women Mentoring Women group is now called the Women's Small Group Bible Study. The purpose of this name change is to clarify the nature of this study and encourage those who may be seeking a Bible study, to consider joining this small group. It's led by Cindy Fletcher, Sally Robyn, and Dottie Mitchell in a casual setting that promotes a sharing environment, so while studying we can also encourage each other in marriage, parenting, relationships, and our walk with the Lord. We started a new study on Proverbs using Kathleen Nielson's book, *Proverbs: The Way of Wisdom* (available in the IPC Bookstore). This small group meets on Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., on the 4th floor of the Whitaker Building. There is a nursery available in the main building's nursery wing. For more information, please call Dottie Mitchell at 912-232-1323.

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 for information.

TUESDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Tuesday Morning Circle will meet on April 16, 2013, at the home of Mrs. Ann Rice, 104 Sussex Retreat, Savannah Quarters, Pooler, 450-8800.

THURSDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Thursday Morning Circle will meet on April 11 2013, 10:30 a.m., at the home of Mrs. Peggy Morris, 5 Cranes Nest Court (The Landings), 598-7882.

FRIDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Friday Morning circle will meet on April 12, 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 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).

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Bruce Baxley
 1 Josh Boatright
 1 Sarah Brown
 2 Carol McClelland
 2 Ian Helmly
 3 Becky Cope
 3 Scotty Brodmann
 3 Bill Hansill
 4 Kevin Heritage
 4 Chuck Moore
 4 Meredith Brewer
 5 Vernon Buchman
 5 Mary Hazeltine
 5 Terry Johnson
 5 Richard Marting
 6 Carla MacMillan
 6 Susan Wright



6 Sylvia Wickwire
 7 Christopher Hart
 7 Allie Waller
 8 Eric Robyn
 8 Tim Scharold
 8 Beverly Van Grouw
 9 Patrick McLean
 9 William Oliver, III
 10 Sarah Dusek
 11 Neal Cope
 11 Christine Ellis
 11 Emi Steward
 11 John Wright
 12 Charlie Martin
 12 Morgan Thomas



13 Luke MacMillan
 13 Richard Thomas
 13 Will Monroe
 14 Anna Mayo
 15 Kelly Frick
 15 Grace Jackson
 15 William Van Puffelen
 15 John Toler
 15 John Gross
 16 Garry McKee
 17 Bill Maxey
 18 Frankie Daniell
 18 Carl Biathrow
 19 Sandra Ward
 19 Chris Wade



20 Emily Hazeltine
 20 Kate Jackson
 21 Lillian Lindsay
 21 Tim Ellis
 22 Ernie Gray
 23 Ron Barksdale
 24 Chris Gordon
 24 Brett Hudson
 25 Laura Brodmann
 26 Fun Gobel
 27 Christian Heritage
 27 Jared Klajnbart
 29 Della Roach
 29 Emmy Ragen
 30 Mary Cope
 30 Dennis Boatright



IPC PRESS PUBLICATIONS

Sermon Booklets and CDs/Tapes

The Gospel of Matthew	(257)
The Gospel of Mark	(75)
The Gospel of Luke	
The Gospel of John	(104)
The Acts of the Apostles	(72)
The Epistle to the Galatians	(44)
1, 2, & 3 Epistles of John	(21)
The Epistle to the Philippians	
Sermon CDs/Tapes	
Survey of the Old Testament* (Genesis through 2 Kings)	(140+)
Job*	
Proverbs 1-9*	
The Prophecy of Daniel*	(17)
Joel*	
Obadiah*	
Jonah*	
Habakkuk*	
The Epistle to the Romans*	
The Epistle to the Ephesians*	(35)
The Epistle to the Colossians*	
1 & 2 Epistles to the Thessalonians*	
1 & 2 Timothy*	
Titus*	
Philemon*	
Hebrews*	
James*	
1 Peter* (in process)	
Jude*	
The Seven Last Words of Christ*	(7)
The Church and Revival*	(8)
Primary Christian Beliefs*	(10)

*Available in CD or tapes only (CD's are \$3.00 ea. + postage)

Other CDs/DVDs

Officers' Training	(13)
Inquirers' Class	(7)

Other Publications

Galatians (new)	26.00
Trinity Psalter	7.00
Trinity Psalter Music Edition	20.00
The Family Worship Book	15.00
When Grace Comes Home	11.00
When Grace Transforms	11.00
When Grace Comes Alive	11.00
Reformed Worship: Worship that Is According to Scripture	9.00
The Case For Traditional Protestantism	11.00
Give Praise to God	22.50
The Pastor's Public Ministry	8.00
The Parables of Jesus	15.00
A Sacramental Catechism	20.00
Dear Timothy	15.00

<i>Psalms of the Trinity Psalter</i> CD; Vols. I & II	13.00 ea.
<i>The Splendor of Grace</i>	25.00

Pamphlets

Abortion and the Christian Church	\$0.50
Abortion, Human Nature, & Law	.50
Catechizing Our Children	Free
Childrearing in a Hostile Culture (revised & expanded)	2.00
Examine Yourself	.50
God Gave Us Bodies: Asceticism and Aesthetics in the Christian Community	.50
Living Wisely	.50
Modesty	.50
Observing the Sabbath	.50
On the Matter of Church Discipline	.50
Outlines on Christian Liberty	.70
Our Order of Service	.50
Preaching Grace (new)	1.00
Practical Helps for Families:	
Memorization Program for Children	Free
The Educational Crisis	.50
Your Child's Admission to the Lord's Table	Free
Reflecting God's Character: The Story of Renee Hutton	.50
Saved in Childbearing	.50
Scotland, Psalms and the Garden of Good & Evil	.50
Sonship: An Adequate Psychology of Christian Experience?	.50
Stewardship: Political, Ecclesiastical, Personal	.50
Television and the Christian	.50
The Church As It Was Meant To Be	1.00
An Evangelical & Reformed Faith	1.00
The Five Points of Calvinism	2.00
The Foolish Wisdom of the World	.50
The Kind of Government We Want	.50
The Lord's Supper	.50
The Lord's Supper: The Epitome of the Christian Religion	.50
The Night & His Betrayal (new)	.50
The Grace Debate (new)	2.00
The Shorter Catechism	Free
"The Stones Cry Out": A Theological Tour of the Independent Presbyterian Church	.50
Things to Come	3.00
What Is Man?	.50
Who We Are	.50
Why Plant & Grow PCA Churches	.50
Worship and Music Today	2.00
Worship, Theology & Ministry	1.00
Other Items:	
IPC Church—Sheila House© limited reproduction	15.00

The IPC Messenger

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

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
SAVANNAH, GA

The IPC Messenger (USPS 261-200) is published weekly by Independent Presbyterian Church, 207 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31401. Periodical Postage paid at Savannah, Georgia 31402.
POSTMASTER: send address changes to IPC Messenger, P.O. Box 9266, Savannah, GA 31412.

FOR PRAYER & PARTICIPATION

APRIL 1 - 6

Mon, April 1	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #876, Pt. Pleasant
Tues, April 2		Twin Lakes Conference, Florence, MS
	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 rd Fl.
	10:00 a.m.	Women's Small Group Bible Study, Whitaker Bldg., 4 th Fl.
	11:30 a.m.	Pastoral Staff Meeting, Admin. Bldg.
	7:30 p.m.	Garmer Bible Study will not meet tonight, resumes April 9
Wed, April 3		Twin Lakes Conference, Florence, MS
	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 rd Fl.
	7:00 p.m.	No Youth Group, Whitaker Street Bldg., 3 rd Fl.
	6:30 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
	9:00 p.m.	RUF, Fellowship Hall
Thurs, April 4		Twin Lakes Conference, Florence, MS
	7:00 p.m.	IPC Twenties, Whitaker Street Bldg., 3 rd Fl.
Fri, April 5	6:30 p.m.	Care Group #1 Potluck dinner, at the home of Andrew Gibson, 6 Longwood Circle (667-5346)
Sat, April 6	7:00 a.m.	Youth Choir Trip, Duluth, GA

Assisting Us in Worship • March 31

GREETERS
FRONT DOOR Elder & Mrs. D. Gross
NORTH SIDE B. Brodmann
CENTER AISLE F. Daniell
SOUTH SIDE J. Garnett
WOC Greeter C. McClelland

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. Suttive
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

No Care Group needed

CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORKER: K. Lanier

SUNDAY READ-A-LOUD:
7:00 p.m. None tonight

MORNING SERVICE

“THE REMEDY”

John 20:1-23

Rev. Terry Johnson

EVENING SERVICE

“THE SPIRIT OF RESURRECTION & LIFE”

Romans 8:8-11

Rev. Timothy Foster

MEAL MENU

Sunday, March 31, 2013

No Evening Meal tonight

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

Gyro Wrap
Shrimp Salad
Steak Fries
Chocolate Espresso Cookies

Menu subject to change