



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 11 • No 10

MARCH 04, 2012

FOOTBALL AND LIFE

There are four things that we cannot control in football, I've told my boys. No matter how good a player you might be, even if you might be the greatest player in the history of the sport, you cannot control these factors.

First, you cannot control the calls of the *referees*. Several years ago we watched a high-powered passing offensive team encounter a big, tough physical defense team in a decisive league game. The strategy of the defensive team included holding the receivers. Hold them, their coach told them, and see if we can get away with it. They did and they did. The referees didn't call the holds, and the offensive team was severely hampered. It made the difference in the outcome of the game.

I used to say about my YMCA basketball teams that if the officials called the game close, we could win. If they didn't, if body checks, reaching in, and hand slaps weren't called, we wouldn't have a chance. There is not much that one can do about the referees.

Second, you cannot control the decisions of *coaches*. Years ago we watched the starting fullback for an opposing team, a big, bone-crunching kid, carry the ball only six times as his team went down to defeat. We thought he'd carry the ball 66 times, and he should have. We couldn't stop him. Why did he carry the ball only six times? What was the coach thinking? There's no explaining it.

Similarly, we watched the best defense end ever to play football in the Savannah area get moved to linebacker and virtually be neutralized. He couldn't play "in space," as they say. As defensive end he was unstoppable. As defensive end he totally dominated the game. As linebacker, he was hardly a factor. Sometimes great players languish on the bench. Quarterback Matt Cassel spent four years on the bench at USC, but has gone on to have a successful pro career, excelling the accomplishments of Heisman Trophy winner, Matt Leinart, who started in front of him his last two years of college. Why was Jeremy Lin on the bench until two weeks ago? Why did the coach... it can't be explained.

Third, we can't control the *bounce of the ball*. Sometimes a

dropped ball bounces straight up into the arms of the ball carrier. Sometimes it doesn't, and possession is lost. Sometimes a punt bounces into the end zone. Sometimes it dies on the one yard line. The football has a mind of its own. Sometimes the outcome of a game is decided by what we Presbyterian's call "luck." One cannot account for the bounce of the ball either.

Fourth, we cannot control *injuries*. Again, one may be the greatest athlete in the history of the world. However, if you break a leg, you're out. If you catch pneumonia, as I did the week before my senior high school baseball season, you miss half the games. If you sprain an ankle or pull your hamstring, you'll not play. You may be poised to have an earth-shattering, world-changing, record-setting season, but if you separate your shoulder, you will watch from the sidelines.

Football, I insist, is like life. Bosses, co-workers, subordinates make decisions that we can't control. Diseases strike, accidents take place, businesses shut down, families break up, all beyond our control. Life happens. People do things. Events occur. Much of it, if not most of it, we can neither prevent nor cause. Is God concerned about the outcome of football games? The correct answer, I believe, is no, or more precisely, not directly. He doesn't care whose team wins any given game, but He does care about everyone involved in the game, with how the game impacts them, and so, yes, He cares who wins, though not in the sense that we do. The God who numbers the hairs upon our heads cares about all manner of what we consider to be trivialities. (Mt 10:30, 31). Reasoning from the lesser to the greater, if God orders even these minor things, even sparrows falling from trees, how much more certain can we be that He orders and ordains "whatsoever comes to pass."

The tragic death of Country Day School's Stuart Sligh on February 18, is a sobering reminder that much of life, like football, is beyond our control. God numbers our days (Ps 139:16; Ps 39:4). He knows how long we'll live. We don't. We don't know how long we'll have health or wholeness. We don't even know what will happen tomorrow that will effect us or our loved ones. Our response to uncertainty should be to count each moment

(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 2012

Donald K. McLaurin
Charles C. Martin, Jr.

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

ELDER EMERITI

William Elbert Best
Alton Brown, Sr.
John Gilbert Donaldson
COL Richards O. Stewart

THE DIACONATE

Class of 2012

Ronald S. Barksdale
Clark W. Gibson
G. Clay Nolen
Jody P. Robinson
Peter M. Schenk
Roy C. Thompson
Jeffrey D. Welch

Class of 2013

William J. Black
Michael D. Hazeltine
Barry L. Mathis

Class of 2014

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

Class of 2015

Timothy A. Barrett
Andrew W. Brodmann, Sr.
Andrew G. Gibson
David B. Gross
Garry W. McKee, II
W. Ryon Rambo
John W. Rigby
Brian P. Williams

DEACON EMERITI

Eugene K. Cashman, Sr.
William B. Buford

THE TRUSTEES

Frank A. Chisholm, Jr. (2012)
Edward E. Hale (2013)
John T. South, III (2014)
Ronald C. Berry (2015)
Andrew W. Brodmann (2016)

FOOTBALL AND LIFE

from page 1

of life as precious. We, too, are to number our days, not in the sense God does, but in the sense of considering each day as a gift from Him to be used for His glory (Ps 90:12).

In an instant, a 16 year old dies, and a life full of energy and promise ends. Right beside him sits our William Woods, who survives the accident virtually unscathed. Why? We can't account for it. Still, as with the decisions of coaches and referees, as with the arbitrary bounce of the ball, as with injuries and illnesses, we know that God means it, that He never sleeps or slumbers, and that He ever and always works all things together for good, for those who love Christ, and are called according to His purpose (Gen 50:20; Ps 121; Rom 8:28). Knowing this makes Stu's death no less a tragedy. However, it does mean that it is a tragedy that serves a higher purpose, even if that higher purpose is known only to God (Deut 29:29).



AN APPRECIATION OF A TWENTIETH CENTURY HYMN WRITER EDITH MARGARET CLARKSON, 1915-2008

Mr. Johnson recently commented during a hymn sing before the evening worship service that we do sing hymns composed by twentieth century hymn writers. He was referring to Margaret Clarkson whose hymn "*O Father, You are Sovereign*" was requested to be sung. There are six hymns composed by Clarkson in the Trinity Hymnal. The following was written by Christopher Idle on the occasion of her death in 2008:

"Margaret Clarkson, whose rarely-used first name is Edith, was born in 1915 into, as Margaret herself described, 'a loveless and unhappy marriage', which broke up when she was 12.

"In 1946, C. Stacey Woods General Secretary of Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship in Canada asked Margaret Clarkson to write a hymn. Recently

turned 30, Margaret was then a primary schoolteacher known for her keen evangelical faith, her love of music and talent for verse. In childhood she treasured her Presbyterian hymnbook, responding to the gospel by the age of ten during a series of meetings based on Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. Second only to her Bible, she learned and loved the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, and from the top of the family's cherry tree she sang the hymns she had picked up by heart in church; many from Watts, Newton and Havergal among her favourites. She always preferred 'real hymns' to gospel songs or their later counterparts.

"It was Margaret's commitment to student work which led to Stacey Woods's request; the result, '*We come, O Christ, to Thee*,' which Margaret counted her first proper hymn. It was immediately sung at the dramatic first Missionary Conference of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship.

"Margaret's many prose works dealt with nature (as a keen bird-watcher), education, mission, the single life and much more. But she is best known as the writer of over 100 hymns, collected in 1986 in *A Singing Heart*. In the mid-stream of her writing she embraced the challenge of changing language, most significantly from 'thee/thine' mode to 'you/your.' As well as several Canadian and American books, which include her hymns, *Christian Hymns* (2004 edition) has ten, and 13 appear in *Praise!* (2000). They characteristically rejoice in our sovereign God, Christ's redemption and return, and His global mission imperative.

"She was a robust defender of the Reformed faith, a lively and witty correspondent, and a respected editor and consultant. She enjoyed meeting kindred spirits on her London visits, and was toughened by a lifelong struggle with physical disabilities involving much surgery and considerable pain.

"On March 17, 2008 from her Toronto nursing home, Margaret went to meet the Lord she had served so faithfully and for so long. Although her final years were clouded by dementia, countless believers share her heartfelt prayer: 'Lead on in sovereign mercy through all life's troubled ways, till resurrection bodies bring resurrection praise!'"

—Ron Parrish

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH —

ON VALARIE AND HER FAMILY

I told Valarie Shepard that it would be impossible for us to express to her how much her family means to us. Her family does not seem to have great wealth. No one, as far as we know, occupies a high position esteemed by the world. Her family comes from generations of men and women who love God. This is what captures our attention. These generations see our Lord for who He is, and in seeing they understand that He is worth living and dying for. The links in this family chain form a strong encouragement to us, and we are the better for having known them. When they tell us to trust Him, we listen, because God uses their stories in our lives. Valarie tells us that we are distracted and need to be still before the Lord. We see truth in her gentle charges. She was right when she reminded us to pray, "Thy list be done." We are grateful that Valarie Elliot Shepard came to speak to us. Many of us will long remember this testimony of loving God through the generations.

—Jane Boatright

"Lord, make my way prosperous not that I achieve high station, but that my life be an exhibit to the value of knowing God."

"Oh, the fullness, pleasure, sheer excitement of knowing God on earth."

—Jim Elliot

VISIT OF VALERIE ELLIOT SHEPHARD

On the morning of the Valerie Elliot Shepard visit my husband came into the bathroom and said, "So, are you going to hear Elisabeth Elliot's daughter tonight?" I responded, "Oh, if you just knew how I felt!" Then he said, "Well, it is a big event in the life of our church." I knew that and truthfully I had been looking forward to it, but it had been a particularly rough week at school and I was exhausted. I don't come to life until after I've had my shower and once I was finished with that I felt much better. I made it through my day at school, worked late, grabbed a quick dinner and headed downtown.

When I arrived at the church it was FREEZING in the sanctuary. I thought to myself, "I hope this is worth it!" I remembered I had a jacket in my car, so I ran back and retrieved it. I slipped into my seat right before the program began. A lady from Christ Church Anglican introduced

Valerie Shepherd. She began by saying something about raising her children and I thought, "Well, I sure didn't need to come and hear about this tonight; it doesn't apply to me....," but as I continued to listen she said that she wanted to talk about prayer. Now here was a topic I wanted to hear about!

She began to talk about unanswered prayers and how so many times we feel that God just doesn't care about us because He hasn't answered our prayers the way in which WE think He should. She shared an experience in her life about her step-father: She was a college student at Wheaton preparing to return for the fall semester of her sophomore year. Her step-father was dying of cancer, but she had prayed continually for him to be healed. The day she left, she looked him straight in the eyes without any doubts and told him she would see him when she came home for Thanksgiving. He told her, "Valerie, I'm dying. You won't see me at Thanksgiving." She totally refused to believe it! She had prayed to God and believed in faith that He would heal him. How could she bear to lose another father? And her mother another husband? He passed away a few days later.

She went on to explain that there had been a young man who had helped her mother take care of her step-father. After her step-father's death, this young man was preparing to leave and a family friend suggested to Elisabeth Elliot that maybe he should stick around for a while to help her. This young man ended up marrying Valerie. She would have never met her husband if her step-father hadn't become ill! She learned that God did indeed care about her. He just had a different plan for her life. My how I could relate to this story! I felt like it had been told just for me! I know that many of us have had times like that in our lives when we have prayed for something that is a good thing, but the Lord did not see fit to answer our prayer. We are left wondering WHY didn't God do this or do that. His ways are not our ways and we must rest in the truth that He knows what is best for our lives. We must be thankful that He is in control and we are not. God can see down the road where I cannot.

Valerie did talk some about raising her children. She was very open and real when she shared about how her family is not so perfect. She made a statement that I think is so freeing for any parent. I have shared it with a number of my family members and friends as issues have come up about difficulties with raising children. Valerie said, "Do not be emotionally bound with guilt to your child's sin." Read that again and let it sink in deeply.

Before I knew it Valerie Shepard was finished speaking and was asking for questions. I couldn't believe it, the hour was over and I felt like it had only been fifteen minutes! I wasn't even freezing anymore. The program

(continued page 4)

was well worth my time!!I came home and told my husband all about it and thanked him for encouraging me to attend. I have learned over and over that whenever I'm really tired and don't feel like making the effort to do something, if I adjust my attitude and go ahead and do it, the Lord will pour out His blessings upon me. He certainly did that night!

Many thanks to the women of Christ Church Anglican for inviting us to this very special event! If you didn't get to attend, CDs will soon be available. See Jane Boatright for information.

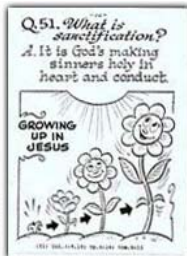
—Katherine Marie Schenk

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CATCHING UP WITH CATECHISM

Our covenant children have been working through the Children's Catechism and are now entering the final quarter. It has been a wonderful journey of exploring God's plan of salvation for us through this body of questions. Any child that is ready to recite, please let us know. We have broken down the catechism into 3 groups of 50 questions and answers. We have been reviewing the questions in our Sunday School class after we finish the lesson.

We would like to say a hearty well done to the following students that have recited (word perfect) the first 50 questions: *Ashley Brooke Lanier, Anna Marie Shields, Emily Katherine Shields, Simon Isaac Steward, and Natasha Van Grouw!* Any child that is ready to recite please let us know. We have broken down the catechism into 3 groups of 50 questions. If you have any questions about our study, please call or email. (897-2214 or amartin@ipcsav.org)



EGG HUNT AND BREAKFAST

Grab your baskets and come to Point Pleasant on April 7th at 9:00am. It is time for our yummy pancake breakfast and egg hunt. Please bring one dozen filled eggs for each child that will be participating in the hunt. Collection boxes are located around the church, there is one at the church office, one in front of the Telfair Chapel, and one in the narthex of the church. The treat filled eggs need to be turned in by April 4th. Our Youth Group has the job of sorting the filled eggs and hiding the empty ones for our children so we need these to be turned in by the deadline.

Please bring your family and friends to breakfast and the hunt. Last year we had over 200 joining the fun!The more the merrier! We need you to RSVP so we will be sure and have enough pancakes and bacon for everyone. Please make sure you bring the candy filled eggs for each child participating in the hunt. We will have a golden egg prize in each group this year. One for the babies, one for our younger children, and one for the older children.

We will be crowning a "Pancake King" this year. Do you prefer Joe VanPuffelen's hale and hearty pancakes? How about Terry Johnson's light California Crepes? Dennis Boatright gilds the lily with his chocolate chip pancakes! The winner will win the pancake apron which he can keep for the year.

RSVP to the breakfast by completing a pew card and dropping it in the offering plate, call me at 897-2214, call the church office at 236-3346, or email amartin@ipcsav.org.

DID YOU KNOW . . .



. . .that *Elizabeth Oliver* and *William Oliver* both made Headmaster's list for 2nd Quarter at SCPS? Each was their classroom representative in the school's Spelling Bee.

. . .that *Mabel Brown, Harrison Mathis, and Ella Murns* all made High Honor Roll for 2nd Quarter at SCPS?

. . .that *Ben Johnson* and *Abby Johnson* made All-Region (2nd Team) in basketball?

MUSIC MINISTRY _____

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:

March 1—Thursday—The Youth Choir will sing. Meet at 5:00 p.m. at Point Pleasant.

March 2—Friday—The Chapel Choir will sing.

March 4—Sunday am—The Sanctuary and Chapel Choirs will sing. Meet at 10:30 a.m. in the Choir Room.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN 2ND–6TH GRADE

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 19), and children must attend 10 of the 14 rehearsals. (Easter rehearsal is excluded.) This 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.

The **Youth Choir** is anticipating a choir trip on March 24 and 25. Because the trip is NOT in May as originally planned, every rehearsal is important. On Sunday morning we will sing at the Golden Isles Presbyterian Church where Rev. Alex Brown is the pastor. We are looking forward to a great time together. More details will follow.

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—6:30-8:30 p.m. Please notify me or any choir member so you are able to get in the building.

Also, on Saturday, March 10, the Sanctuary Choir has a sectional rehearsal. Women from 8:30-10:00, brunch from 10:00-10:30, men from 10:30-12:00.

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

FAMILY CORNER _____

MARCH 2012

HYMN OF THE MONTH

"HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE"

Charles Wesley, 1739

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
To his throne above the skies; Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n, Alleluia!
Enters now the highest heav'n. Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
He hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in! Alleluia!

See, he lifts his hands above! Alleluia!
See, he shows the prints of love! Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
Blessings on his church below. Alleluia!

Lord, beyond our mortal sight, Alleluia!
Raise our hearts to reach thy height; Alleluia!
There thy face unclouded see, Alleluia!
Find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee! Alleluia!

TUNE: LLANFAIR 7.7.7.7.al.
Robert Williams, 1817



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Jayden Lewis Brewer** for successfully reciting Level 1 of our memorization program. Jayden recited word perfect, the Apostle's Creed, The Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments. He will receive a certificate, as well as a gift card and candy, for this achievement. Please take a moment to congratulate him.

THE GOSPEL REFORMATION NETWORK

The Gospel Reformation Network (GRN), a gathering of over 100 ministers and elders from the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), met in Atlanta on February 6-7, 2012, focusing on the gospel as sufficient for believers for life and ministry. Messrs. Johnson, Parrish and Waller attended this meeting.

The GRN gathering came as a result of a consultation that was held in August 2011, to discuss the nature of the gospel in light of what is sometimes called the contemporary grace movement. This movement appears to focus on grace to the apparent neglect of the place of God's law in the believer's life and ministry. As a result, the GRN centered its discussion on the definitions of justification and sanctification and how they function in the Christian life and affect ministry.

The discussion between the various groups has been framed in terms of opposite poles, the place of God's law and God's grace, legalism and antinomianism. The consultation recognized that the issues in this discussion are as old as church history, with just about every generation of the church wrestling with them, and is now a present reality in this generation.

One of the goals of the GRN meeting was a desire to clarify the nature of the discussion as it has been taught and written about over the last decade. One member of the organizing committee noted, "We want to deal with the issue pastorally and theologically, not polemically; this is a time to educate the church on this topic so we can all grow up into maturity in Christ."

Speakers and topics included:

Dr. Harry Reeder, pastor of Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, AL, on "*The Grace of God Has Appeared.*"

Dr. Ligon Duncan, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, MS, on "*What is Salvation by Grace?*"

Rev. Richard Phillips, pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC, on "*The Relationship Between Justification and Sanctification.*"

Dr. Liam Goligher, pastor of Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, Penn., on "The Use of the Law in Gospel Ministry."

Dr. Michael Ross, pastor of Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church in Matthews, NC, on "*The Heart and Life of the Gospel Minister.*"

If you would like to listen to these messages go to theaquilareport.com and click on the PCA Gospel Reformation Network.

Ron Parrish,
Associate Pastor

SIGNIFICANT SESSIONAL ACTIONS

FOR FEBRUARY

1. Appointed an Ad Hoc committee, chaired by David Gobel, to establish priorities for the remaining items of renovations that were approved in the Future Generations Campaign.
2. Approved the rehiring of Mrs. Laura Williams as the part-time Youth Administrative Assistant.
3. Approved the wedding of Grace Ragen and Steven McAllister, to be held August 4, 2012. Mr. Johnson will officiate.

THE CHURCH BUDGET AND GIVING THROUGH FEBRUARY

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 2012 church budget \$169,802.00 is needed per month. Thank you for your faithful support.

	Total received	Over/Short
January	\$137,508.00	-\$32,294.00
February	\$141,342.00	-\$28,460.00
Total	\$278,850.00	-\$60,754.00

CHURCH IN BEREAVEMENT

The congregation of Independent Presbyterian Church extends sincere sympathy to:

... **Mr. and Mrs. Joe Van Puffelen** and family on the death of Joe's siser, **Ruth Piertertien Van Puffelen Fiske**, who passed away on Thursday, February 2, 2012, in Denver, CO.

In Memoriam

Yvonne Alexander Wohlleb
entered the Lord's presence
January 30, 2012

"Blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord."
Revelation 14:13

APPRECIATION

Dear IPC Family,

Six years is a long time to be praying for one's brother. I thank you from my heart for persevering in such a long illness. Unless you've experienced it, you cannot know how much the prayers of God's people mean to watching loved ones.

God has graciously ministered to me through His Word showing me many Scriptures that comforted me. Jim and I had a long conversation, about ten days before he died, when I felt free to share with him God's attributes and especially Acts 13:36—"...after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, (he) fell asleep." Jim was moved by that verse.

What a great God is our God, "the great and mighty, and awesome God who keep covenant and loving kindness."

Thank you very much for your past sacrifices of prayer in Jim's behalf and for your continued prayers for me and his family.

In Him,
Joan Ackley



Dear Pastors and IPC Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, phone calls and cards expressing your kind sympathy on the loss of my mother.

Sincerely,
Judy and Darvin Nease



To Independent Presbyterian Church Garmer Sunday School class members past and present:

Early Sunday afternoon, January 29, will long be etched in our memory. To get off the elevator with my dear wife, Lois, and to see so many of you folks (82, I'm told) gathered in our fellowship hall for a luncheon designed to honor me and my instruction, was both astonishing and humbling. And then to receive a beautiful appreciation card, a very generous monetary gift, and a bounteous and delicious meal—well, what can I say? It was simply grand! Many, many thanks to each and every one of you.

To say the least, it was my distinct honor and privilege to be your primary Sunday school teacher for the past 20 years. You were faithful in your attendance, and wonderfully attentive, receptive, and encouraging. With regard to whatever spiritual benefit has been achieved, all glory and praise goes to our great and gracious God and

King. He lovingly granted me His abiding, equipping, motivating and illuminating Holy Spirit, apart from whom nothing spiritual and eternal would have been possible. Indeed, that He would be pleased to use this severely flawed individual to advance His kingdom is truly astounding and humbling. I am forever grateful.

With regard to your monetary gift, Lois and I have decided to use it to purchase an illuminated, glass door corner cabinet for our dining room—one that will house and display such useful and attractive things as a Wedgwood bone china teapot and crystal bowls and stemware. We will call it our "Garmer cabinet" and cherish it as such.

Once again, thank you for an extraordinary expression of your Christian love and affection to both Lois and me.

Sincerely in Christ,

Your teacher, brother, and friend,
Art Broadwick



Dear IPC,

Thank you so much for supporting RUF at SCAD. Without it, I would have had a difficult time finding Christian students with whom to form relationships. I see the love of Jesus through other students, leaders, and ministers.

I have grown stronger as a Christian because of RUF, from both the teaching and the relationships it provides.

Please continue to support RUF at SCAD and provide a place of comfort and growth for current and future students.

Thanks again,
Anonymous SCAD Student



CHANGES IN ADDRESS

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

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Bragg
305 Briarwood Road
Spartanburg, SC 29301
Phone: 912-659-4790 (Jaymi's cell)
912-659-1583 (Nathan's cell)

Email address change:

Peggy and Jerry Campbell: peggyandjerry@yahoo.com

STUDENT MINISTRIES

If you don't have *Spurgeon's Morning and Evening Devotions*, I encourage you to get a copy. Very often, I read something that encourages and strengthens my faith. I pray the following words will do the same for you:

Believer, you are God's child;

It is your first duty to obey your heavenly Father. A servile spirit you have nothing to do with: you are not a slave, but a child; and now, inasmuch as you are a beloved child, you are bound to obey your Father's faintest wish, the least intimation of his will. Does he bid you fulfill a sacred ordinance?

It is at your peril that you neglect it, for you will be disobeying your Father. Does he command you to seek the image of Jesus? Is it not your joy to do so? Does Jesus tell you, "Be ye perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect"? Then not because the law commands, but because your Saviour enjoins, you will labour to be perfect in holiness. Does he bid his saints love one another?

Do it, not because the law says, "Love thy neighbour," but because Jesus says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments;" and this is the commandment that he has given unto you, "that ye love one another." Are you told to distribute to the poor? Do it, not because charity is a burden which you dare not shirk, but because Jesus teaches, "Give to him that asketh of thee."

Does the Word say, "Love God with all your heart"? Look at the commandment and reply, "Ah! Commandment, Christ hath fulfilled thee already—I have no need, therefore, to fulfil thee for my salvation, but I rejoice to yield obedience to thee because God is my Father now and he has a claim upon me, which I would not dispute." May the Holy Ghost make your heart obedient to the constraining power of Christ's love, that your prayer may be, "Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight." Grace is the mother and nurse of holiness, and not the apologist of sin.

"A sinner can no more repent and believe without the Holy Spirit's aid than he can create a world."

Charles Spurgeon Morning and Evening Devotions Evening, January 25

To God be the Glory,
Brad

CONNECT NEWSLETTER

The 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 Building

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

Teacher: Terry Johnson

Shorter Catechism

Senior High – 3rd Flood Student Bldg.

Teachers: Tim Barrett and Tim Foster

Westminster Confession

Sunday Night:

Evening Worship – 5:30 – 6:40 PM

Dinner – 6:40 – 7:00

Small Groups : 7-8 pm

Wednesday Night:

The Gospel of John

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

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| March 1-4 | IPC Missions Conference |
| March 24-25 | Youth Choir Trip, St. Simons, GA |
| April 6 | Hide Easter eggs at Point Pleasant (10a-12p) |
| April 7 | Egg Hunt and Breakfast (9-11a) |
| April 28 | Canoe Trip to Ebenezer Creek |
| May 16 | Senior Roast at Point Pleasant (6:30-8:30p) |

March 14 & 21, April 18 — NO Youth Group

Mission Trip: June 21-24, 2012

Whitewater Week: July 16-19, 2012

(continued page 9)

COLLEGE INFORMATION

College Sunday School Class:

Welcome College Students! All college students are invited to attend our IPC College Sunday School Class taught by Brad Waller. Our college ministry works in close cooperation with RUF (Reformed University Fellowship – the Presbyterian Church in America’s Campus Ministry) and campus minister Michael Gordon. The College Sunday School Class meets at 9:30 on the 4th floor of the Whitaker Building! We have breakfast food so come hungry and bring your roommate!

We’ll be continuing our study of the book of Genesis for this semester. Come and find out why Genesis is so important to have a deeper understanding of the rest of God’s Word.



THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING FATHER

“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” —Ephesians 6:4

How important is father to a child’s religious growth? Due to the way in which census information is gathered in Switzerland, researchers were able to find out. And while their conclusions might shock modern sensitivities, they are really not too surprising.

If both mother and father attend church regularly with their children, 33 percent of those children will grow up to attend church regularly. Another 41 percent will grow up to attend church irregularly, and the remaining 25 percent of the children will end up lost, not going to church at all. Amazingly, if only the father is regular in his church attendance, and their mother is irregular or doesn’t go at all, the number of children who grow up to attend church regularly or irregularly actually increases. On the other hand, if only the mother attends church regularly, and the father doesn’t go at all, only two percent of the children will grow up to attend church regularly. Researchers concluded that a father’s practice of his faith has 12 times more influence upon his children than the mother’s. Similar studies in England showed the same trend.

While no one would dispute that mothers are a great blessing and provide things that fathers cannot provide, clearly, fathers are essential to healthy spiritual development. That is why, in Scripture, God charges fathers with spiritual leadership.

—From Today’s Creation Moment, February 9, 2012


(Note: *Touchstone Magazine*, 2003, Robbie Low, “*The Truth About Men and Church*.”)



ANSWERS TO SKEPTICS

When Mr. James Russell Lowell was attending a banquet in the city of London, among the after dinner speeches there were some that contained slurs upon the Christian faith and ironical remarks with regard to the credulity that still lingered in the world among those who believed in the supernatural. When Mr. Lowell rose to respond to a complimentary toast, he said, “It is very easy, gentlemen, sitting in an elegant apartment like this, around a table covered with flowers, with all the tokens and emblems of a refined civilization about us, it is very easy to speculate about the Christian faith in a jocose way, and to cast slurs and reflections upon it. But, while our friends thus indulge themselves in the amusement of discarding the Faith, they would do well to be thankful that they live in a land where the gospel has tamed the ferocity and beastliness of those who, but for Christianity, might have long ago eaten their carcasses like the South Sea Islanders, or cut off their heads and tanned their skins like the monsters of the French Revolution. I would be glad if any one of these gentlemen would point out to me ten miles square on this globe where a man could raise a family decently, under the protection of just and equitable laws, where his children could be raised unspoiled and unpolluted, where age is revered, infancy cherished, women honored, manhood respected and human life made secure; when such a place ten miles square can be found, where the gospel of Christ has not gone and cleared the way and laid the foundation of true Christian civilization, then it will be in order for skeptics to ventilate their views.”

—from a sermon by
The Reverend Moses Drury Hoge, D.D.,
of Richmond, VA, ca. 1860



— ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS —

THE LORD'S SUPPER

We will celebrate The Lord's Supper in our morning service on Sunday, March 11, 2012. 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).

MEN'S READING CLUB

Our next Book Reading Meeting will be on Thursday, April 5. We will be studying, *Loving God* by Colson. It is available in the bookstore for \$10. All men of the church are invited to join us for this book study.

SPRING INQUIRERS' CLASS

The Spring Inquirers' Class will begin on Sunday morning, March 18, 9:30 a.m., in the Mary Telfair Chapel, and continues every Sunday through April 29, when new members will join during the morning service. The objective of the class is to introduce interested persons to the history, doctrine, practices, and people of our church. All are welcome to participate. A nursery will be provided.

WALK FOR LIFE

This year's Walk for Life is going to be at Savannah's Daffin Park on Saturday, March 24, 8:30-10:30 a.m. This is the annual fundraiser for Savannah Care Center. If you are interested in this event, please call 235-0916 or email savannahcarecenter@comcast.net.

COVENANT CARE SERVICES

Covenant Care Services invites you to the 10th Annual Banquet, Thursday, March 22, 2012, 6:00 p.m. (the meal is provided at no charge), at the Savannah Riverfront Marriott Hotel. We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Mary Perdue as our keynote speaker. Mrs. Perdue currently serves on Covenant Care Services Board of Directors and is the former First Lady of Georgia. She is passionate about adoption, and she and Sonny have served as CCS foster parents in the past. This year's conference theme is, "Adoption Rocks!" We are focusing on the Lord as our Rock when we consider the beautiful gift of adoption.

We are looking for churches, businesses, and individuals to sponsor tables. There are several giving opportunities at various levels. If you would like to attend this banquet, please contact info@covenantcareadoptions.com or call Samantha Schreiber at 912-224-1940. We look forward to an inspirational evening celebrating the HOPE of ADOPTION!

WOMEN'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet Tuesdays, at 10:00 a.m. in the Whitaker Building, 3rd Fl. The group will study the book of *1 Samuel—Looking at the Heart* by Ralph Davis. A nursery is provided in the Axson Bldg., 2nd Fl.

ISLANDS CIRCLE

I hope you can join us for our next circle group on Friday, March 9, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Fef Nolen, 102 Paxton (Isle of Hope). For information about this Bible study, please contact Carol Dusek at 598-4974.

THURSDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Thursday Morning Circle will meet on March 8, 2012, 10:30 a.m., at the home of Mrs. Alton Brown, Sr., 205 Wheeler Street (354-9215).

WOMEN MENTORING WOMEN

Please join in the Women Mentoring Women Bible Study on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Whitaker Street Building, 4th Floor. A nursery is provided for those needing childcare. For information call Lauren Key, 247-5292.

GARMER BIBLE STUDY

The Garmer Bible Study will meet on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Brown, Sr., 205 Wheeler Street (354-9215).

TUESDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Tuesday Morning Circle will meet on March 14, at The Marshes on Skidaway Island. Our hostess will be Mrs. Annette Hartley (598-8018).

SPRING LECTURE ON MARRIAGE

On Friday, March 9, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church of Pooler is hosting their second annual Spring Lecture on Marriage. This year Rev. Al Baker will be preaching on "*Communication in Marriage*." The event is free, but space is limited, so please register if you plan to attend. You can register at www.firstprespooler.com or contact the church office at 912-330-9415. Free childcare and activities will be provided for all children, infant through 5th Grade.

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 \$125 per child for a total of \$2,500. If you'd like to sponsor a child or contribute in any way to this scholarship fund, please contact Frankie Daniell (236-3346).

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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



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



14 Melba Gibson
 14 Maria Mayo
 14 Susan Mullinix
 14 Mac Thompson
 15 Deborah Hosey
 15 Greg Maier
 17 Carol Cook
 18 Elizabeth Kelly
 19 Charles Moody
 19 Jim Scott
 20 Nancy Sullivan
 20 Phillip Dusek
 21 Megan Mullinix
 23 Ernest Mitchell
 23 Dick Stewart
 24 Amy Martin
 24 Michael Rustine



24 Matthew Henderson
 25 Clifton Wilson
 25 Danny Wall
 25 Mary Brodmann
 26 Amy Milling
 28 Shirley Parker
 29 Emily Johnson
 29 Will Black
 29 Mae Nolen
 30 Art Broadwick
 30 Leah Wade
 30 Stella Helton
 31 Peggy Campbell
 31 Katherine Chisholm
 31 Anglea Childress
 31 Linda DePue
 31 Anna Shields
 31 Jonathan Shine

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* (140+)
(Genesis through 2 Kings)
 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

Trinity Psalter 6.25
 Trinity Psalter Music Edition 20.00
 The Family Worship Book 15.00
 When Grace Comes Home 8.00
 When Grace Transforms 9.00
 When Grace Comes Alive 9.75
 Reformed Worship: Worship that Is According to Scripture 9.00
 The Case For Traditional Protestantism 10.50
 Give Praise to God 22.50
 The Parables of Jesus 15.00
 A Sacramental Catechism 20.00
 Dear Timothy 15.00

Psalms of the Trinity Psalter CD; Vols. I & II 13.00 ea.
The Splendor of Grace 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 .50
 The Five Points of Calvinism 1.00
 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 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 March 5 - 10

- Tues, Mar. 6 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, Admin. Bldg., upstairs Whitaker Bldg., 3rd Fl.
10:00 a.m. Women Mentoring Women, Admin. Bldg., upstairs Whitaker Bldg., 4th Fl.
11:30 a.m. Pastoral Staff Meeting, Admin. Bldg.
7:30 p.m. Military Bible Study, sponsored by Officers' Christian Fellowship (open to all), 742 Canyon Dr. Contact Jon Shine for more information (912-335-2489)
7:30 p.m. Garmer Bible Study, at the home Mr. and Mrs. Alton Brown Sr., 205 Wheeler Street
- Wed, Mar. 7 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. Sanctuary Rehearsal, Choir Room
6:30 p.m. Youth Dinner, Whitaker Street Bldg., 3rd Fl.
7:00 p.m. Youth Group, Whitaker Street Bldg., 3rd Fl.
9:00 p.m. RUF, Admin. Bldg., 2nd Fl
- Thurs, Mar. 8 10:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Circle, at the home of Mrs. Alton Brown, Sr., 205 Wheeler Street (354-9215).
7:00 p.m. IPC Twenties, Whitaker Street Bldg., 3rd Fl
- Sat, Mar. 10 8:30 a.m. Women's Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Men's Choir Rehearsal

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME!!

Sunday, March 11, Daylight Savings begins at 2:00 a.m.
Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night, March 10, before going to bed.

Assisting Us in Worship • March 4

GREETERS
VISITOR TABLER. R. Marting
FRONT DOOR Elder & Mrs. D. Gobel
NORTH SIDE E. Robyn
CENTER AISLE J. Garnett
SOUTH SIDE F. Daniell
WOC Greeter R. Forrester

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
GREETER**
ELDER C. Martin

USHERS
CHAIRMAN R. Thompson
FRONT DOOR J. Robinson
INNER DOOR J. Childress
CENTER AISLE M. Spittler & R. Rambo
LEFT AISLE C. Moore
RIGHT AISLE C. Gibson
BALCONY1 D. Williams
SECURITY/BAL2 .. W. Oliver & K. Heritage
AM AUDIO R. Hinely
PM AUDIO B. Mathis
EVENINGS F. Orellana & W. Black

SUNDAY SUPPER SET-UP & CLEAN-UP

D. McLaurin/F. Daniell's
Care Group #3
CHILDREN'S CHURCH
WORKER: S. Robinson
NURSERY
Coordinator: F. Nolen

10:40 a.m. **I/C:** S.K. Van Puffelen
S. Robyn
P: L. Brodmann
K. Brodmann
T: R. Wade
L. Wade
T: L. Van Puffelen
B. Van Puffelen
J. Van Puffelen

SUNDAY READ-A-LOUD:

7:00 p.m. Youth Group

MEAL MENU

Sunday, March 4, 2012

Beef Teriyaki
Fried Egg Rolls
Steamed Rice
Sauteed Vegetables
Garden Salad

White Chocolate Cheesecake w/Mango

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Bacon & Mushroom Burgers
Fried Swai
Side Salad
Brownie Cookies

Menu subject to change